

# Essential Wordpress Plugins

The following plugins are included in our WP Core Collection: just instal that plugin first, then install all plugins in our collection using the code: **IjyP3gHX6I3XkiizOmNj**

Once the collection is installed you'll find additional info and instructions for each of these by clicking on the *Details* link in your Installed plugins page.

**Akismet:** Blocks comment spam. Essential! Register on Wordpress.org to get a free API key you can use on unlimited sites.

**Contact form 7:** There are plenty of other options out there but I've been happily using this one for years.. .totally free, no upsells or nag screens

**Wordfence Security:** this is the benchmark for keeping your site secure. No need to pay for an upgrade, but do take your time to work through all the options and set it up properly.

**WPS Hide Login:** changes the default location of your login page which prevents a massive volume of bot attacks... Highly Recommended!

**Classic Editor:** I'm not a fan of the Wordpress Gutenberg Block Editor so this gives me an old school text editor when I'm not using the Site Origin Page Builder. If you're new to Wordpress and working through the recommended tutorials, you might find it easier to leave this one off and learn 'Gutenberg'!

**AdRotate.** Handy banner rotator, create a group of each size you want to use, add banners to each and then insert sets of ad banners on your website pages automatically.

**Social Locker:** This one is pretty basic, but gets the job done... create lockers to force people to share before they get access to links, downloads or main articles etc.

**Wordpress Popular Posts.** Just a handy sidebar widget I like and use often...

**MailPoet:** This handles newsletters on complete auto... visitors optin for weekly digest summaries of all new content published, and they go out hands-free as required.

## Additional Plugins Not In The Collection:

**WP Super Cache:** keeps your website loading fast for returning visitors.

**Google XML Sitemaps:** helps Google find your new content if you're blogging often.

**Anti-Malware** installed ready to activate if ever I suspect I've been hacked. WordFence covers me 99% of the time, but if something gets through, this is how you fix it fast!

I also use a mix of Social Sharing / Button plugins, depending on the website and theme I'm using. Lots of options so take some time to find a good match!