

**WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE WORDPRESS PLUGINS?
7 ONLINE BUSINESS OWNERS SPEAK UP....**



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What are your Favorite Wordpress Plugins? 7 Online Business Owners Speak up....

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- Email your list about it
- Give it to your list
- Tweet about it
- Tell your website or blog visitors about it
- Offer it as a bonus with another product
- Use it on your membership site

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Wordpress is, in my opinion, the best free blogging and publishing software platform. It has allowed so many people, especially the non-techies, to create their own websites and blogs. Millions of people all over the world now use it.

For the purposes of this report, I am speaking about the self-hosted software script found at Wordpress.org.

There are many benefits to using Wordpress, such as not needing to learn computer code to create a website. However, another huge benefit is all the plugins that are available to wordpress users.

I have asked some smart online business owners to tell me what their favorite wordpress plugins are – free and paid – and you will find their answers below. I have also included my own favorites.

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Val Selby of <http://www.onceaweekcooking.com>



Val's two favorite free plugins include:

1. [Contact Form - 7](#)

I like simple. I have enough to battle with technology. I want an easy plugin to set up, and I have the contact form sent to my email account. This one does that and there are some quick customizations that you can tweak if you like.

I love it even more, because there are no hoops for my customers to go through. We know how antsy we are with online things, but customers are even worse. This form is straight forward and has few steps for them to fill out before their message is sent to you and they get confirmation.

2. [Easy Recipe-](#)

I have a cooking site, Momma blog, and a health site. I post recipes! A couple of years ago, Google decided that there should be a format to recipes, and they will show up in their own area in Google searches as well. I started looking for plugins to use. This one is very easy and the free version has a ton of options.

One of the biggest things about recipes is you want them to be printable for your customers. That's all built in and you can add a picture, nutrient information, and much more.

As I said, I've been using it for a couple of years. There is also a premium version.

Val's two favorite paid plugins include:

1. [Comment Luv Premium-](#)

I loved the free version of the plugin for many years, because it brought more interaction within the comment luv community. However, it's brought me more targeted commenters with the premium version. It also has great spam blockers, and a new “reply-me” area of the plugin.

It's super affordable since it's a one-time purchase. I have the unlimited version, and it's on every blog/site I run, and has been since it launched a couple of years ago.

I have some fun commenters that come back for most posts to join in the conversation, and they found me through Comment Luv Premium. I'm sure I'm not the only one that gets giddy about return commenters :)

2. [WP estore](#) -

For years I was paying for shopping carts that weren't doing exactly what I wanted. I'm really cheap by nature, and it drove me crazy to pay a monthly fee when I couldn't customize it and the sale always showed from one site.

Now I add the Estore plugin to the site and all sales are run right on *that* domain, with no moving to a different domain and risking the customer getting lost or confused. It's a one-time cost and integrates with many payment and newsletter/autoresponder programs.

I also use the affiliate program plugin from this company, and appreciate its set up.

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Loralee Hutton of <http://www.LoraleeHutton.com>



I work with free or freemium with nearly everything.

So my favorite free wordpress plugins include:

1. [Woocommerce](#) -

By far, Woocommerce is my new favorite free plugin for its versatility, good looks, amazing backend reporting, and ease of installation. This is the first free or paid ecommerce plugin that I've been happy with in seven years of using WordPress.

2. [WP Clone](#) -

WP Clone is my second favorite (used to be paid, and now it's free) for making a really quick copy of my favorite wordpress setup & "pasting" it onto a fresh installation, so I can avoid making the same repetitive setup adjustments every time I set up a new website.

3. [Magic Action Box Pro](#) -

This plugin works great with its free version for creating great looking opt-in boxes for above and below blog posts, sidebar widgets, etc.

It's also great for showcasing image shots & works with almost every email newsletter list out there. The [paid version of Magic Action Box Pro](#) gives additional freedoms such as automatically assigning opt-in boxes to the bottom of every post, using short code to add into any post or widget area, and interaction with gravity forms.

My newest favorite paid plugin is:

1. [Google Hangouts](#) -

This plugin turns your website into a webinar host (avoiding monthly fees), allowing people to register for your google hangouts event. You can customize the event & host it right from your website, which is fantastic from a branding perspective.

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Wendell Brierly of <http://www.BarbecueGrillsGalore.com>



Wendell's favorite two free plugins are:

1. [Better WP Security](#) -

This plugin does precisely what the creators claim. It hardens the standard Wordpress installation by protecting access to important files via htaccess files.

Within 30 days of installing this plugin, there were 1,991 bad login entries and 455 "Page not Found" 404 errors by sites attempting to gain access through pages that do not exist on my site.

With this plugin, you can set the number of login attempts to allow before locking out the person or computer trying to gain access. The standard Wordpress installation does not care how many attempts are made.

2. [TablePress](#) -

As the creator of this plugin states, TablePress allows the user to create and manage tables in individual pages or posts without having to know HTML code. If you do know some HTML code you can do some pretty nifty things within the tables themselves.

Since I do product review type sites, I find the ability to build tables invaluable. The one thing you have to be careful of is that this plugin doesn't automatically format the table in a responsive format. That is where a little bit of knowledge of HTML or CSS coding is beneficial.

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Michelle Waters of <http://www.techgeekministries.com>



Michelle's two favorite free plugins are:

1. [Wordpress SEO by Yoast](#) -

My first favorite free plugin is WordPress SEO by Yoast. It makes optimizing my posts and pages for the search engines super easy. All I have to do is choose my keyword phrase, enter it into the "focus keyword" section and then follow the instructions to make my SEO title, meta description and content search-engine friendly. And I know when my content is ready, because the plugin gives me the green light -- literally!

2. [Testimonials Widget](#) -

My second favorite free plugin is Testimonials Widget. This plugin allows me to display random testimonials in my sidebar, footer, the middle of my content -- anywhere I want them. Even better, those testimonials will rotate without my visitors having to reload the page. The transition is very smooth, but noticeable enough to catch a person's eye. The style of the testimonials was easy to adapt to my needs with a bit of custom CSS.

Just two? OK, on to the paid plugins...

Michelle's favorite paid Wordpress plugins include:

1. [Video User Manuals](#) -

My absolute favorite paid plugin is Video User Manuals. I offer WordPress installation and design services to clients. I must say, most of my clients are not tech geeks themselves. That's why they hire me. But they need to be able to update their own content without having to call for assistance every five minutes, or at 3 a.m.

These manuals live inside the client's dashboard and I can update them with a simple plugin update every time the service provides new videos. It takes a load off my shoulders and enables me to provide top-notch service to my clients.

2. [Pretty Link Pro](#) -

My second favorite paid plugin is Pretty Link Pro. I use this plugin to redirect affiliate links so that I can track how many clicks my affiliate links are receiving.

I also redirect links that I think might change in the future. For example, if I link to a resource on another site, and that company removes the resource, I can simply find the new link (or a new resource) and change the target, without having to comb through my entire website and all self-study guides to find all the links. Very nifty!

It's really hard to stop at two.

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Christina Lemmey of <http://www.multimediava.com>



Christina's favorite free plugins include:

1. [Editorial Calendar](#) -

My first favorite FREE plugin is the Editorial Calendar. I'm a very visual person and love seeing which days of the week or month I have blog posts scheduled. It's exceptionally easy to use and you can even drag and drop titles to other days, right from the calendar.

2. [Wordpress SEO by Yoast](#) -

My second favorite plugin is Wordpress SEO by Yoast. It forces you (kindly!) to really think about keyword phrases and SEO for each blog post. You can list a main keyword and the plugin will analyze the post for how many times it's used. It will also analyze the title, first paragraph, body, and end paragraph for the chosen keyword phrase. It's basically a quick SEO analysis of each blog post and it has forced me to go back and rewrite to get those keywords in more frequently!

As for paid plugin favorites, I truly don't use any at the moment. But I did some research and found some cool ones that I may just have to invest in.

1. [A/B Theme Testing plugin](#) -

The A/B Theme Testing plugin allows you to test two different themes with your audience to see which one gets the better results. So, 50% of your readers would see Theme 1 and 50% would see Theme 2. Then you can see your stats in Google Analytics to decide which one held your viewers' attention better.

2. [Wishlist Member](#) -

Two of my clients use Wishlist Member to run their membership sites. This plugin allows you to add a private membership site in a subdirectory of your website (members.yoursitename.com) where each member needs a username and password to access the site. This is perfect if you have a private coaching group or a list of learning resources that people are paying for.

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Ronnie Nijmeh of <http://www.plr.me>



Ronnie's favorite free Wordpress plugins include:

1. [Limit Login Attempts](#) -

This plugin can be customized to limit the number of times someone can try to login to wordpress from a particular internet address. In this way, it makes it more difficult for brute-force attacks to occur.

This plugin helped me secure my site, and immediately upon installation, it detected some hackers.

2. [Duplicate Post Plugin](#) -

This wordpress plugin lets you clone a post or page.

I use this free plugin all the time to copy a page for affiliate promotions, or even when starting from a template, as it speeds up deployment of a page.

Ronnie favorite paid plugins include:

1. [Wordpress Live Chat](#) -

For one low fee (\$15), you can offer live chat and support on your site.

2. [List Eruption](#) -

Build your list by adding a gamification and reward component -- the more people refer their friends, the more bonuses or rewards they will unlock. It's really slick.

3. [Optimize Press](#) -

This plugin has an excellent set of features to build sales letters and squeeze pages. This is what all the top marketers use.

4. [WP Swipe & Deploy Elite](#) –

If you get stuck trying to write persuasive blog post titles or headlines that captivate and convert, this plugin provides you with 550+ blog post titles and sales headlines that are ready to use in one click.

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Kim Phoenix of <http://www.BuyHealthPLR.com>



Several of my favorite plugins have already been listed, but a few more that I can think of include:

Kim's favorite free plugins include:

1. [Exclude Pages](#) -

This is a very simple, but effective plugin. When you do not want a page or post to appear in your menu and page navigation, you just uncheck a checkbox (it is checked to include pages by default). Like I already said, it's simple but it works!

2. [Thank Me Later](#) -

This is a cool plugin that allows you to send an automated email to someone after they comment on your blog. You can customize it as to the maximum number of times they receive an email from you, when it sends the message out, and what the content of the message is. It's a good opportunity to invite someone to follow you on Twitter, to offer them a coupon, or whatever else you can think of!

Kim's favorite paid plugins include:

Sorry, but I couldn't limit it only to two!

1. [Replikator Pro](#)-

I could not decide whether to purchase Backup Buddy or WP Twin, and then Replikator Pro came out. It allows you to back up your sites, but also to clone sites within minutes. So it is like buying both products, but at a lower price and for only a one-time fee.

2. [Covert Messenger](#) -

You can see this ad plugin at work when you visit my PLR site. It is the little box that pops up in the bottom right hand side of the screen. It is meant to engage visitors on your site, and increase the chances of clicking through on your links and increase conversions. You can also upgrade the plugin, which allows you then to alternate a number of different messages that you customize.

3. [RSS Brander](#) -

If you have an affiliate program, the RSS Brander Wordpress plugin is definitely worth considering. It allows your affiliates to rebrand your RSS feed with their affiliate ID's. When affiliates insert the rebranded feed into their website (such as the sidebar), the links show up on their website. What I really like about this plugin too is that it updates automatically when a new post is added – great for affiliates who do not have time to do the updates manually.

4. [Webinar Express](#) -

If you are tired of paying monthly fees for a webinar service, then you are going to love Webinar Express. I bought the professional version of Webinar Express, as it was a one-time fee (no monthly fees), and I will be able to receive future feature enhancements and updates.

This report has been compiled by Kim Phoenix. Many thanks to the other people who have contributed to the content in this report!

Kim Phoenix is the owner of [BuyHealthPLR.com](#), a private label rights (PLR) store dedicated to health and wellness topics. Be sure to visit to get a sampling of her quality PLR!

She is also the owner of the [The Online Chick](#) blog, where you can learn all sorts of helpful tips and information to help you grow your business.

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