

Web Hosting Options and Advice on Basic WordPress Security

Your Checklist to Improved WordPress Security

These are some simple steps you can take to protect your existing website

from hackers and malware infection.

Choose suitable hosting for your needs:

Select a VPS hosting package from [Digital Ocean](#) managed by **WP-Tonic Absolute** “must do’s” for any WordPress website:

Backup your website regularly – I recommend the free & paid [UpdraftPlus](#) Ensure your WordPress, themes & plugins are up to date.

Create a new admin account, do NOT call it admin or administrator. Give it a strong password (MINIMUM 8

characters) and use a password store/generator like [LassPass](#) or [1Password](#)

Delete the existing admin account, reassign all pages/posts/etc. to the NEW admin account

Go through your other user accounts, there should only be one admin account (your new one).

Key plugins for website security (recommend both)
Download and install the plugin [WordFence](#) or [iTheme Security Pro](#) on your website and run a full scan.

Web Hosting Advice – What Is Best for You?

We want to advise you on two web hosting options with the pros and cons of each so you can choose which option best suits your needs:

Shared Hosting – Shared hosting is where you effectively “rent” a slice of a server shared with others.

You share the server resources (CPU, RAM and hard disk space) with other users on the server. The number of other users can be in the high hundreds so your experience and that of your site visitors can be somewhat unpredictable in terms of loading speed and overall experience.

Pros:

- *The cheapest option of them all*
- *Ideal for start-ups, weekend bloggers, low budgets*
- *Majority give you easy to use “cPanel” interface*
- *Plenty of companies to choose from*

Cons:

- *Can be a lottery to find a “good” web host for shared hosting*
- *Very limited resources allocated (CPU, RAM, Disk Space)*
- *Fixed resources - no scalability available if your needs increase*
- *Can be a security risk, mainly from other accounts on the same server*

Recommendation:

Choose [SiteGround](#) or [Inmotionhosting](#) both offers shared hosting plans and support at good value prices.

Managed VPS Hosting – A “*Virtual Private Server*” is where you are given an entire server to yourself (in the virtual sense). Depending on the package you choose, you are given a fixed amount of resources (CPU, RAM and hard disk space). VPS cost more but as you will see below, the benefits are there to clearly see. The “managed” element means the hosting company manages the server for you so you can just focus on your business and websiteⁱⁱ

Pros:

- *Much faster than shared hosting*
- *Will give you site visitors a seamless experienceⁱⁱⁱ*
- *Fixed resources only you have access to*
- *Not affected by other accounts on the server*
- *Upgrade / downgrade resources as and when required*

Cons:

- *More expensive than shared hosting (starting around \$50 pcm) with digital Ocean and WP-Tonic you be looking at around \$25 pcm!*
- *More complex to setup*
- *If you need immediate changes to the server, you will require some training or an admin to run the server*

Recommendation:

Select a VPS hosting package from [Digital Ocean](#).

They are well established, run very powerful cloud server system.

ⁱⁱ [Managed VPS hosting](#) will require you to get in touch with the support desk to have things done on the server but the web host will ensure the server stays “healthy”

ⁱⁱⁱ This statement is based on the server speed. If your WordPress website has not been optimized for speed this could still affect your visitor’s overall experience.