

Is WordPress Secure



Did you know that an average of 24 posts is published every second on WordPress sites, around the world? Building a new website or revamping an existing one is a cakewalk with WordPress. One may add new pages, posts, change themes and settings – all without the need for additional HTML or FTP software. So, it comes as no surprise that as many as a quarter of the websites are powered by this platform.

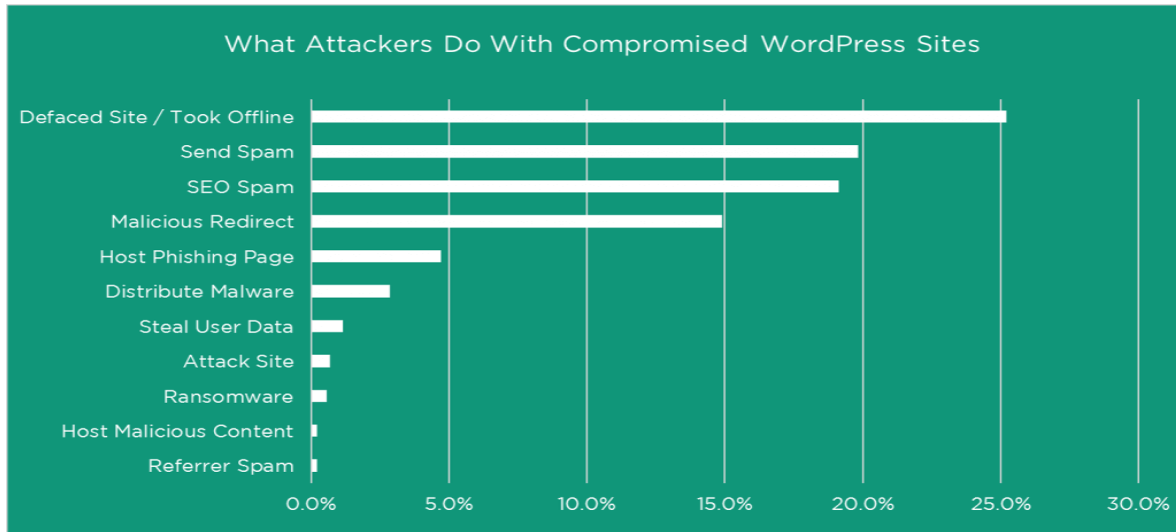
As per a [2018](#) study, there exist no less than 79.5 million WordPress blogs on the web. **The sheer size, however, allows some vulnerabilities to creep in.** Reports of such instances are all over the internet, the news about WordPress becoming a juicy target for unscrupulous website hackers and more. This brings us to some lingering questions –

Is WordPress safe?

Can WordPress handle maliciousness?

And finally, should you entrust your website with WordPress?

Yes, yes and yes. The core WordPress software is secure. As the age-old adage goes, “there is much more than that meets to the eye”. Same goes with the prospect of WordPress being a safe CMS platform. **Cyberpunks don’t break-in because the core of WordPress has loose ends.** Rather, most sites get hacked due to discrepancies in the ecosystem like using insecure passwords or missing out on security updates. Plugins, themes and other good-to-have website essentials open more doors for penetration.



picture courtesy: wordfence

The above stat reconfirms that WordPress is part of an intriguing ecosystem. In other words, WordPress never exists in isolation. If you come to think of it, the security of WordPress largely depends on 3 factors –

- People behind the Wordpress site, typically developers and website owners.
- Money invested in resources that make the site not just appealing but safe.
- Lastly, the time spent on planning, developing and maintaining the site.

Let's understand each of them a little more, shall we?

#The People



WordPress Team. A small yet remarkable team of security experts governs the core of WordPress. The company's policy of disclosure makes the experts liable to not just patch bugs and release a security fix, but to disclose the issue publicly as well. WordPress rewards users who [report vulnerabilities](#) in its disclosure space too. Now, it would be worthwhile to note what WordPress doesn't do, and that is review themes and plugins. **Numerous plugins and themes are added to WordPress by volunteers, which may or may not be risk-free.**

Developers of Themes and Plugins. There are tens and thousands of free themes and plugins to choose in WordPress. However, maintaining or upgrading a theme/plugin is, by far, solely the responsibility of the developer. You'd be surprised to know that many of these themes and plugins are maintained by not more than two people. **But the good news is WordPress is not completely oblivious to maintaining themes and plugins.** Each and every theme or plugin is reviewed by a team of volunteers assigned by WordPress. When a flaw is detected, WordPress notifies the developer and sends guidelines for security.

Owners Of The Website. The best part about WordPress is you need not be a geek to set up a website. Techie or not, [building an attractive website on WordPress](#) is just a matter of minutes. There is, however, a flip side to this. An owner with technological know-how is better at spotting insidious add-ons as compared to an owner having little or no tech skills. But hey, there is always a fix if you look for it. Using security plugins can help you stay vigilant to some extent.

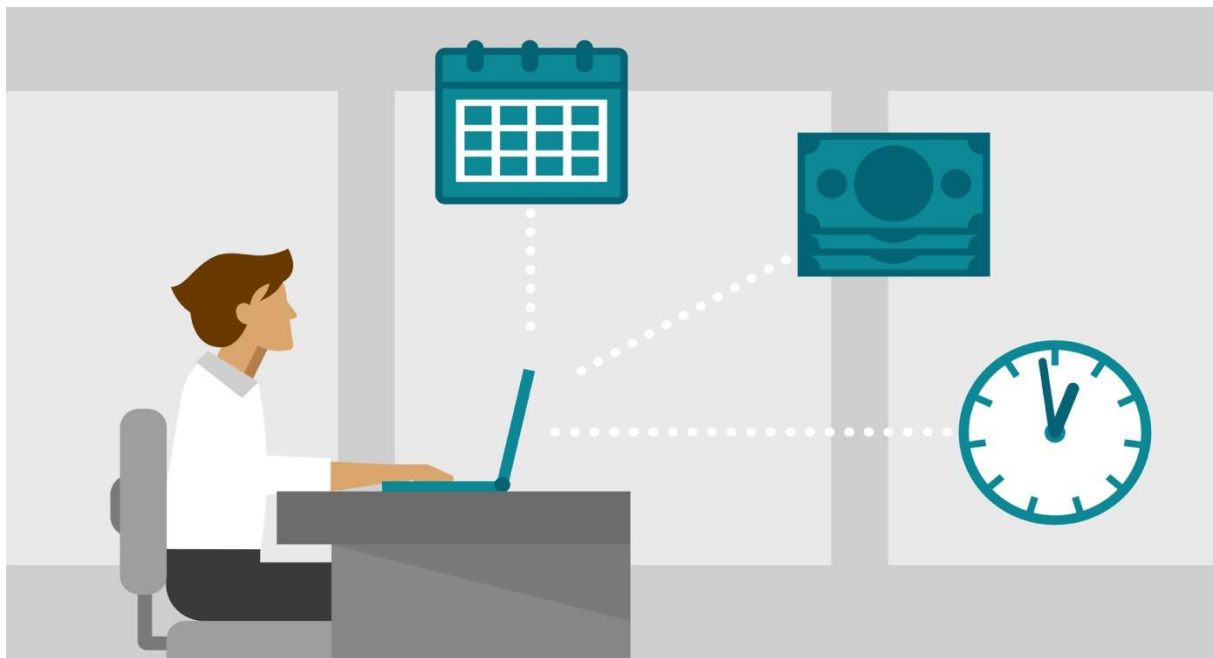
#The Budget.



Since its inception in 2003, the WordPress community has only grown. [Automattic](#), the parent company of WordPress and many other web publishing tools has raised a whopping \$160 million from its investors. No doubt, WordPress has all the resources to keep getting better. In the words of CEO Matt Mullenweg, “I want WordPress to be the best publishing platform in the world, bar none, including the best interface, authoring environment and design tools.”

On the contrary, not all website owners invest money to ensure both quality and efficiency. While price is not always affiliated with quality, malware often makes its way through inexpensive plugins or themes.

#The Time



Team WordPress leaves no stone unturned to protect the core of WP. Countless hours are spent on tracking, testing and fixing security exposures. Updates and newer versions undergo a planned process of release. Nevertheless, the security audit of website owner comes first while ensuring website stability. **Sites that are built in a hurry or limited by budget often compromise on security practices.**



Final Verdict - WordPress is remarkable and safe. But you sure do have a part to play. Limiting login attempts, backing up data, using an SSL certificate and staying aware of the latest security developments are all worth the effort.

What do you do to secure your WordPress site? Comment below!