

Install Wordpress Yourself

This article will walk you through installing Wordpress and is meant to be a companion to the free video, Installing Wordpress, available at <http://ez4uguru.com/videovault> so you can print out a copy of this sheet and follow along with the video and make notes if you like.

Wordpress is a free php based blogging script. Once you have installed one script and understand the principles, you can install most of the others. You will need to go to <http://wordpress.org/> to download the zip file. We are going to do a manual install which Wordpress calls their 5 minute install. Five minutes might be a bit optimistic but it's really not going to take all that much time.

If you have a C-panel enabled hosting site you can use Fantastico to do a more automated install. I prefer the manual install for the simple reason that quite often Fantastico will install an older version of Wordpress and then you will just have to do a manual update anyway. So check if the current version of Wordpress available at Wordpress.org is the same as the one used by Fantastico at your host then that would be the easiest route. But most likely it will be installing version 2.5 or earlier.

The first thing to do is go to <http://wordpress.org/>, download the zip file and unzip it. It will unzip into a folder named wordpress. If you want the blog to be in your domain root, i.e., <http://myblog.com>, then when you upload the folder you would open it and install the contents into your public.html folder. If you want to access it as a subdirectory of your domain, i.e., <http://mywebsite.com/blog>, then you should rename the wordpress folder, blog, and upload the folder into your public.html folder as a folder.

If you are new to installing php scripts, you will find it easier if you understand a few principles. Most php scripts that handle data, as opposed to scripts that bring up a pop-up on your site, operate in pretty much the same way. You will need to set up an SQL database on your site and then enter the database (DB), the database user, and the password into a file called config.php in the folder you will upload.

Let's get started:

1. Download the current wordpress zip from <http://wordpress.org/> and unzip it. We are going to make this a subdirectory, i.e., mysite/blog so we will relabel the unzipped folder as blog. Go into the C-panel of your site and create your database or DB. We will call our database, "wordpress." Click create then click the (go back) link at the bottom.
2. Scroll down to create a user with all privileges and a password. We will call our user, "user," and our password will be "password." Click create then click the (go back) link at the bottom.
3. The third and final step in creating a DB is to now link our user with the database and click create.
4. We are doing this at neatscoop.com. The user name to access the C-panel is usually the first (8) letters of the domain or "neatscoo." If you notice, the C-panel will append the site user name with an underline to each entity in the DB. So that, the DB is "neatscoo_wordpress," the user is "neatscoo_user," and the password is "neatscoo_password."
5. When in the next step we enter this info in the config.php file, we will need to use the appended names for the DB and user ("neatscoo_wordpress" and "neatscoo_user") but we can just use "password" without the appended "neatscoo_".
6. We are now ready to enter the DB info into our config file.
7. Go to the unzipped blog folder and change the name of the wp-config-sample.php file to wp-config.php.

8. Right click this wp-config.php file and open it with your text editor. Enter in the DB, the user name, and the password. Sometimes it's hard to highlight just the text within the quotes so you can insert the I-bar then select the rest of the text by holding down the shift key.
9. Now it's time to open our FTP program and upload the blog folder into the public.html folder of neatscoop.com
10. After uploading we need to access Wordpress through our browser with <http://neatscoop.com/blog/wp-admin/install.php>.
11. Wordpress will then give you a password to enter the admin area of your blog, <http://www.mysite.com/blog/wp-admin>. You should also receive an email with this info but write it down anyway and don't lose it or you will have to intall wordpress again.
12. We will be adding future videos dealing with Wordpress themes, plug-ins, and other topics. If you have anything special you would like to see dealt with, email me at: dave@ez4uguru.com .