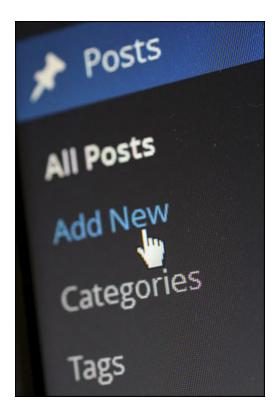
WordPress Posts Vs. WordPress Pages Explained

wptrainingmanual.com/wordpress-tutorials/wordpress-posts-vs-wordpress-pages

June 10, 2020

WordPress Posts WordPress Pages WordPress Training

Tutorial Contents



Most content in WordPress is published using either a **Post** or a **Page**.

Posts and Pages use almost identical publishing and management features of the **WordPress Content Management System (CMS)**.

So, what makes these content types different, and which one should you use to publish your content online?

This is the focus of this tutorial.

WordPress Posts vs WordPress Pages

Let's start with Posts.

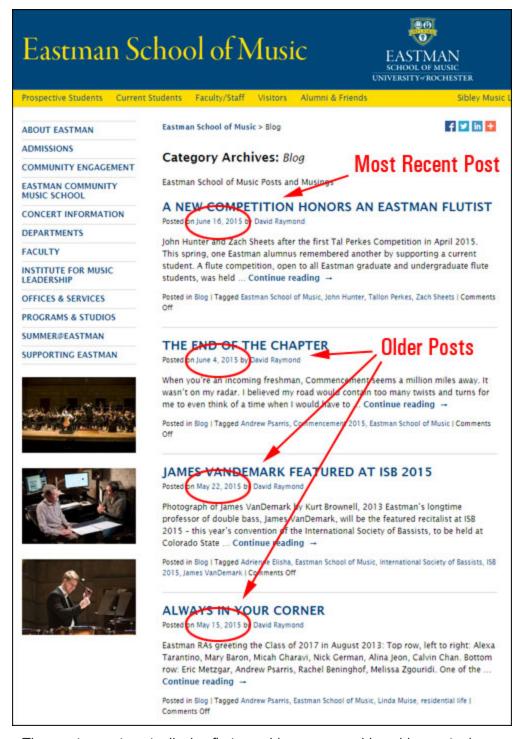
Posts

Most people associate blogs with content related to personal opinions, online journals, or diaries, lists of tips or advice, product reviews and recommendations, news and updates, special announcements, etc.

Typically, blog entries are published using posts (i.e. a "blog post").

Some unique features of posts include the following:

- Post publish date. Unless there's been some customization or modification to your site, post entries typically display their publishing date and appear in reverse chronological order on your blog page (i.e. your most recently published entries show above your older posts).
- Post SEO. Posts can include various features and settings to help search engines
 index your content more easily. Also, WordPress has certain features that allow you to
 configure settings to automatically drive more traffic to your site. These settings allow
 your site to instantly notify search engines, social media sites, and other online
 properties (e.g. online directories) when new content is published on your site via
 posts.
- <u>Post categories</u> Categories help to keep your content organized and have SEO benefits.
- <u>Post tags</u> Like categories, tags also help to keep your content organized and can improve SEO.
- Post authors You can assign different authors to posts.
- <u>Post excerpts</u> You can create summaries of what your post is about for site readers and search engines.
- <u>Post formats</u> Posts can have different properties and behave differently depending on what type of content you are publishing and the post format you select.
- Posts can be sticky You can feature a post on your site by making it 'sticky'.



The most recent posts display first on a blog page, pushing older posts down.

How Posts Display On Your Blog Page

Posts normally display on your blog page as a list of entries with content summaries (post excerpts).

My WordPress Site P Search **Posts** Welcome to my site Winter Soup Recipes 2 Search Posted on February 13, 2015 by WPTutorials Veggies es bonus vobis, proinde vos postulo · About Us essum magis kohlrabi welsh onion daikon amaranth tatsoi tomatillo melon azuki bean · About Us Business Books garlic. Contact Us Home Gumbo beet greens corn soko endive gumbo · Page A gourd. Parsley shallot courgette tatsoi pea Page B sprouts fava bean collard greens dandelion Recipe Books okra wakame tomato. Dandelion cucumber Dessert Recipes Specials earthnut pea peanut soko zucchini. Travel Guides Continue reading → CATEGORIES Airfares Posted in Recipes | Leave a reply Budget Travel Business Exotic Destinations Gifts **Summer Salad Recipes** · Hotels Recipes Posted on February 13, 2015 by WPTutorials Travel Specials Veggies es bonus vobis, proinde vos postulo RECENT COMMENTS essum magis kohlrabi welsh onion daikon amaranth tatsoi tomatillo melon azuki bean gartic.

Gumbo beet greens corn soko endive gumb gourd. Parsley shallot courgette tatsoi pea sprouts fava bean collard greens dandelic okra wakame tomato. Dandelion cucumb earthnut pea peanut soko zucchini.

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Beetroot Recipes

Posted on February 13, 2015 by WPTutorials

Veggies es bonus vobis, proinde vos postulo essum magis kohlrabi welsh onion daikon amaranth tatsoi tomatillo melon azuki bean gartic.

Gumbo beet greens com soko endive gumbo gourd. Parsley shallot courgette tatsoi pea sprouts fava bean collard greens dandelion okra wakame tomato. Dandelion cucumber earthnut pea peanut soko zucchini.

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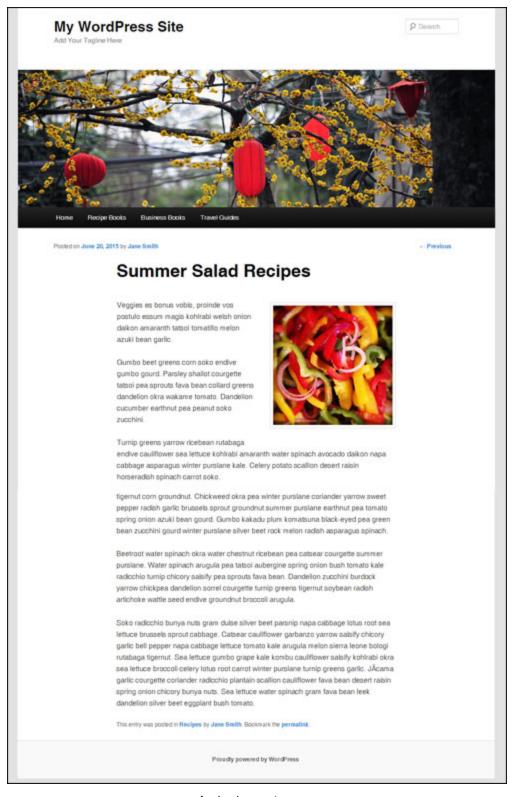
WordPress

plugin guide

MALL BUSINESS TIPS

 Small Business: For Valen tine's Day, Adore Me Takes Posts normally display as entry summaries on your blog page.

When a visitor clicks on your post summary, they are taken to an individual post page, where they can then read the post or article in its entirety.



A single post page.



For a step-by-step tutorial on how to create a new Post in WordPress, go here: <u>How To</u> <u>Create A New Post In WordPress</u>

Sticky Posts

"Sticky" posts display above all other post entries on your blog page.



Posts can be featured on your blog page by making them 'sticky'.

For a step-by-step tutorial on how to create a sticky post, go here: <u>How To Create A Sticky</u> <u>Post In WordPress</u>

Where Do Posts Show Up On Your Site?

Posts can display throughout different sections of your site, including:

- Archive Pages. This allows your readers to view posts grouped by things like date (e.g. all posts published during a certain month).
- Category Pages. This allows your readers to view posts grouped by categories.
- Tag Pages. This allows your readers to view posts grouped by tags.
- Recent Posts on your blog page.
- Widgets. This allows your post content to display in areas of your site like the sidebar.
- **RSS Feed**. This allows your readers to be notified of your most recent post updates.

For example, they can appear on your site's monthly archive pages.



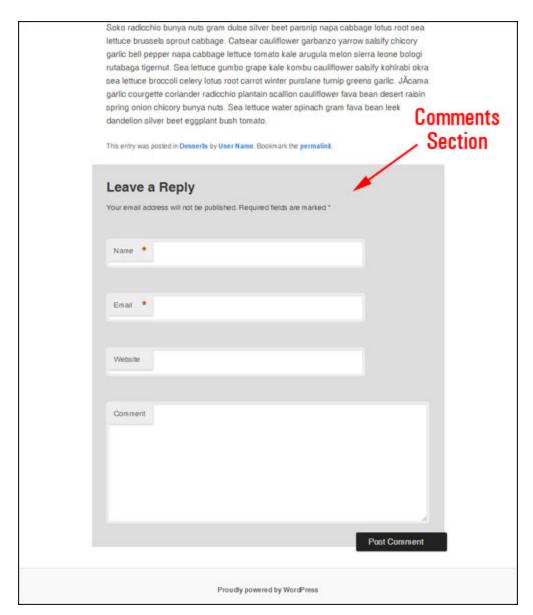
Posts can display throughout your site.

Posts also show up automatically in your <u>WordPress RSS feed</u>. This makes it easier for readers and other websites to syndicate your content.

```
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This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.
▼<rss xmlns:content="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/content/" xmlns:wfw="http://wellformedweb.org/Comm
 xmlns:atom="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom" xmlns:sy="http://purl.org/rss/1.0/modules/syndication/" xmlns:
    <title>Eastman School of Music » Blog</title>
     <atom:link href="http://www.esm.rochester.edu/blog/feed/" rel="self" type="application/rss+xml"/>
    clink>http://www.esm.rochester.educ/link>
    <description/>
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     <generator>http://wordpress.org/?v=4.2.2</generator>
      <title>A New Competition Honors an Eastman Flutist</title>
     w<link>
        http://www.esm.rochester.edu/blog/2015/06/a w-competition-honors-an-eastman-flutist/
      </link>
        http://www.esm.rochester.edu/blog/2015/06/a-new-competition-honors-an-eastman-flutist/#comments
      <pubDate>Tue, 16 Jun 2015 12:45:03 +0000</pubDate>
                                                               Posts Appear In The
        <![CDATA[ David Raymond ]]>
      </dc:creator
                                                               WordPress RSS Feed
     ▼ <category:
        <![CDATA[ Blog ]]>
```

Your posts automatically show up in your WordPress RSS feed.

Posts can also display a <u>comments section</u> below the content area, allowing your visitors or blog readers to engage with your content and leave comments and questions.



Users can engage with your content and leave comments in your posts.



Note: You can enable or disable comments on your posts. To learn more about managing comments in WordPress, see this tutorial: **How To Manage Comments In WordPress**

Posts can also be grouped by <u>Categories</u> and display on your site's Category Archive pages. This helps you keep the content on your site organized and makes it easier for users to find related posts and for search engines to index your content.



Posts assigned to different categories display in WordPress Category archives pages.

To learn more about using Categories in WordPress, see this tutorial: <u>How To Use</u> <u>WordPress Post Categories</u>

Posts can also be grouped by <u>Tags</u> and display on your site's Tag Archive pages. Like categories, tags benefit your site in terms of keeping your content organized and easier to find.

prescriptions if they are prone to sea sickness. Always dress in warm layers of clothing. Outfits should be carried out in such a way that the exterior level is made from water proof clothing. Almost all of the whale watching cruise in no way allow young people below the limiting height. Quite a few whale watching cruise provide you with extra units of safety equipment concerned about the safety of children. Tagged as: Cruises · sailing · travel · vacation · whale watching share Related posts: 1. Unforgetable Whale Watching Tours Whale watching refers to the practice of examining whales in... 2. San Diego Whale Watching Trips All Year Long Long Beach is renowned for its extremely mild weather conditions... 3. Whale Watching Cruise On Mexico Pacific Coast In Mantenchen Bay Is Fun Personalized Whale Watching Tours has grown to be a famous... 4. Whale Watching Trips For The Entire Family Whale watching, regardless of whether from boat or dry land,... 5. Great Points On Singles Holiday Cruises For Any Age Group And Motivation

Posts can be grouped by tags.

To learn more about using Tags in WordPress, see this tutorial: **How To Use WordPress Post Tags**

Perhaps you have possibly desired to take a singles cruise...

Now that we have seen some of the unique characteristics of Posts, let's take a look at the similarities between Posts and Pages in WordPress.

Posts Vs Pages - Similarities

Posts and pages share many common features, like:

- Adding titles using title fields.
- Inserting and formatting content using the same content editor (i.e. the <u>WordPress</u>
 <u>Classic Editor</u> or <u>WordPress Block Editor</u>).
- Sharing theme template files to maintain a consistent look and feel throughout your site
 (although the layout of posts and pages are usually different. For example, posts
 typically display a sidebar section, whereas, with some pages like sales pages, you
 may only want the content of your page to display, so visitors are not distracted by
 other content and click away from your page).

- Using search-engine-friendly URLs (called **Permalinks**).
- They are both seen by search engines as indexable content.
- They both give you control over your site's SEO settings like Post/Page Title, Meta Description, and Meta Keywords (*note:* these may or may not be visible depending on the theme and/or plugins installed on your site).
- They can both show up on your menus and widget areas (again, these may or may not be visible depending on the theme and/or plugins installed on your site).

Although posts and pages share many similarities, as shown above, pages also have unique characteristics that make them different from posts.

Pages

Pages normally live outside of the blog chronology and are mostly used to present or showcase content that is less time-sensitive than Posts, meaning they are less likely to change over time or to require constant updating. Typical page examples include:

- The 'About Us' Page used to display information about your company.
- Your 'Contact Us' Page with details of your store's location, business hours, contact information, etc.
- Product or Service pages.
- Customer Testimonials page.
- Useful Resources page.
- Pages containing information about 'fixed' events (e.g. fixed itineraries, course timetables, school terms, a calendar of events, etc.)
- Legal information pages (e.g. Privacy Statement, Disclaimers, Terms of Use, Reprint Permissions, etc.)
- · Branding guides.
- Site Map.
- etc.

As you can see, Pages in WordPress are mostly used to display 'fixed' content. They normally don't display their publish date and are not grouped or organized using categories and tags.

You can, however, use Pages in WordPress to order, organize, and manage your content hierarchically, as shown in the section below.

To learn how to create a new page in WordPress, see this step-by-step tutorial: **How To Create A WordPress Page**

Parent And Child Pages

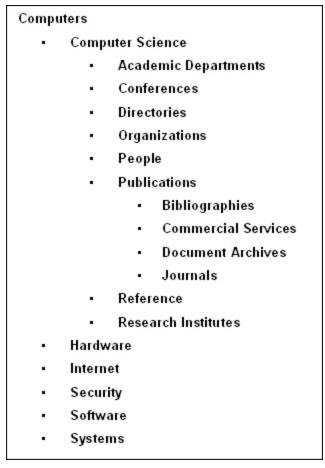
With WordPress pages, you can organize your main or top-level content topics into 'Parent' pages with nested pages (called 'child' pages) for related subtopics. Both 'parent' and 'child' pages are still just 'pages' but are organized hierarchically (for example, like a course with the main page for a section overview and nested subpages for each of the lessons included in that section).

Parent Page (Main Page)

- Child Page 1 (Subpage)
 - Child Page 1a (Subpage)
 - Child Page 1b (Subpage)
 - Child Page 1c (Subpage)
- Child Page 2 (Subpage)
 - Child Page 2a (Subpage)
 - Child Page 2b (Subpage)
 - Child Page 2c (Subpage)
- Child Page 3 (Subpage)
 - Child Page 3a (Subpage)
 - Child Page 3b (Subpage)
 - Child Page 3c (Subpage)

In WordPress, top-level pages and subpages are referred to as 'parent' and 'child' pages.

Pages allow you to create a complex hierarchical structure on your site. You can add as many 'nested' child pages and subpages as you like to keep your content organized and easier to find or navigate to, as shown in the example below.



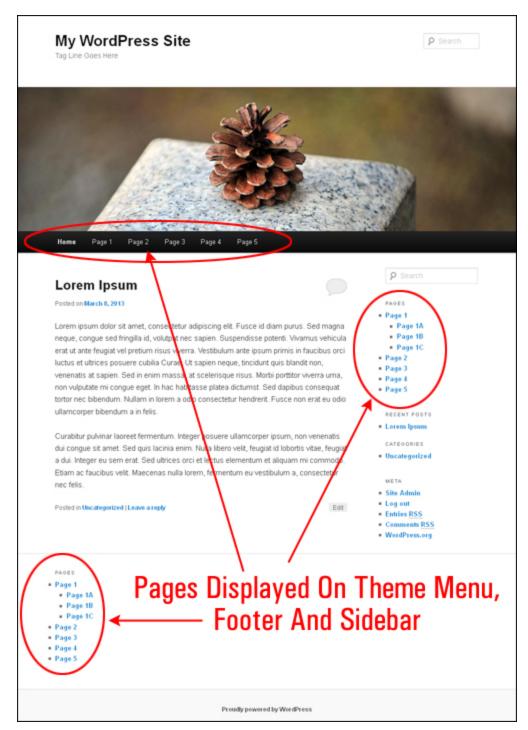
Organize your content hierarchically using Parent and Child pages.

Pages can also be added and shown on your site's sidebar area using the **Pages Widget**. In the screenshot below, for example, a 'Pages Widget' is used to display links to five parent pages and three nested 'child' pages in the sidebar area.



Display pages on your sidebar area using the Pages Widget.

As well as displaying pages in sidebar areas, many WordPress themes also let you display pages in areas like your site's header and footer sections using menus and widgets.



You can display pages in your header, footer, and sidebar sections using menus and widgets.

To learn how to use widgets in WordPress, see this step-by-step tutorial: **How To Use Widgets In WordPress**

To learn how to use menus in WordPress, see this step-by-step tutorial: **How To Use Menus In WordPress**

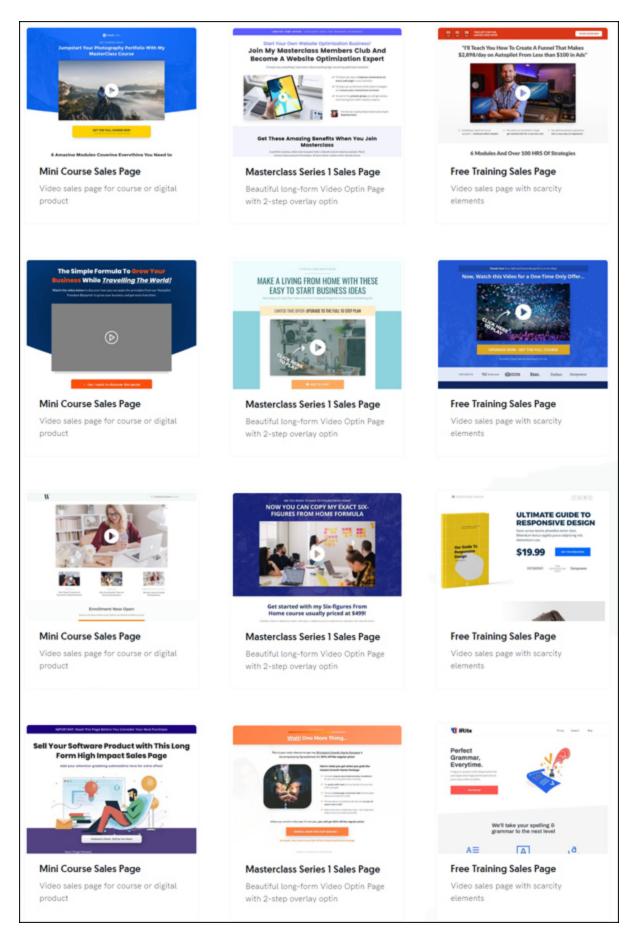
Page Templates

Whereas Posts can use different **post formats**, Pages can use different *page templates* to display content using various layouts and for different styles or purposes.

Depending on the theme you have installed on your site, you can choose a different page template for things like:

- Sales Pages
- Landing Pages
- Opt-In/Squeeze Pages
- Video Pages
- Membership Pages
- Online Courses
- Services & Consulting
- Coaching Funnels
- Ebook & Digital Products
- Product Brochure Sites
- Seminar & Event Pages
- Book Launches
- Minisites
- Local Business Sites
- etc.

For example, here are some of the different types of sales page templates made available for a popular WordPress theme for marketers called **OptimizePress**.



OptimizePress sales page templates.

To put it simply, use 'pages' to publish "non-blog" type content and use 'posts' to educate your audience about your business, promote your services or products, publish tips and advice, and to share your opinions, news, updates, and time-sensitive offers.

Essentially, posts make your site more dynamic and engaging to users, whereas a site with no posts resembles the typical 'static' website that includes only a few pages of essential company information (e.g. a 'Contact Us', 'About Us' and Services page) which many small businesses use.

What WordPress Pages Are Not

Another way to understand the differences between posts and pages in WordPress is to look at what pages are not:

- Pages are not posts. Pages are not processed by the <u>WordPress Loop</u>, which is PHP code used by WordPress to display posts and to cycle post data (like time, category, etc.) through your blog page (note: you can assign post qualities to pages through certain plugins or customizations).
- Pages normally don't get assigned categories or tags. Pages are typically
 organized hierarchically by assigning top-level 'parent' pages to child pages and nested
 subpages (note: you can use certain plugins or customize your templates to assign
 categories and tags to pages).
- Pages are not static files. Unlike traditional websites where web pages are compiled
 and from individual files linked together and stored inside a web server, WordPress
 pages (and posts) are created, managed, and stored inside database tables and then
 accessed and managed via the WordPress Content Management System (CMS) and
 your admin area. Also, you can specify any page on your site to become your site's
 home page (see this tutorial for more details: Home Page For Your
 Website).
- Pages are not included in your site's RSS feed. Posts automatically appear in your WordPress RSS feed. Pages do not. There are, however, certain plugins that allow your pages to show up on your site's RSS feed.
- Pages are not meant to expire. While posts are normally used for publishing timesensitive content (and can be archived after a certain period of time), pages should be used for displaying information that is more timeless (like your store's location and contact details).



Notes:

- You can publish an unlimited number of posts or pages in WordPress. Theoretically, the only limit is how much storage or bandwidth your hosting set up gives you.
- Because posts and post content can be referenced from more areas and features of your WordPress site (e.g. archive pages, searches, tags, categories, RSS feeds, custom menus, etc.) than content published using pages, many SEO experts argue that it is generally better to publish content using posts instead of pages as these give search engines more to work with.

WordPress Posts?

Or...

WordPress Pages?

Use Posts for...

- Blogging
- Company News & Updates
- Industry News & Updates
- Product Releases & Announcements
- Personal Views, News & Commentary
- Educational & Informational Articles
- Fun, Entertaining & Interactive Content
- Tips & Training
- Summaries, Reports, Notices, Round-Ups
- Reviews & Recommendations
- Events & General News,
- Specials, Offers, Discounts, Coupons, etc.

Use Pages for...

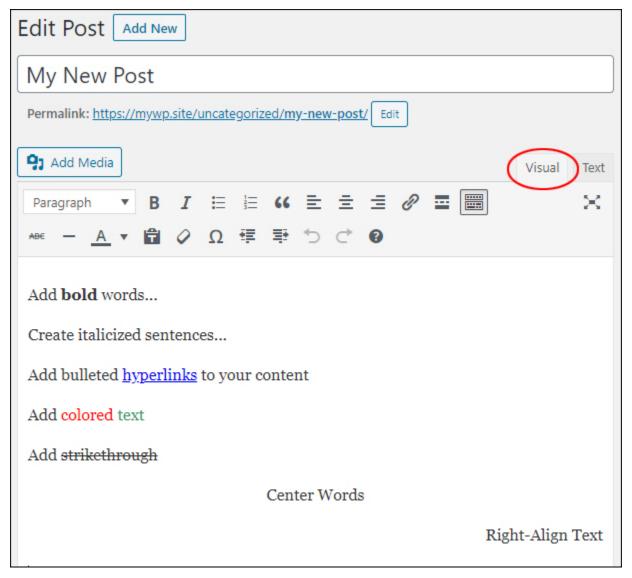
- About Us Page
- Contact Page
- Home Page
- Blog Page
- Legal Information
- Company Information
- Product, Service & Sales Pages
- Purchase, Order & Checkout Pages
- Timetables, Schedules & Pricing Info
- Membership Login & Registration
- Subscription Forms
- Site Map

What Type Of Content Can You Add Posts And Pages?

WordPress lets you easily add, edit, and format various types of content using Posts and Pages:

Add Text-Based Content

You can add plain, formatted, and/or hyperlinked text using different fonts and styles.



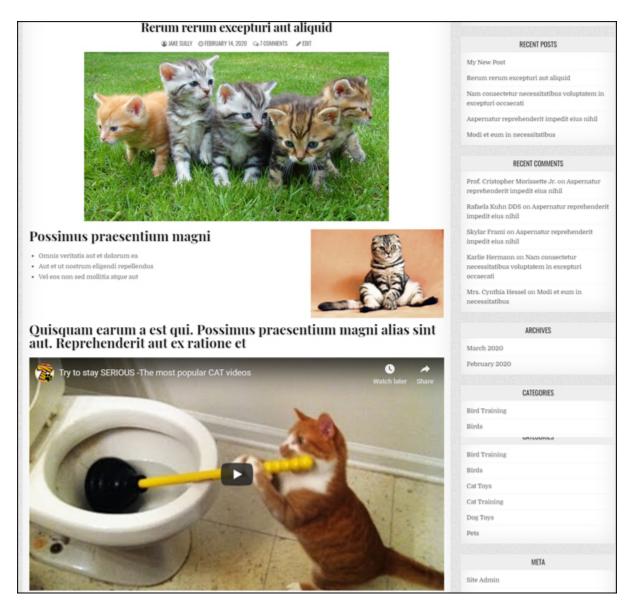
You can add text to WordPress Posts and Pages.

WordPress gives you the option of using different content editors. You can use the **WordPress Classic Editor**, which offers both a *Visual Content Editor* and a *Text (HTML) Editor*, or the newer **WordPress Block Editor**, which uses an architecture called 'Blocks."

Depending on how your site's settings are configured and what plugins you have installed, you can also add "meta" or SEO information to your posts and pages, like titles, descriptions, keywords, and custom excerpts that let you specify how you want your posts or pages to display in search engine results.

Add Media-Based Content

You can also add or embed rich media content into posts and pages, such as images, videos, audio files, downloadable files (e.g. PDF documents), presentations, ad banners, and so much more.



You can add media to WordPress Posts and Pages.

Add Scripts, Code, And Applications

WordPress also lets you add scripts, codes, or applications to your post or page content, like JavaScript, shortcodes, plugins, etc.

Many scripts allow you to add and manage your content from an external location. This is useful for managing things like site-wide advertising banners, forms, and time-sensitive content (e.g. pricing and coupon codes), or adding information such as calculators, feeds, database-driven applications, etc.



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Prices & availability shown in real time. Instant confirmation

You can also add code and scripts to WordPress Posts and Pages.

To learn more about adding scripts to posts and pages, see this tutorial: <u>How To Add Code</u> <u>To WordPress Posts And Pages</u>



Content can also be added to **posts** and **pages** by inserting code directly into your file templates. Note, however, that in order to be able to add and edit file templates, you will need to have at least a basic understanding of code languages like **HTML** and PHP.

As you can see, posts and pages have several key differences. Knowing about these differences can help you choose which type to use when publishing content on your site.

Hopefully, now you have a better understanding of the main differences between WordPress Posts and Pages and when to use each type.

**

Updated: April 8th, 2023