Tom's Plug-in List

Wordpress Plugin list version 4/11/2011

The following is a list of plug-ins for Wordpress that we have used. This is by no means a comprehensive list and this doesn't mean one of these plug-ins is right for you. (It's possible it won't work or even make sense with your chosen theme) Also, new plug-ins are being developed all the time and we would be happy to hear of one that you've had good luck with.

Another resource is to type the following into Google:

"Best wordpress plugins"

Many people will give you their 2 cents worth on the plugins they like.

Plug-ins: Some are self explanatory and some have a deeper explanation of what the plug-in does for you.

Exclude pages - Lets you decide what pages you want to appear on the navigation menu.

What will this do for you? It allows you to make hidden pages to give away freebies where someone has to put their name and email address in a form before they get to the freebie page. If the freebie page was in your navigation menu, then people could bypass your signup form.

http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/exclude-pages

All-in-one SEO pack - Optimizes your Wordpress blog for Search Engines

What will this do for you? It gives you a simple fill-in-the-blank area to take care of most of your search engine optimization needs (SEO)

AddToAny -- Share/Bookmark/Email Button - Allows visitors to share, save, bookmark, and email your posts and pages for services like Facebook, Twitter, etc.

What will this do for you? It will make it easy for people to tell others about you. You can also get valuable backlinks from all these bookmarking sites to your blog.

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cbnet Ping Optimizer - When you edit a blog posting your wordpress blog will ping (send notice to) all the blog directories. If you make another minor edit and update/publish it, your blog will ping the blog directories again. Blog directories will think you are spamming them because they are getting the same posting from you over and over.

What will this do for you? MaxBlogPress Ping Optimizer will allow the first ping to go to the blog directories, but not the updates. This will keep you out of trouble with the blog directories.

Post to Twitter - This plugin makes the title of each blog posting into a tweet with a clickable link to the posting.

What will this do for you? This can save you time in managing your social networking duties. Your Twitter followers love reading new posts, so you don't want to forget about them. This can really drive a lot of traffic to your blog.

My Custom Widget- Use this plugin to create your own widgets, duplicate existing widgets and arrange them in a sidebar or anywhere else. You can decide whether the widget should be displayed or not for specific pages or page-types.

What will this do for you? Gives you more freedom to display or create your widgets the way you want. You can put HTML or PHP code in the widget.

Widget Context - Widget Context allows you to specify widget visibility settings for each page of your site. Make some sidebar widgets only appear on the pages you want.

What will this do for you? On some of your pages you only want certain widgets showing up such as a welcome videos, products relating to certain pages or specific calendars or categories relating to a certain page. Now you can have control.

Social Web Links - Displays social bookmark icons on your sidebar.

What will this do for you? This will give your readers easy access to your Twitter, Facebook, Digg and Youtube accounts so they can become friends, followers and subscribers.

Page Links To - This plugin allows you to make a WordPress page or post link to a URL of your choosing, instead of its WordPress page or post URL. It also will redirect people who go to the old (or "normal") URL to the new one you've chosen.

What will this do for you? This functionality is useful for setting up navigational links to non-WordPress sections of your site or to off-site resources. You can also use it to create a hand-crafted menu that links to pages, posts, categories, or anything within your site.

SuperCache -- this will help your pages load faster if you have high traffic to your site or are not part of a dedicated server.

What will this do for you? On popular sites like Digg.com, getting a blog post on the first page is great, but you can experience "server meltdown" if too many people try and visit at once. This plug in makes sure that your blog will perform quickly if traffic gets high.

GoogleXMLSiteMap - This plugin will generate a special XML sitemap which will help search engines like Google, Bing, Yahoo and Ask.com to better index your blog.

What will this do for you? With such a sitemap, it's much easier for the crawlers to see the complete structure of your site and retrieve it more efficiently. It notifies all major search engines every time you create a post about the new content.

ShareThis -- a plugin that creates a button appended to the bottom of each post that when clicked, open up a window with 50 of the most popular social networking and bookmarking sites the reader can share the post with.

What will this do for you? Helps spread your posts all over the web as visitors share your post with their social sites. This could expose your blog to tens of thousands of new readers.

WordPressThreadComment - This plugin is an enhancement for Wordpress's comment function. It enables users to reply on a existing comment, and the discussion will be displayed threaded or nested.

What will this do for you? Encourages readers to make comments and get involved in the conversation. Blog comments can make a post go "viral" and generally helps create trust and expertise with your readers.

WordPress Database Back Up -- This easy to use plugin backs up all of your posts, pages, images, files, comments and even your themes. Files can be saved to your server where your blog is hosted, saved to your computer or emailed to you (large blogs may have too many files to properly email them)

What will this do for you? Backing up files is one of the most important things you can do to keep your Internet business running smoothly. Think about how much time you have put into building your blog. You could lose your files at anytime by no fault of your own. This is a critical plugin.

TinyMCE Advancedv- This plugin adds 17 plugins to TinyMCE: Advanced HR, Advanced Image, Advanced Link, Advanced List, Context Menu, Emotions (Smilies), Date and Time, IESpell, Layer, Embed Media, Nonbreaking, Print, Search and Replace, Style, Table, Visual Characters and XHTML Extras. What this does is add a microsoft word type of functionality.

Easy Video Player 2 -- Hosts your videos and provides exceptional players.

****Alternative is

FV Wordpress Flowplayer - Embed videos (FLV, H.264, and MP4) into posts or pages. Uses modified version of flowplayer (with removed FP logo and copyright notice).

Simply Exclude -- Hides pages from the site search

Wordpress Signup Forms - Custom Forms for 1shoppingcart.com Helps build opt-in forms. You must have created an autoresponder and hidden pages before attempting to create and opt-in form.

WordPress Audio Player - Are you wanting to embed audio? Fairly easy way. Be sure to read the directions!

Simple Image Widget - Using this widget you can easily place an image in the sidebar. You can also specify a URL to link to when clicking on the image. Supports multiple instances, so you can use it multiple times in multiple sidebars.

Impact - Impact gives you all the tools you need to create dynamic templates for your WordPress Pages & Posts. Prices from $49.00 - $88.00

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