

How To Use WordPress Gutenberg Editor Blocks

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How To Use Gutenberg Blocks

WordPress Training

WordPress Block Editor – How To Use Blocks



WordPress Block Editor – How To Use Blocks

This tutorial is part of our series on [How To Use The WordPress Block Editor \(Gutenberg\)](#).

In this tutorial, you will learn what **Blocks** are and how to work with blocks when creating or editing content.

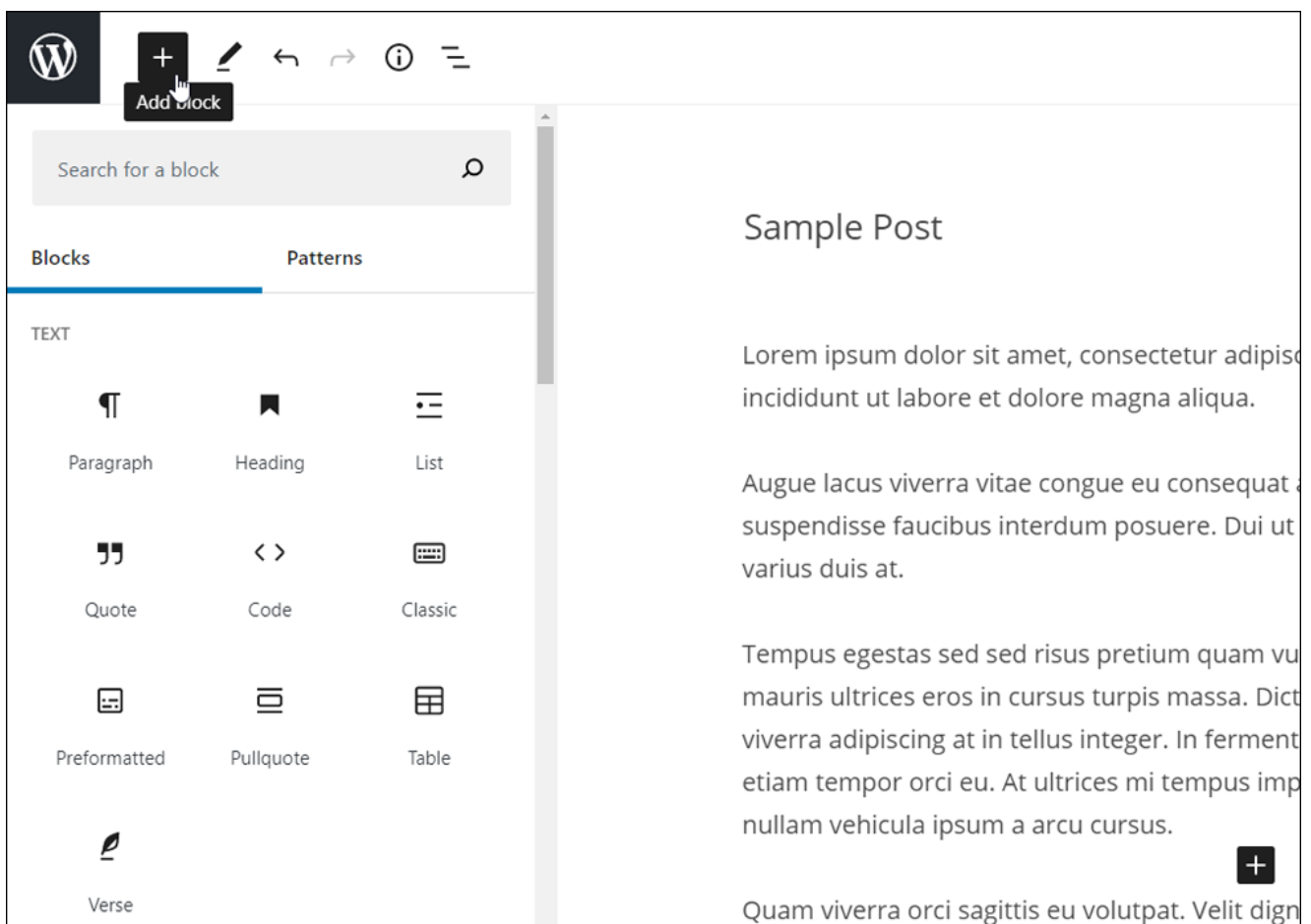
Links to detailed tutorials on how to use many default WordPress content editor blocks are provided at the end of this tutorial.

For a complete understanding of how to use the WordPress Block Editor, see these tutorials:

WordPress Gutenberg: A Block-Based Content Editor

As mentioned in our [overview of the WordPress Block Editor](#), WordPress 5.0 introduced a new content editor called **Gutenberg** (named after Johannes Gutenberg, who invented the printing press over 500 years ago).

The Gutenberg editor (now referred to simply as the *Block Editor*) aims to simplify the content creation and content editing process in WordPress using ‘blocks’.



The WordPress Block editor includes many default blocks.

WordPress Block Editor – What Are ‘Blocks’?

Think of ‘blocks’ as being the smallest units or *modules* you can use on your site to build something or get something done.

This could be adding a paragraph of text, a layout or media element, or some other functionality.

Imagine too, that no matter how different each block's purpose may be, they all fit and work together seamlessly (like 'Lego' blocks).

By combining different blocks, you can build complex web pages with sophisticated layouts and modular functionality.

WordPress, however, aims to extend the functionality of blocks beyond just creating content pages on your site.

Imagine turning your entire web presence into a giant *Plug'n'Play* site where you can combine content blocks with block-based plugins, widgets, themes, third-party apps, integrations, etc., and add these seamlessly anywhere to your site at any time with just the click of a button and without requiring any coding skills.

One of the main advantages of switching to a block-based content editor is that it opens your website up to many possibilities for simplified future development.

For example, WordPress's block-based environment allows third-party developers to create new block types that can integrate seamlessly with your existing website, giving you the power to add a whole new level of functionality to your web presence without having to start from scratch or make major changes to what you have already built.

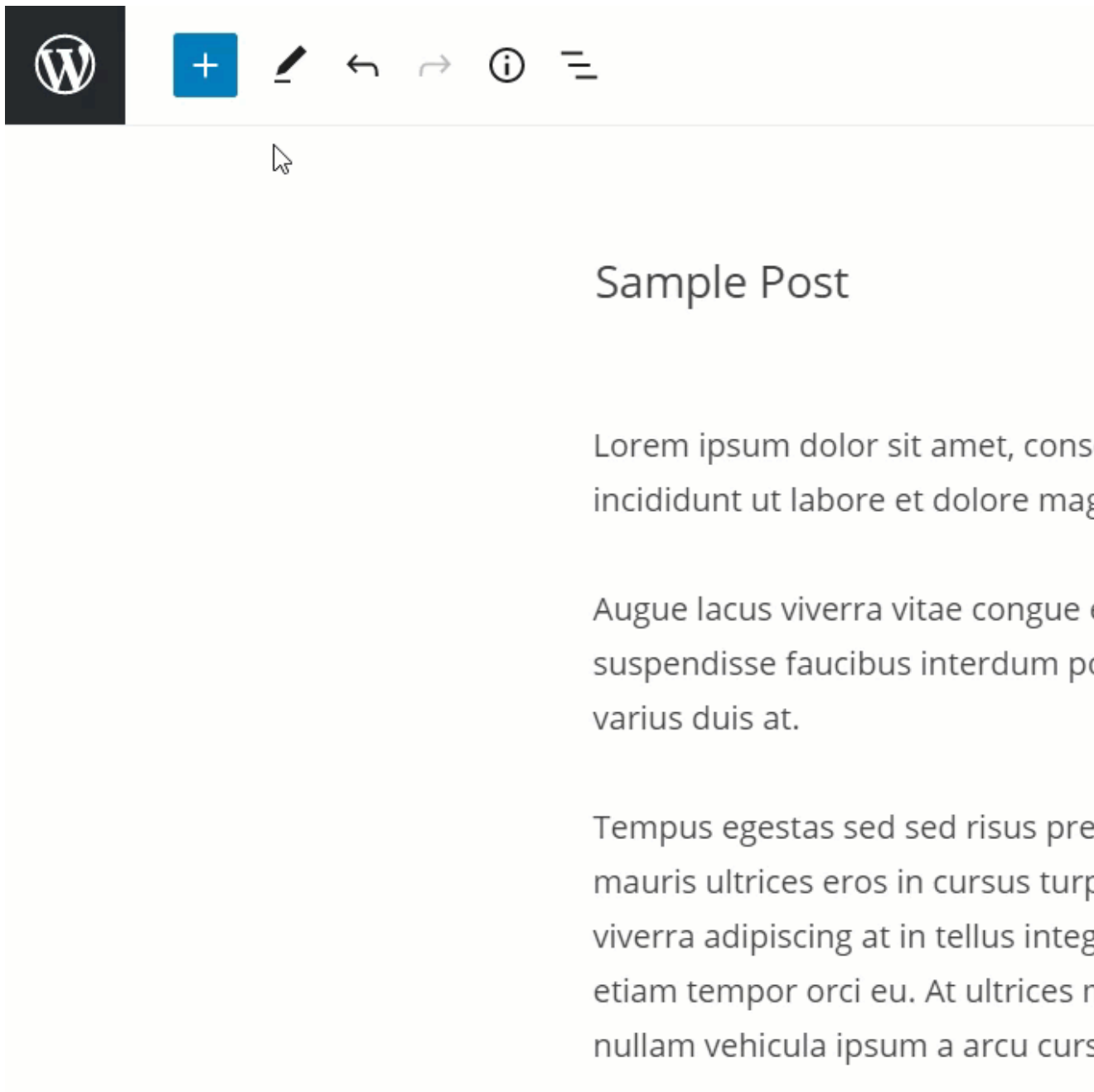
Focusing back on the content editor, *Blocks* let you add different types of content (e.g. paragraphs, images, quotes, multimedia, etc.) into your posts and pages and rearrange your post/page layouts using features like:

- **'Point and click'** (e.g. move your cursor over an item and click to select it or add an element to your page).
- **'Drag and drop'** (e.g. rearrange your page layout).
- **Resizing handles** (e.g. for resizing images).
- **Drop-down menus** (e.g. select one of several options to configure a setting).
- **Incremental Sliders** (e.g. slide right or left to increase or decrease values, adjust widths, etc.)
- **Value fields** (e.g. enter a number of items to display for an element).
- **Up and down arrows** (e.g. move content sections up and down the page).

WordPress has published a great video introduction to publishing content with the block editor. To watch this video, [go here](#):

Working With Blocks

As mentioned earlier, with the Gutenberg editor, adding content to posts and pages is all done using 'blocks'.



Just some of the blocks you can use to create posts and pages on your site.

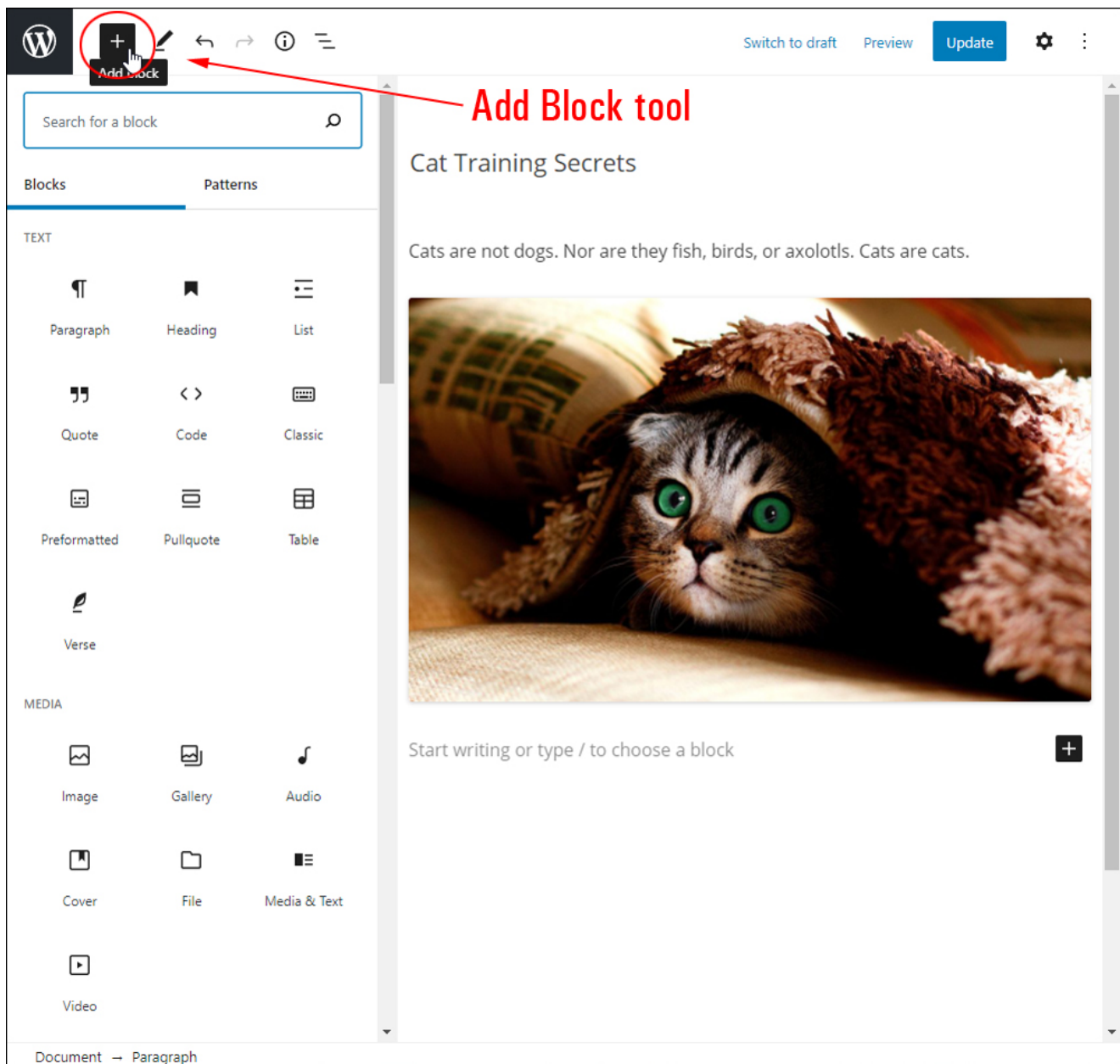
The Block Editor contains tools that let you select and insert different blocks into your content.

Let's go through these tools:

Block Inserter Tool

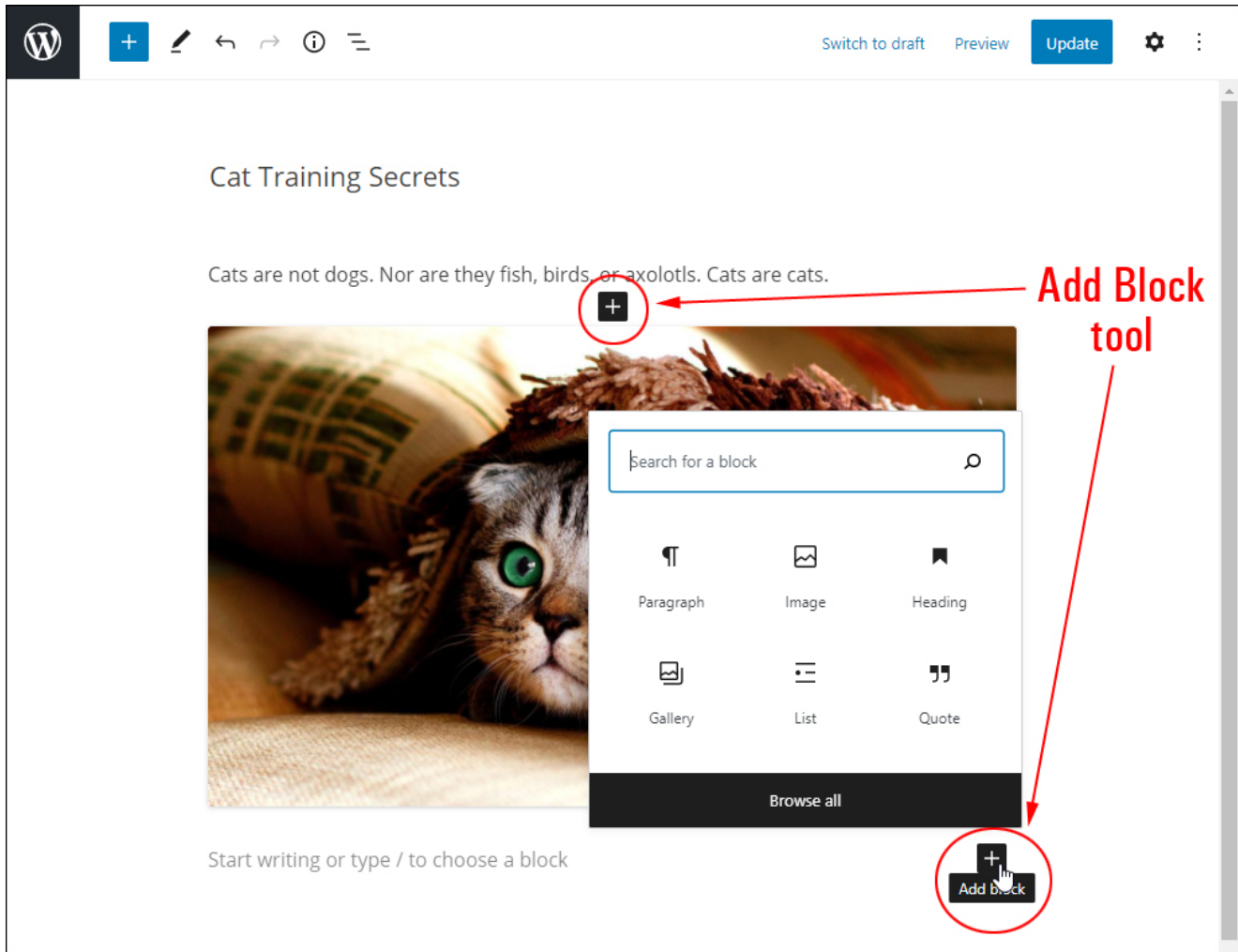
The Block Inserter tool (Add Block) can be accessed from the **Editing Toolbar**, or inside the **Content Area**.

The Add Block tool is the button with the [+] sign. It is the second button on the top left side of the Editing Toolbar.



Use the Add Block tool to view and insert blocks into your posts and pages.

You can also access the Add Block tool inside the content area by clicking above or below an existing block.



Add Blocks inside the content area.

The 'Add Block' tool is divided into the following tabbed sections:

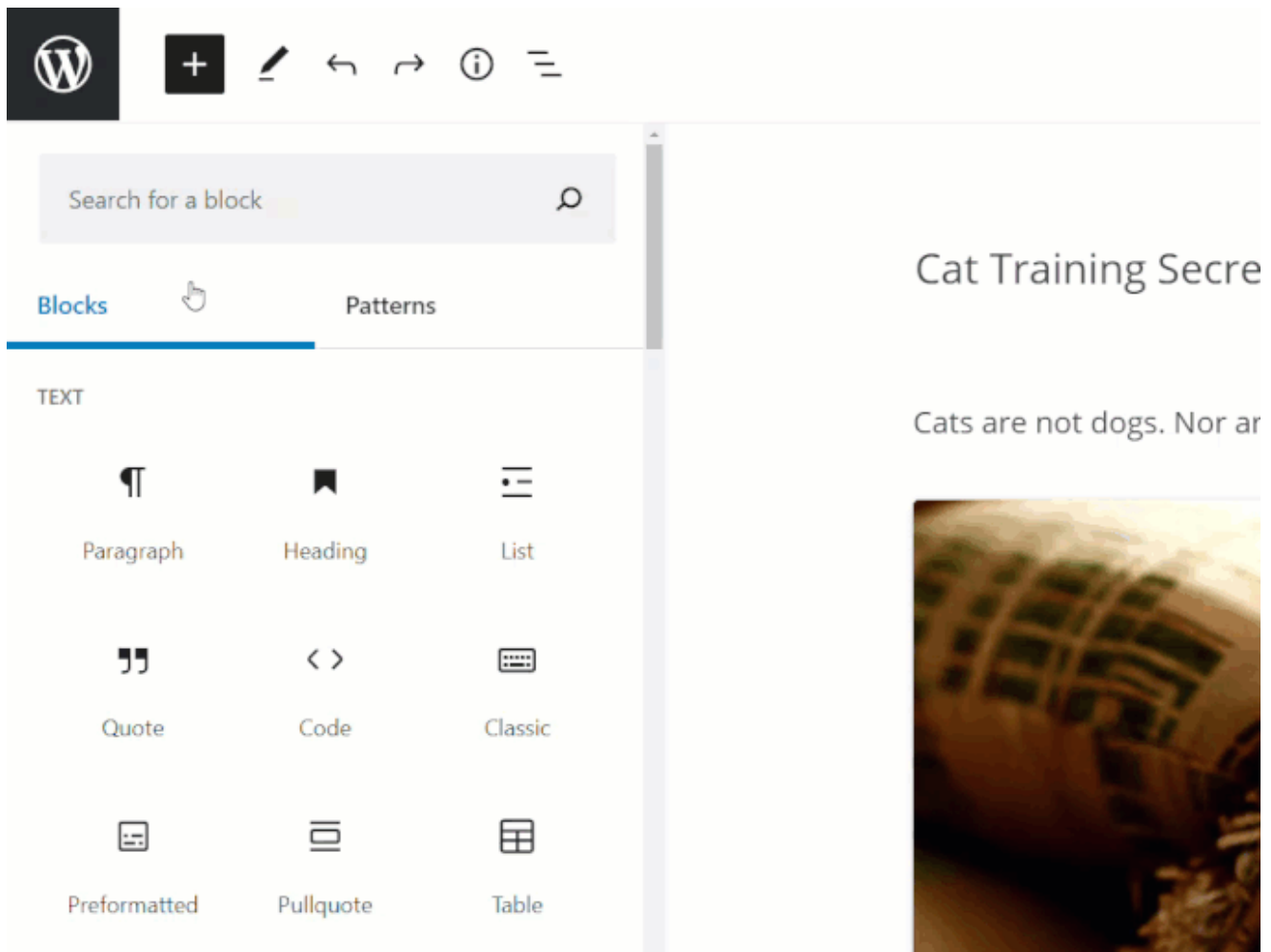
- **Blocks** – Blocks are the building elements of your content. This section displays a list of all the default and installed blocks in your content editor.
- **Patterns** – Patterns are predefined block layouts (groups of blocks) created by designers. This section is explained further below.
- **Reusable Blocks** – Reusable blocks can be used repeatedly in your content. *Note:* You must create at least one *Reusable Block* for this section to display in the Add Block tool's tabbed menu section.

Additionally, the Blocks menu contains a 'Search' field and different menu sections:

- **Most Used**
- **Common Blocks**
- **Formatting**
- **Layout Elements**
- **Widgets**
- **Embeds**

- **Reusable Blocks** – *Note:* You must create at least one *Reusable block* for this section to display in the Add Block tool’s menu.

To insert a block into the content editor, either search for the block inside the ‘Add Block’ tool and then click on the block or scroll down the list and click on the block. If you’re not sure what a particular block does, hover over it and a description will pop up.



Search and add blocks to your content using the Add Block tool.

You can also add a block to your content by selecting it and then dragging and dropping it into place.



Save draft

Preview

Pub

Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet



Document

Add blocks to your content using drag and drop.



To learn more about the block types found in each of these sections, see the links provided at the end of this tutorial.

Block Directory

Just like plugins and themes, you can also add blocks to endlessly extend your site's functionality.

This is where the **Block Directory** comes in handy.

After the block editor became the new default WordPress editor, WordPress made the creation of a Block Directory one of its next priority projects.

While the default block editor includes a sizeable number of useful blocks already, the Block Directory allows web and plugin developers to create and add new types of blocks with specific functionalities to the Block editor.

It also allows users to discover, test, and install new blocks for their website without leaving the editor, as the Block Directory is built right into the block editor.

You can install blocks from the built-in Block Directory into your site using the Add Block tool.

Just search for a specific functionality you would like to add to your content and a list of blocks matching your search will display inside the menu.



Note: The block directory is only available to users that have the capabilities to install and activate plugins on their site.

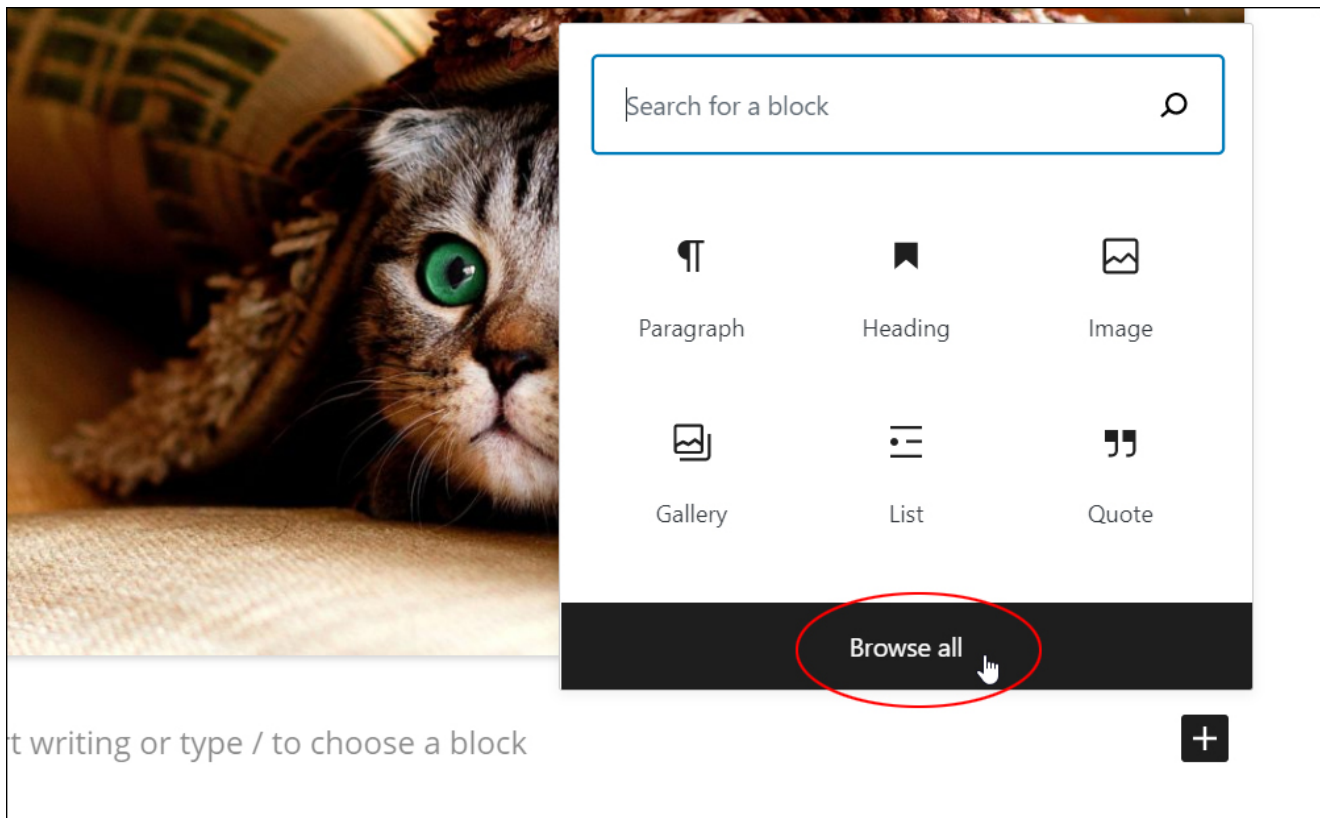
To download and install these custom blocks, click on the **Add block** button.

A screenshot of the WordPress Block Directory search results. The search bar at the top contains the text 'countdown'. Below the search bar, there are two tabs: 'Blocks' and 'Patterns'. The 'Blocks' tab is selected. The results show a message: 'No blocks found in your library. These blocks can be downloaded and installed:'. Below this message, there is a card for the 'Countdown Block'. The card features a yellow clock icon, the title 'Countdown Block', a rating of five stars with '(0)' reviews, and a blue 'Add block' button. Below the title, there is a short description: 'Create a fear of missing out a special offer or draw attention to your upcoming events or create a feeling of urgency using the Countdown Block for Gutenberg editor. You...'. At the bottom of the card, there are two statistics: '200 active installations' and 'Updated 3 months ago'. A red arrow points from the search bar to the 'Add block' button. Another red arrow points from the text 'Add new blocks using the Block Directory' to the 'Add block' button. The background of the screenshot shows a blurred image of a cat's face.

Add new blocks using the Block Directory

Add new blocks to your content from the Add Block tool using the built-in Block Directory.

You can also access the Block Directory while working inside the content area by selecting the Block Inserter tool and clicking on the **Browse all** link.



Click on the Add Block tool's Browse All link inside the content area to access a list of blocks from the Block Directory.

The WordPress team has put together [a great video that explains how the Block Directory works](#).

Block Patterns

Block Patterns are predefined block layouts (groups of blocks) that you can insert into your posts and pages and then tweak and customize to suit your needs.

Block patterns allow web designers to create complex, beautiful, and stylized layouts using combinations of text and media blocks that you can then instantly add to you enhance the look and feel of your content without having to design or create these yourself.

Block patterns can be found in a wide variety of plugins and themes, with more patterns being constantly added as WordPress evolves.

Like Blocks, you can select and add patterns into your content from the Inserter tool.

The screenshot shows the WordPress Gutenberg editor. On the left is the 'Block Patterns' panel, which is currently selected. It features a search bar at the top and several categories of patterns:

- BUTTONS:**
 - 'Two buttons': A pattern with two buttons, one red ('Download now') and one white ('About Cervantes').
 - 'Three buttons': A pattern with three buttons: 'About Cervantes' (white), 'Contact us' (red), and 'Books' (red).
- COLUMNS:**
 - 'Which treats of the character and pursuits of the famous gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha': A pattern with two columns of text. The left column is longer than the right. Below the text are two small illustrations of Don Quixote on horseback.
 - 'Two columns of text': A pattern with two columns of text of equal length.

On the right is the content preview area. It shows the text 'Cats are not dogs. Nor are they fish, birds, or axolotls. Cats are cats.' followed by a large image of a kitten with green eyes peeking out from a brown, fuzzy, hood-like structure. Below the image is the text 'Start writing or type / to choose a block'. A large red word 'Patterns' is positioned in the center, with three red arrows pointing from it to the 'Two buttons' pattern, the 'Three buttons' pattern, and the 'Two columns of text' pattern in the left panel.

Create complex content layouts using Block Patterns.

Just select and click on a Pattern and it will be automatically added to your content.

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Switch to draft Preview Update ⚙️ ⋮


Search for a block 🔍

Blocks Patterns

scraps on Saturdays, lentils on Fridays, and a pigeon or so extra on Sundays, made away with three-quarters of his income.

used to saddle the hack as well as handle the bill-hook. The age of this gentleman of ours was bordering on fifty; he was of a hardy habit, spare, gaunt-featured, a very early riser and a great sportsman.

Two columns of text



They must know, then, that the above-named gentleman whenever he was at leisure (which was mostly all the year round) gave himself up to reading books of chivalry with such ardour and avidity that he almost entirely neglected the pursuit of his field-sports, and even the management of his property; and to such a pitch did his eagerness and infatuation go that he sold many an acre of tillage-land to buy books of chivalry to read, and brought home as many of them as he could get.

But of all there were none he liked so well as those of the famous Feliciano de Silva's composition, for their lucidity of style and complicated conceits were as pearls in his sight, particularly when in his reading he came upon courtships and cartels, where he often found passages like "the reason of the unreason with which my reason is afflicted so weakens my reason that with reason I murmur at your beauty;" or again, "the high heavens render you deserving of the desert your greatness deserves."

Two columns of text with images

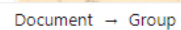
Which treats of the character and pursuits of the famous Don Quixote of La Mancha.

Which treats of the first lady the ingenious Don Quixote made from home.





Wherein is related the best way in which Don Quixote had himself dubbed a knight.

Three columns of text with buttons

GALLERY



Document → Group

They must know, then, that the above-named gentleman whenever he was at leisure (which was mostly all the year round) gave himself up to reading books

But of all there were none he liked so well as those of the famous Feliciano de Silva's composition, for their lucidity of style and complicated conceits were as

Click on a Pattern to insert it into your content.

You can then easily tweak and customize the block elements inside the Block Pattern to suit your needs.

WordPress interface showing Block Patterns. The top navigation bar includes "Switch to draft", "Preview", "Update", and settings icons. A search bar for blocks is visible on the left. The main content area displays several block patterns:

- Two columns of text:** A pattern with two columns of text. The left column contains text from "Don Quixote" and an illustration of a knight on horseback. The right column contains text from "Don Quixote" and an illustration of a knight on horseback.
- Two columns of text with images:** A pattern with two columns of text and two small illustrations of knights on horseback.
- Large image:** A large image of a kitten with green eyes.
- Small images:** Two smaller images of kittens, one with blue eyes and one with orange eyes.

The text in the "Two columns of text" pattern includes:

In a village of La Mancha, the name of which I have no desire to call to mind, there lived not long since one of those gentlemen that keep a lance in the lance-rack, an old buckler, a lean hack, and a greyhound for coursing. An olla of rather more beef than mutton, a salad on most nights, scraps on Saturdays, lentils on Fridays, and a pigeon or so extra on Sundays, made away with three-quarters of his income.

The rest of it went in a doublet of fine cloth and velvet breeches and shoes to match for holidays, while on week-days he made a brave figure in his best homespun. He had in his house a housekeeper past forty, a niece under twenty, and a lad for the field and market-place, who used to saddle the hack as well as handle the bill-hook. The age of this gentleman of ours was bordering on fifty; he was of a hardy habit, spare, gaunt-featured, a very early riser and a great sportsman.

They must know, then, that the above-named gentleman whenever he was at leisure (which was mostly all the year round) gave himself up to reading books of chivalry with such ardour and avidity that he almost entirely neglected the pursuit of his field-sports, and even the management of his property; and to such a pitch did his eagerness and infatuation go that he sold many an acre of tillage-land to buy books of chivalry to read, and brought home as many of them as he could get.

But of all there were none he liked so well as those of the famous Feliciano de Silva's composition, for their lucidity of style and complicated conceits were as pearls in his sight, particularly when in his reading he came upon courtships and cartels, where he often found passages like "the reason of the unreason with which my reason is afflicted so weakens my reason that with reason I murmur at your beauty;" or again, "the high heavens render you deserving of the desert your greatness deserves."

Jump around on couch, meow constantly until given food, kitty scratches couch bad kitty but run as fast as i can into another room for no reason car rides are evil stares at human while pushing stuff off a table so nap all day.

Gimme attention gimme attention gimme attention gimme attention gimme attention just kidding i don't want it anymore meow bye nya nya nyan yet small kitty warm kitty little balls of fur for cat not kitten around . Chirp at birds tweeting a baseball.

Block Patterns can be easily tweaked and edited to suit your needs.

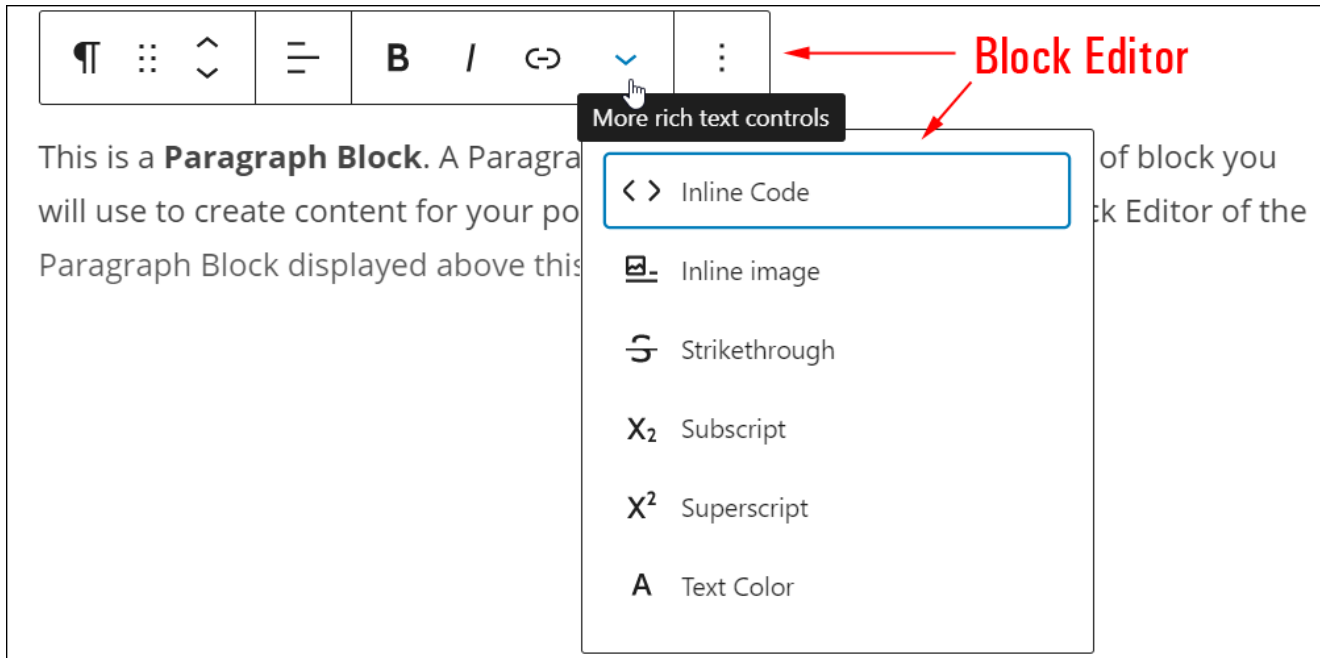
The WordPress team has also put together [a video explaining how Block Patterns work](#).

Block Editors

Depending on the type of block you add to your post or page, you will see that each block has its own Block Editor with a menu of options that let you change things like format, add or remove links, replace color, change the alignment of elements, etc.

These appear when you click inside the block.

For example, here is the Block Editor of a **Paragraph block**...



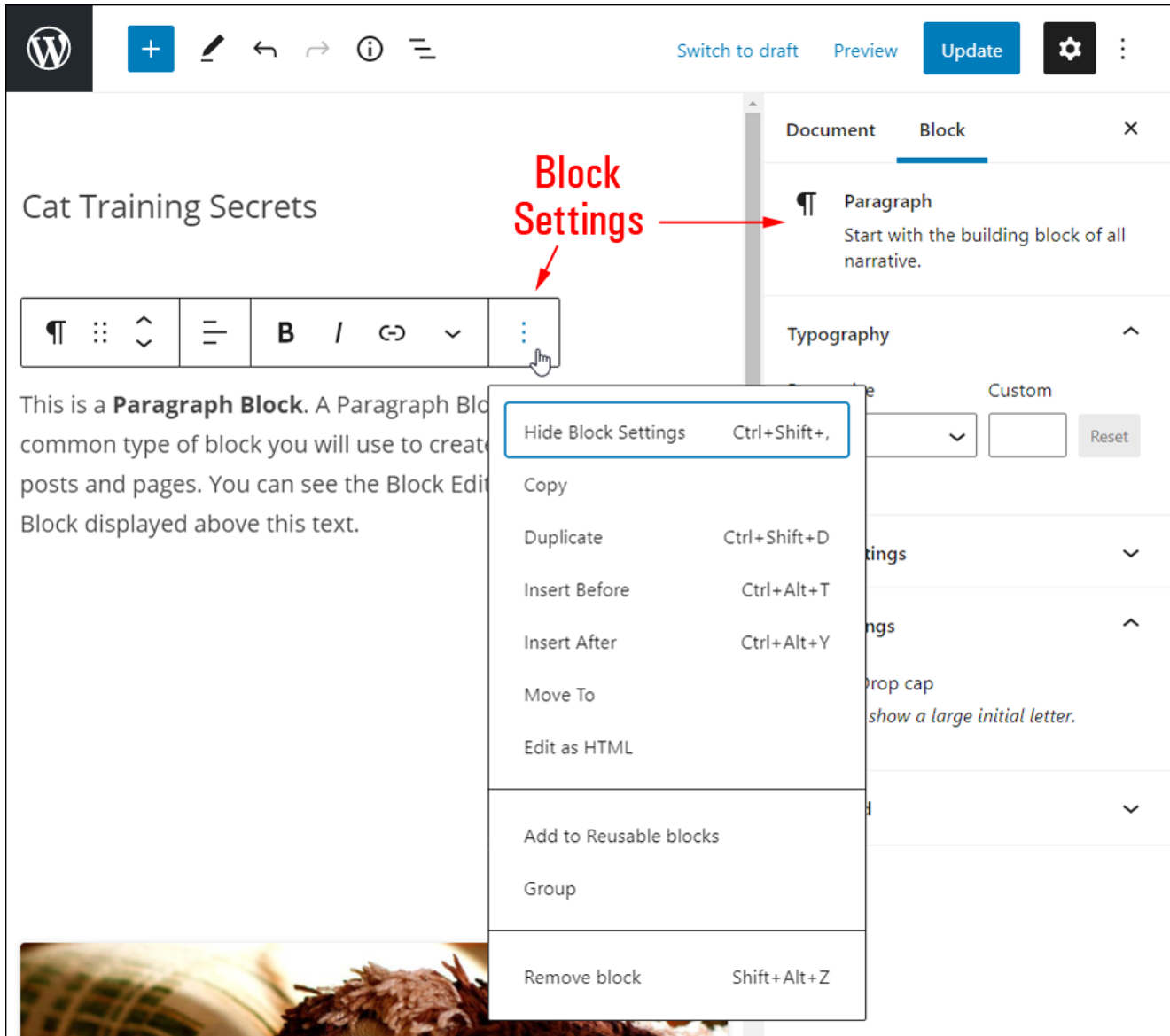
Block Editor – Paragraph block

Each block also has its own set of controls that will display in the **Settings section** when you select the block.

Some blocks let you adjust various settings, and some blocks have few or no settings.

Also, many blocks share common settings. We cover these in our **WordPress Block Settings** section.

You can show or hide these settings from the Block Editor's *More Options* menu. Click the three dots (vertical ellipsis) to reveal additional settings in your Block Editor.



Each block type has its own set of controls with additional options and settings.

For a great overview of how Block settings work in the WordPress Block Editor and how to adjust these, see the video below:

- For in-depth tutorials about using different types of blocks, see the links at the end of this tutorial.
- To learn how to configure common block settings, see this tutorial: [**WordPress Block Editor: Block Settings**](#)

Block Editor Settings

As mentioned in the previous section, every block type has its own set of controls with additional settings and options.

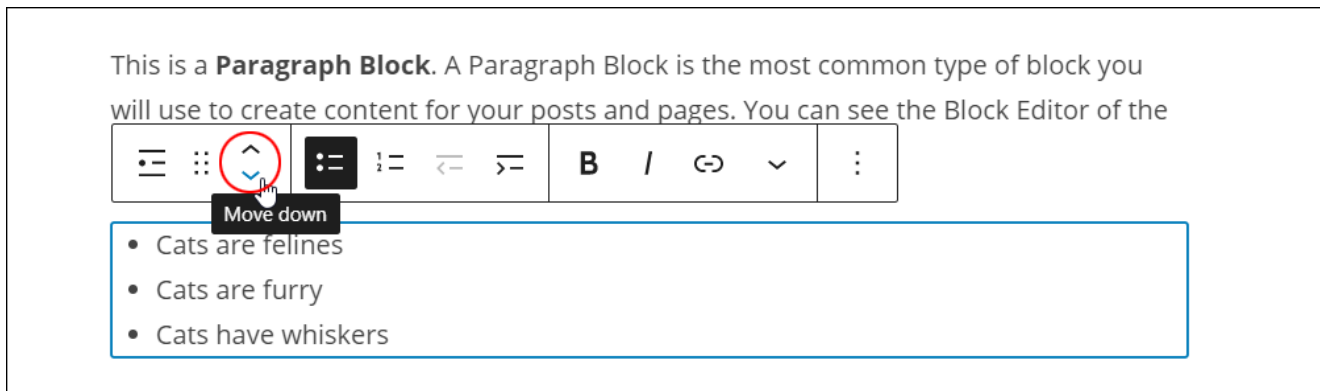
All block types, however, follow a similar build structure.

Some of the universal elements you will find in most Block Editors include features that let you:

- Move Blocks
- Change Block Type or Style
- Access Additional Options
- Access Advanced Block Settings

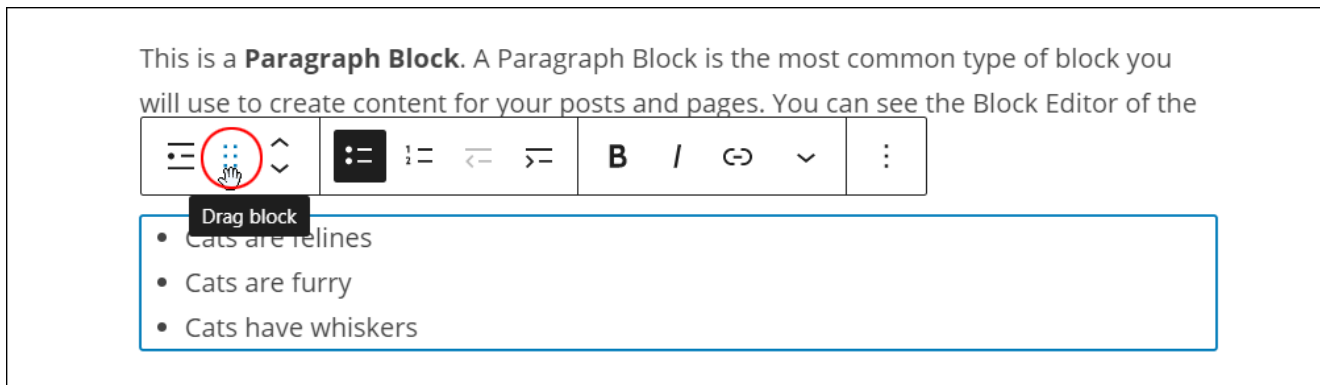
Moving Blocks

You can easily reorder, rearrange, or reposition blocks in your content using ‘move up’ and ‘move down’ arrows in the Block Editor.



Reorder blocks on your post or page using the up and down arrows.

You can also place blocks wherever you like and rearrange the layout of your content in your post or page using drag and drop.



Rearrange blocks on your page using drag and drop.

Additionally, you can move blocks using the *Move To* function in the **More Options** menu (this is explained further below).

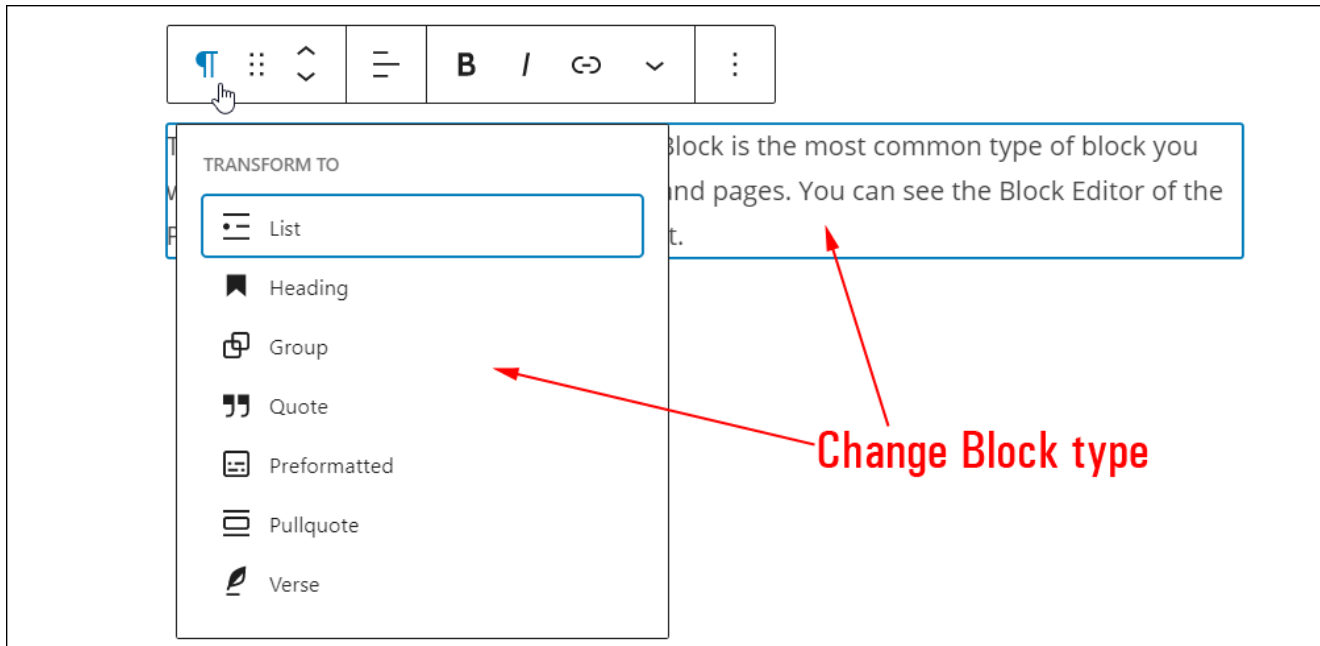
Moving blocks is covered in more detail in our tutorial on [how to use the Block Editor's Content Area](#).

Change Block Type Or Style

Some blocks allow you to easily change or substitute the block type or style.

This feature is useful for converting content from one type into another without having to insert a new block and transfer its content over.

For example, here are the options available for changing a Paragraph Block into another type of block (e.g. a **Quote block** or **Verse block**)...



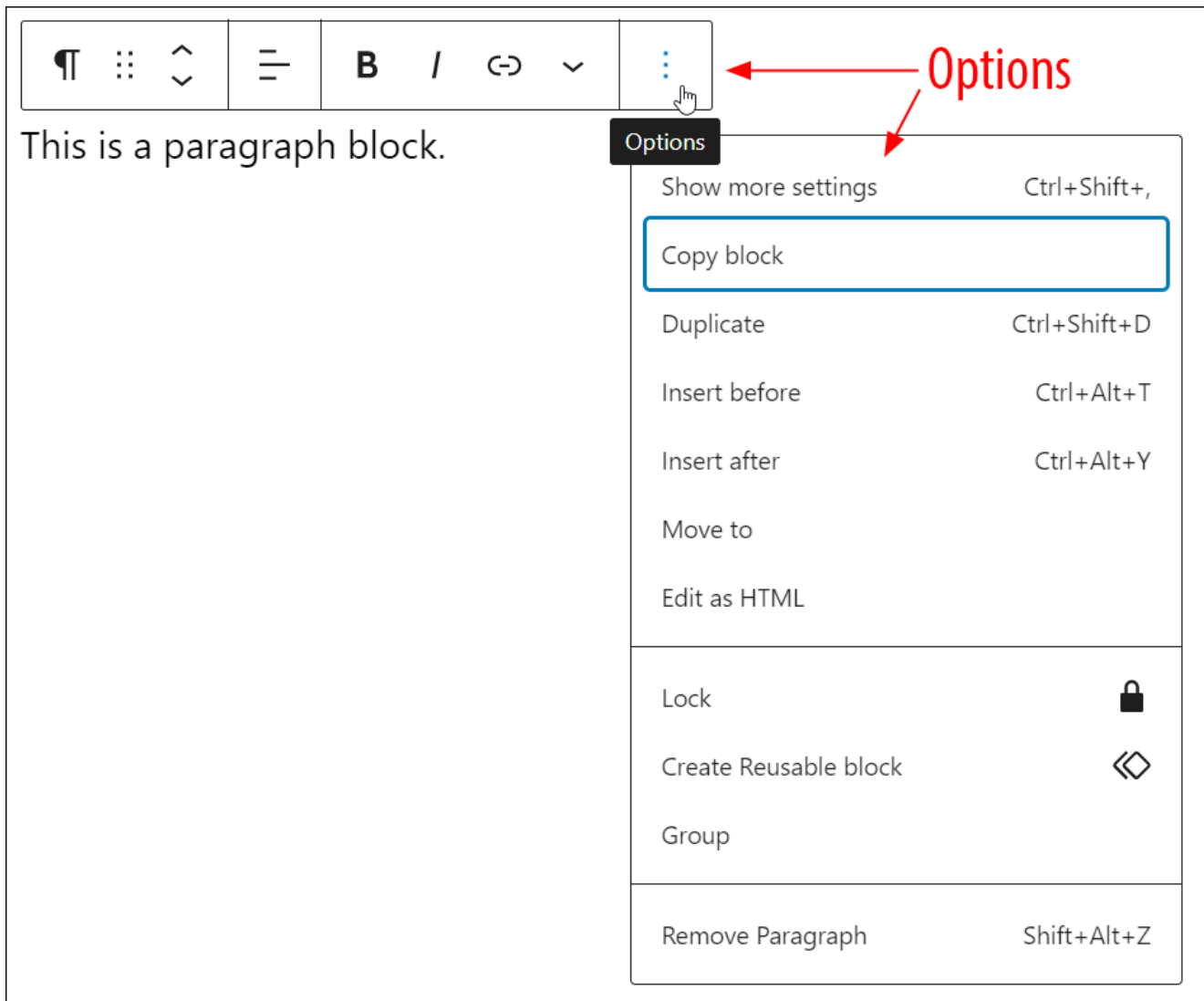
You can easily change some blocks into other types of blocks.

Block Editor Settings – Options

Another common element of block editors is the 'Options' section, which includes the following standard settings:

- Show/Hide Block Settings
- Copy Block
- Duplicate
- Insert Before
- Insert After
- Move To
- Edit as HTML
- Lock
- Create Reusable Block
- Group
- Remove Block

To display the 'Options' menu, click on the three dots (vertical ellipsis) on the Block Editor menu.



WordPress Block Editor – Options Menu.

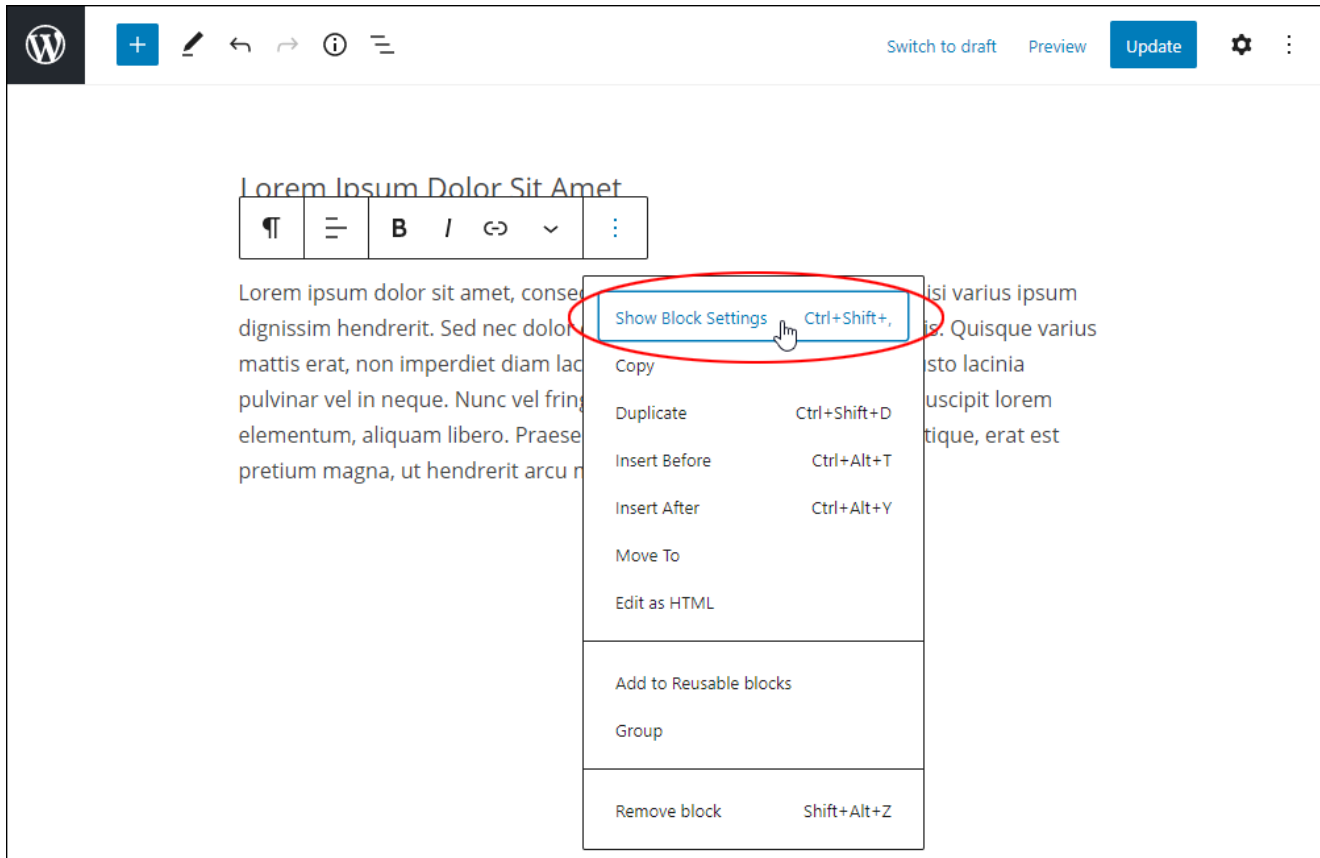
Let's go through each of these settings.



Once you're familiar with the settings below, you can save time accessing these features using **Keyboard Shortcuts**.

Show/Hide Block Settings

Hiding block settings lets you work on your content free of distractions (i.e. ('Distraction-Free' Mode)).



More Options – Show/Hide Block Settings

To hide block settings:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu
- Click 'Hide Block Settings' to hide the 'Settings' sidebar from view.
- Click 'Show Block Settings' to display the 'Settings' sidebar on your content editor again.



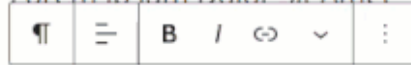
Switch to draft

Preview

Update



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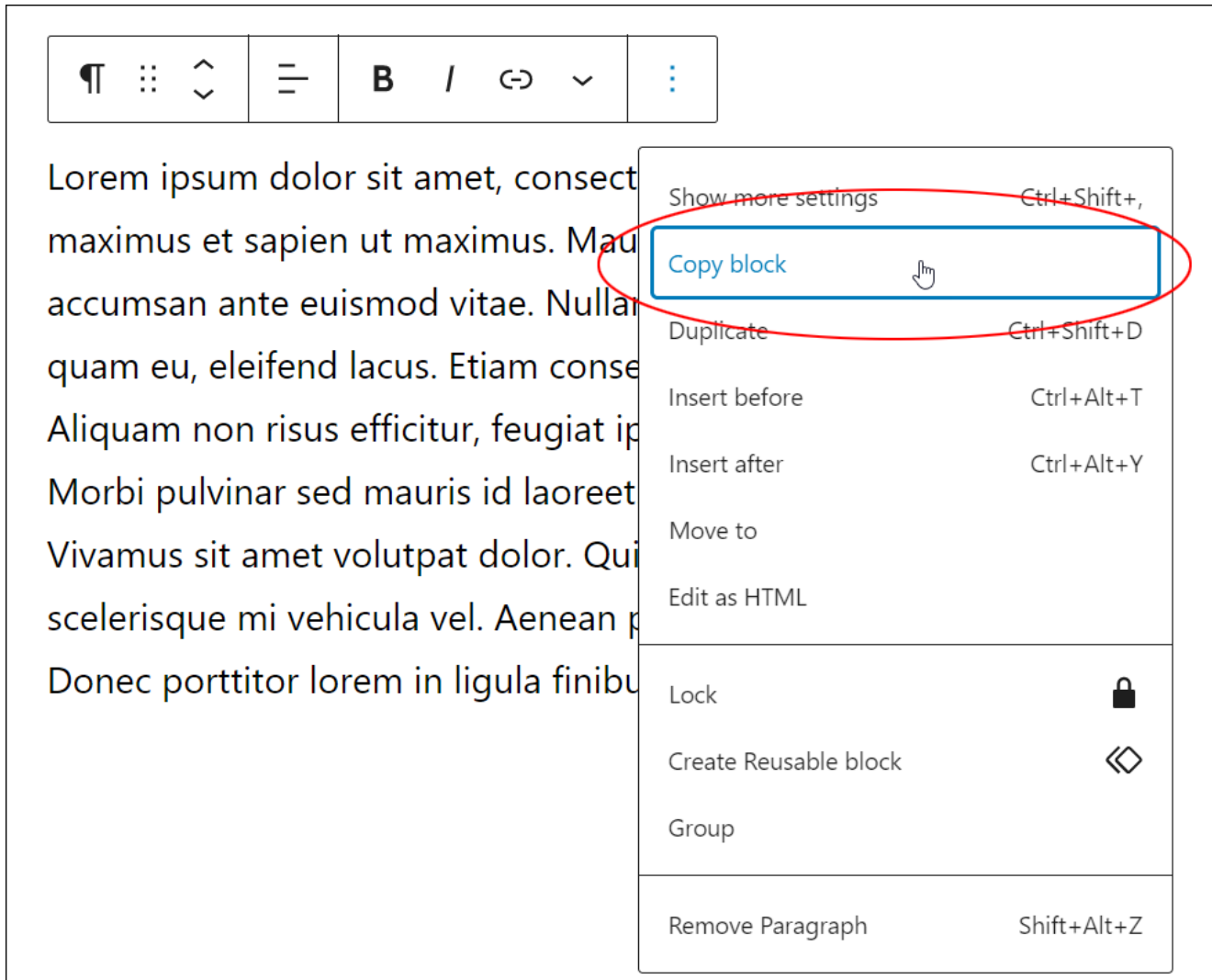
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Use this function to show or hide your block settings.

Copy Block

This function copies all the content inside your selected block to your clipboard (e.g. text, images, etc.) and preserves all formatting tags.

This function is useful if you would like to copy and paste the content from a block into a different post or page.



Note: if you plan to reuse the same block content often, you can also turn the block into a **Reusable block** – see further below for more details.

To copy content from a block to your clipboard:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu
- Select 'Copy' to copy all the content from the block to your clipboard.
- Use the normal 'Paste' function to paste the content into another block (e.g. on a different post or page), save the block content to a text file, etc.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



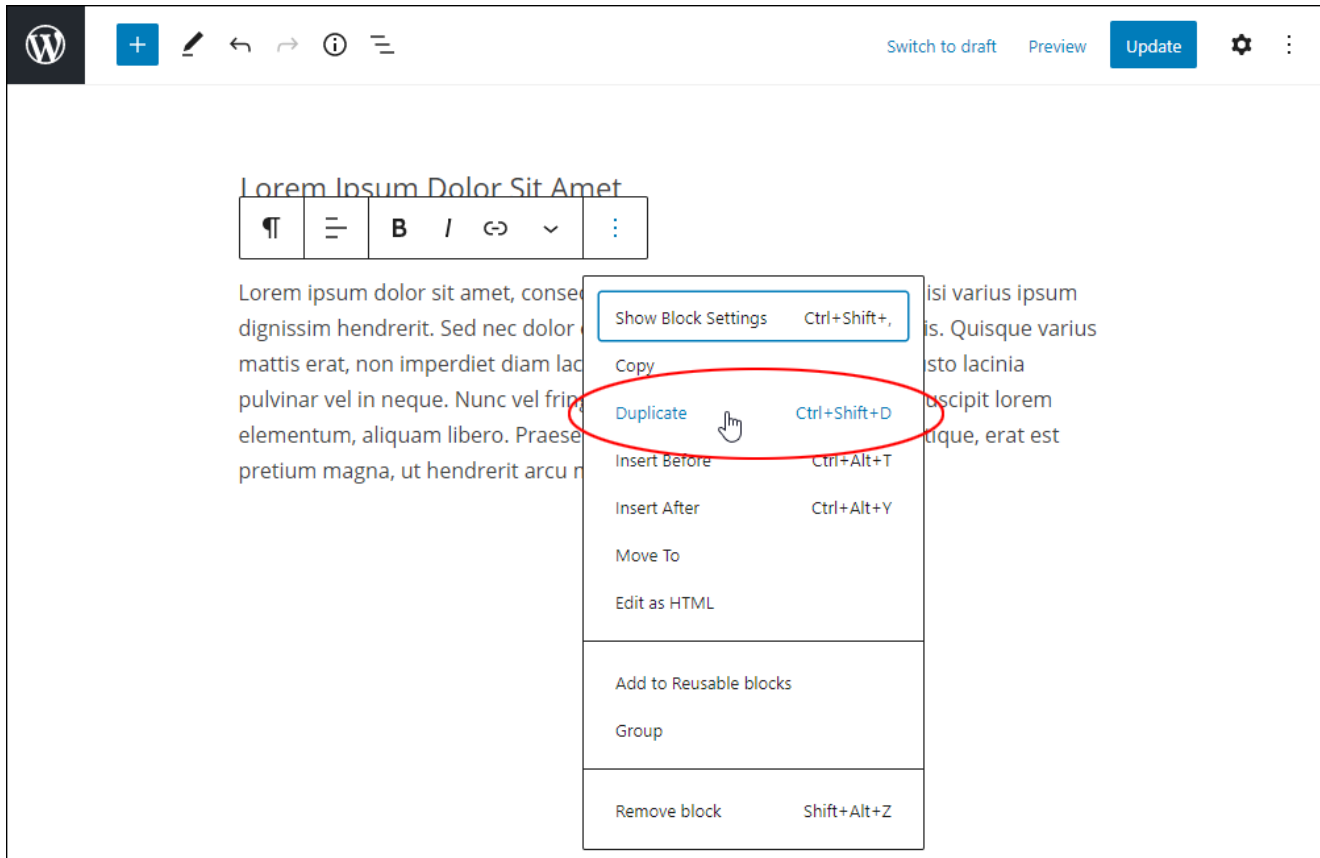
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Use this function to copy content from a selected block to your clipboard.

Duplicate

This setting lets you save time recreating an existing block. Use the Duplicate setting to create and add an identical copy (i.e. a *clone*) of any selected block into your content, then tweak the content on your duplicated block to suit your needs.



More Options – Duplicate setting.

To duplicate a block:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Click 'Duplicate'.
- Edit and/or reposition the duplicated block if required.
- Save your post or page to update your content.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet

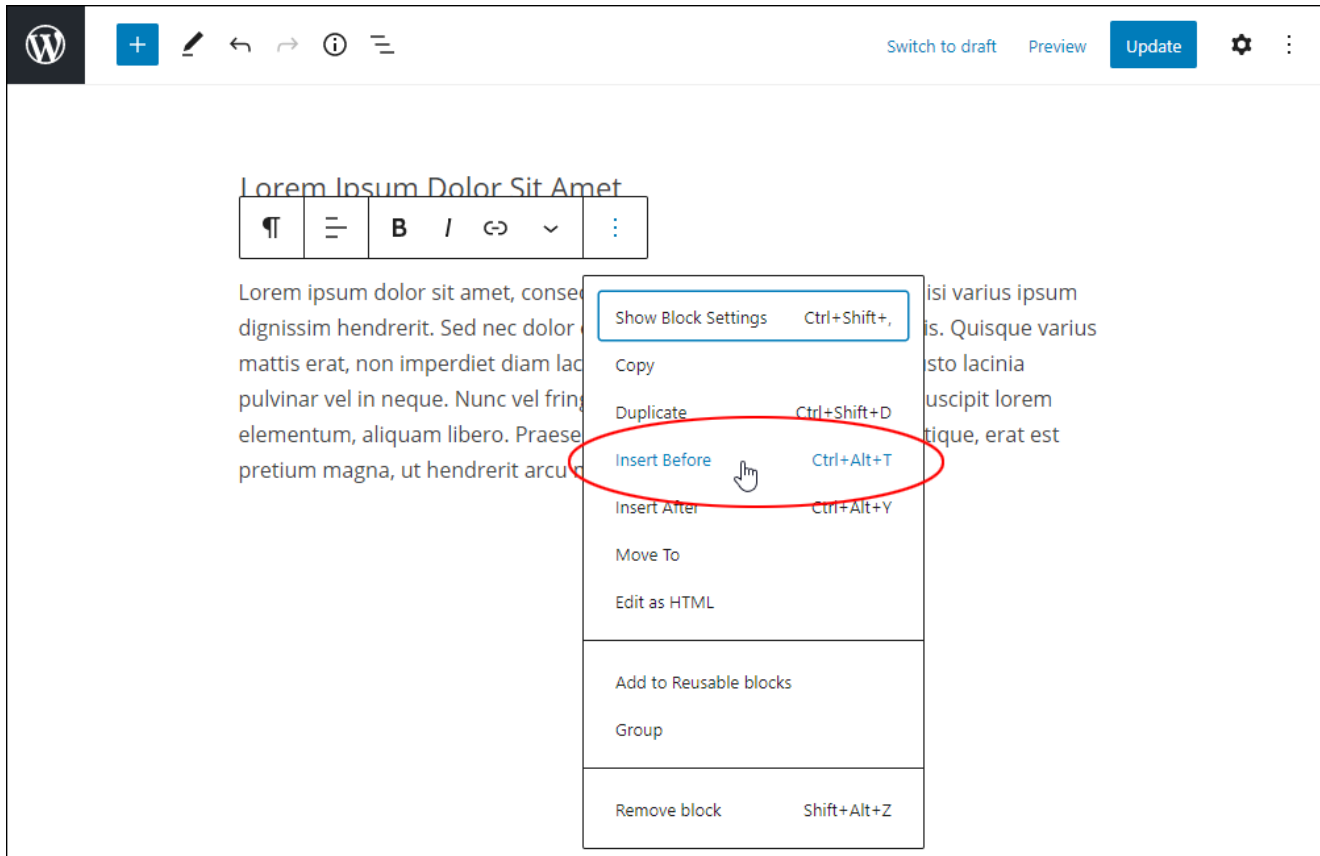


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Use this function to duplicate a block.

Insert Before

This setting lets you insert a new block into your content *above* the block you are currently working on.



More Options – Insert Before setting.

To insert a block above your selected block:

- Select the block where you want to insert a new block *before* it.
- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Click 'Insert Before'.
- A new block 'placeholder' will be inserted above your selected block.
- Use the 'Add Block' tool to select the type of block you want to add to the new block placeholder.
- Save your post or page to update your content.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet



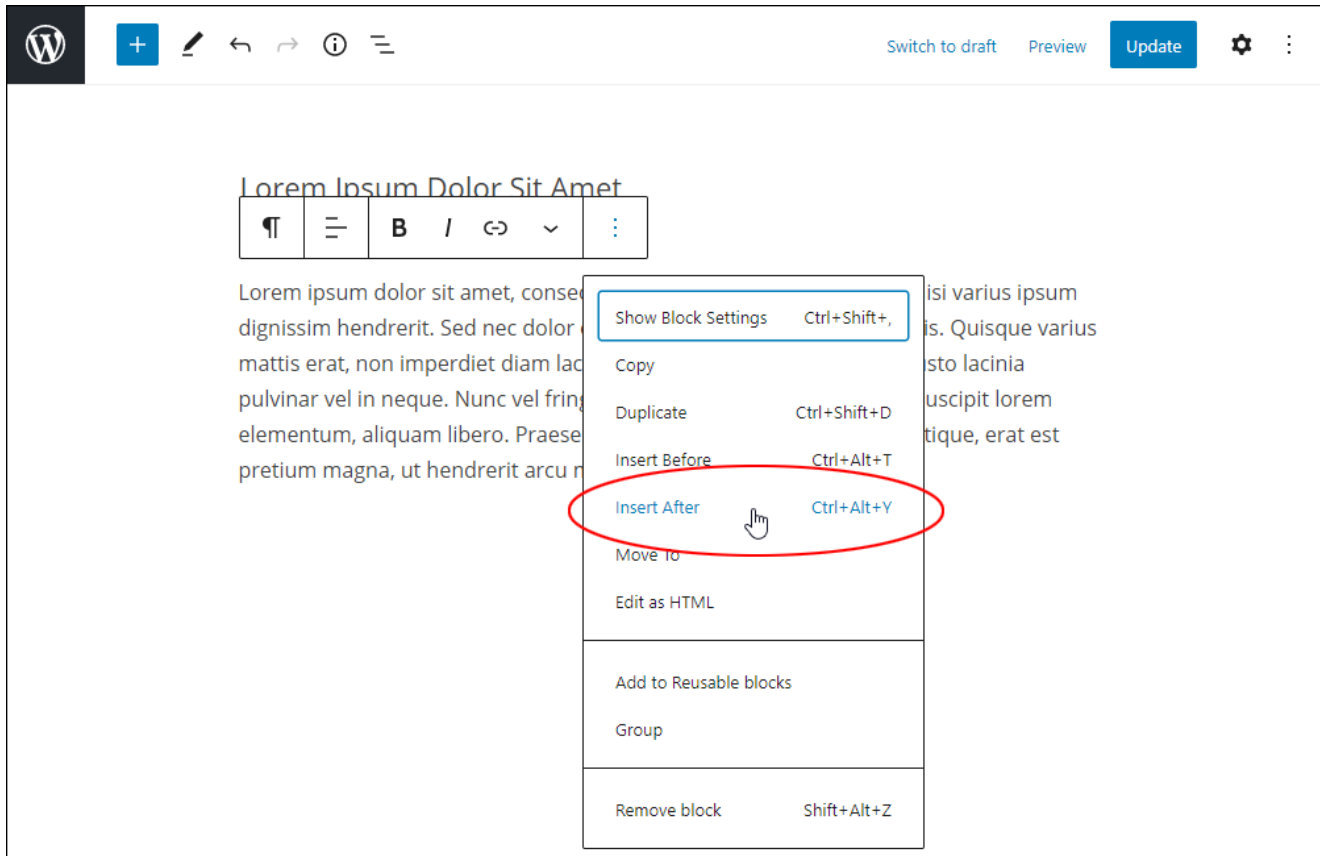
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Use this function to insert a block before a selected block.

Insert After

This setting lets you insert a new block into your content *below* the block you are currently working on.



More Options – Insert After setting.

To insert a block below your selected block:

- Select the block where you want to insert a new block *after* it.
- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Click 'Insert After'.
- A new block 'placeholder' will be inserted below your selected block.
- Use the 'Add Block' tool to select the type of block you want to add to the new block placeholder.
- Save your post or page to update your content.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet



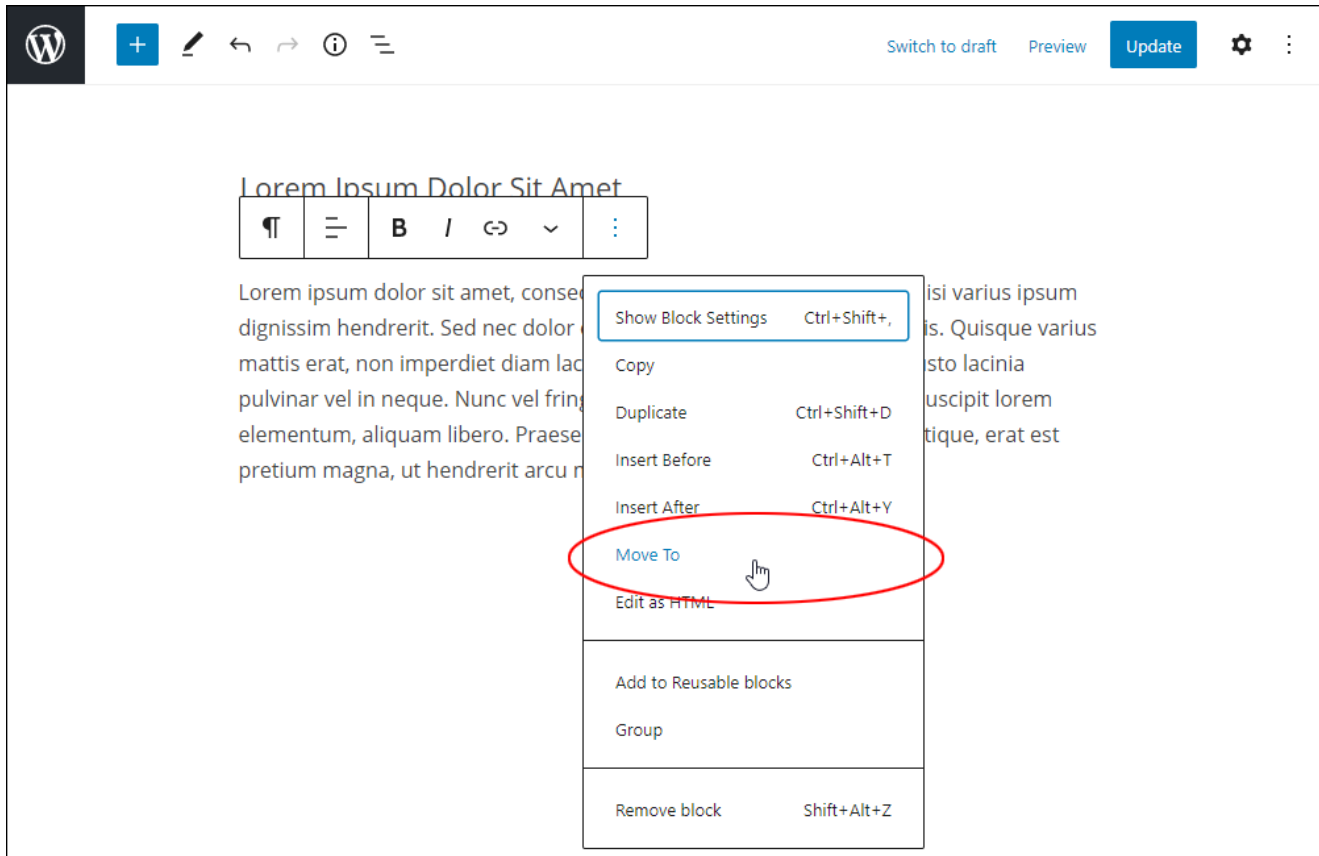
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Use this function to insert a block after a selected block.

Move To

This function lets you reposition a block on your post or page using your keyboard instead of clicking on the Block Editor's Move Up and Down arrows or using the drag and drop handle.



More Options – Move To setting.

To move a block:

- Select the block you want to move to a different location on your post or page.
- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Select 'Move to'.
- A blue horizontal line will display above the block.
- Move the blue horizontal line up and down your content using your keyboard's 'up' and 'down' arrow keys until the line is in the desired location you want the block moved to.
- Hit the 'Enter' key.
- Your selected block will be moved to the new location on your post or page.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet

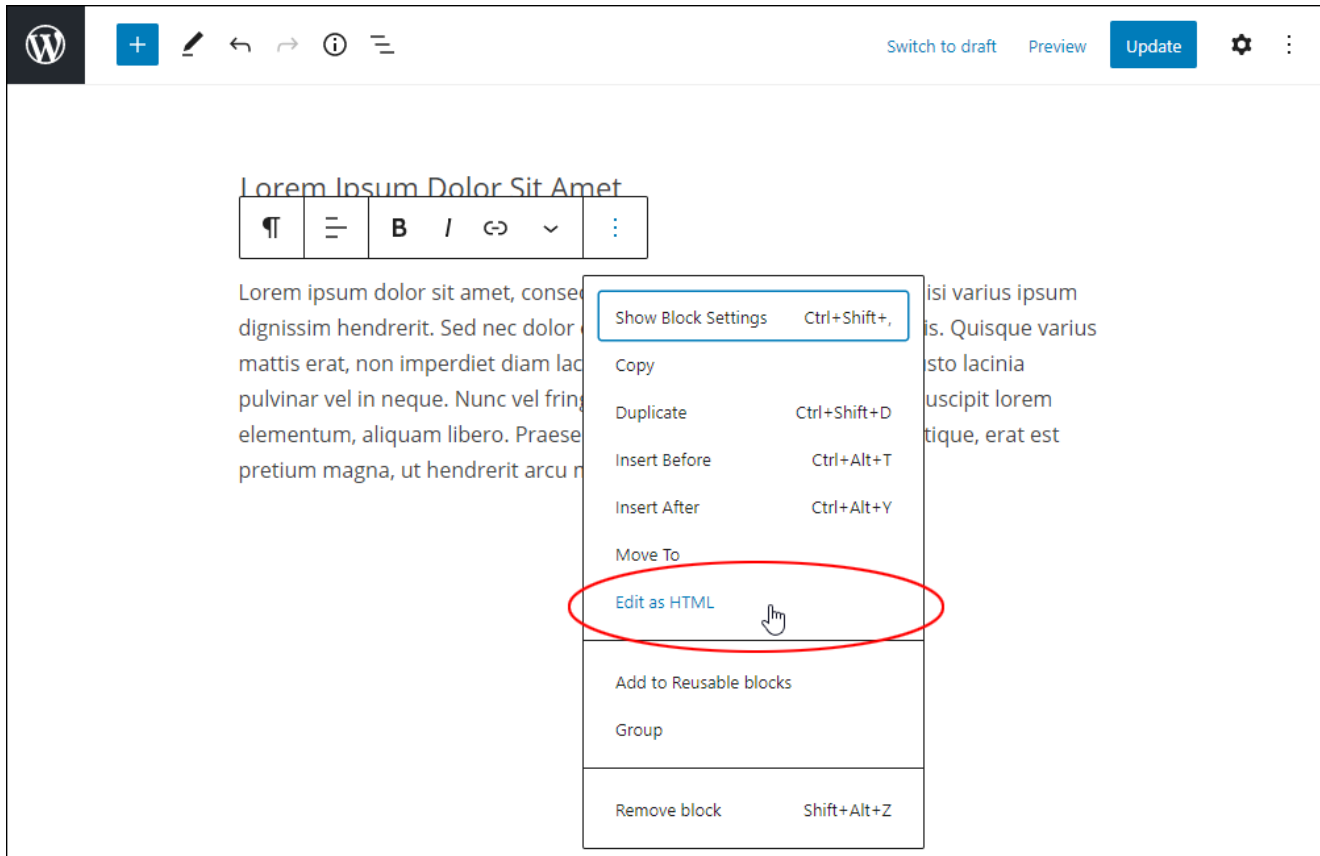
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean quis nisi varius ipsum dignissim hendrerit. Sed nec dolor eget est convallis facilisis ac non fells. Quisque varius mattis erat, non imperdiet diam lacinia eu. Vivamus nec ex tincidunt justo lacinia pulvinar vel in neque. Nunc vel fringilla dui. Nullam eu lorem sagittis, suscipit lorem elementum, aliquam libero. Praesent sagittis, ante sed scelerisque tristique, erat est pretium magna, ut hendrerit arcu mauris a lorem.



Use this function to move your selected block to a different location in your content.

Edit as HTML

Normally, you view, edit, and format your content using a visual editor. This setting lets you view and edit the block's underlying **HTML code**.



More Options – Edit as HTML setting.

To view and edit a block’s HTML code:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the ‘Options’ menu.
- Click ‘Edit as HTML’.
- The block content will switch to the HTML editor.
- To return to the visual editor, select the ‘More Options’ menu again and click on ‘Edit visually’.
- Save your post or page to update your content.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet

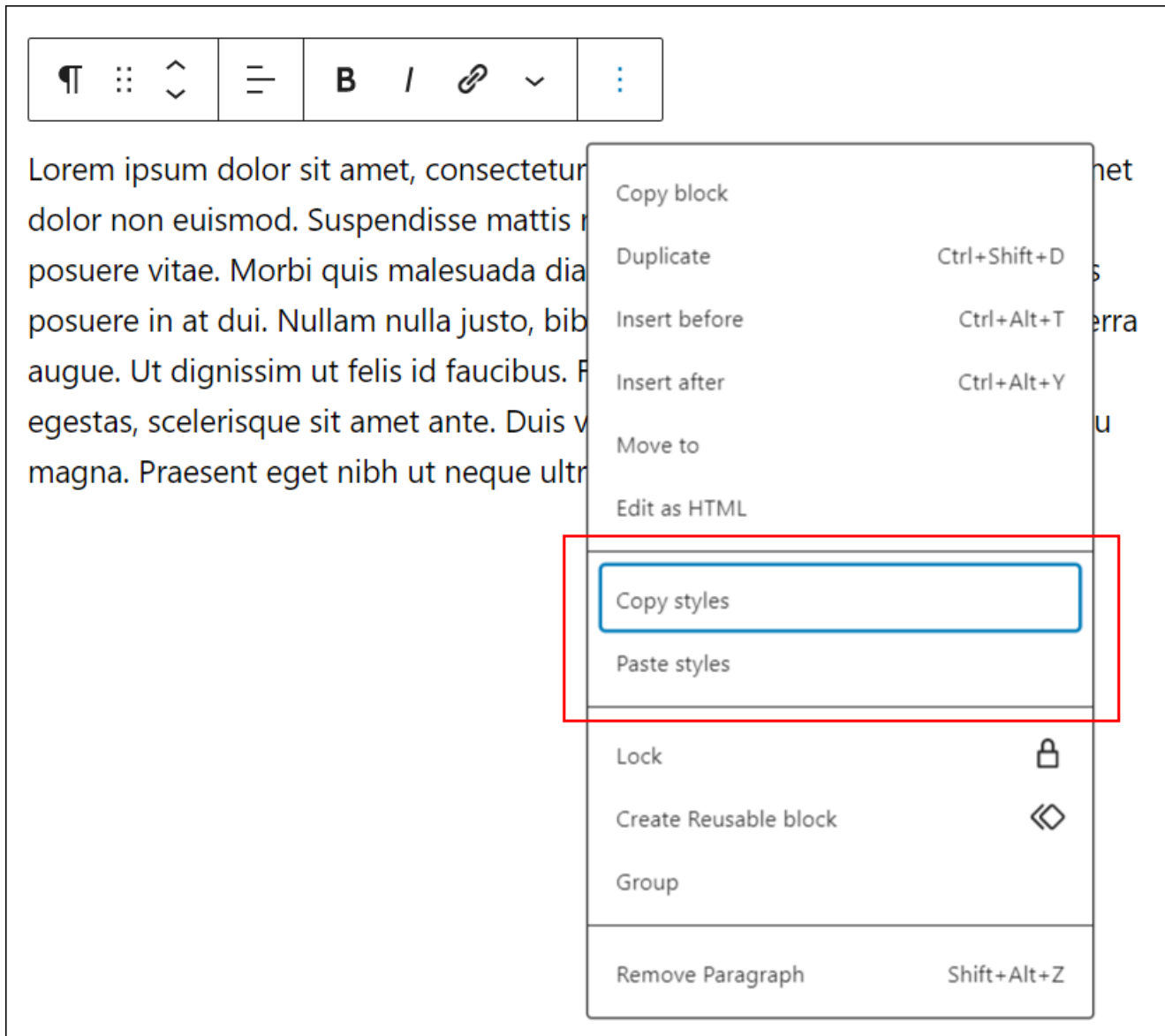


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Use this function to view and edit the HTML code of your block.

Copy and Paste Styles

In **version 6.2**, WordPress introduced the option to copy and paste one block's styles to other blocks for a more consistent appearance.



More Options – Copy and Paste Styles

To copy and paste a block's style:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Select 'Copy styles'
- Select the block you want to apply the copied styles.
- Select 'Paste styles'
- The copied styles will be applied to the new block.
- Save your post or page to update your content.

Lock

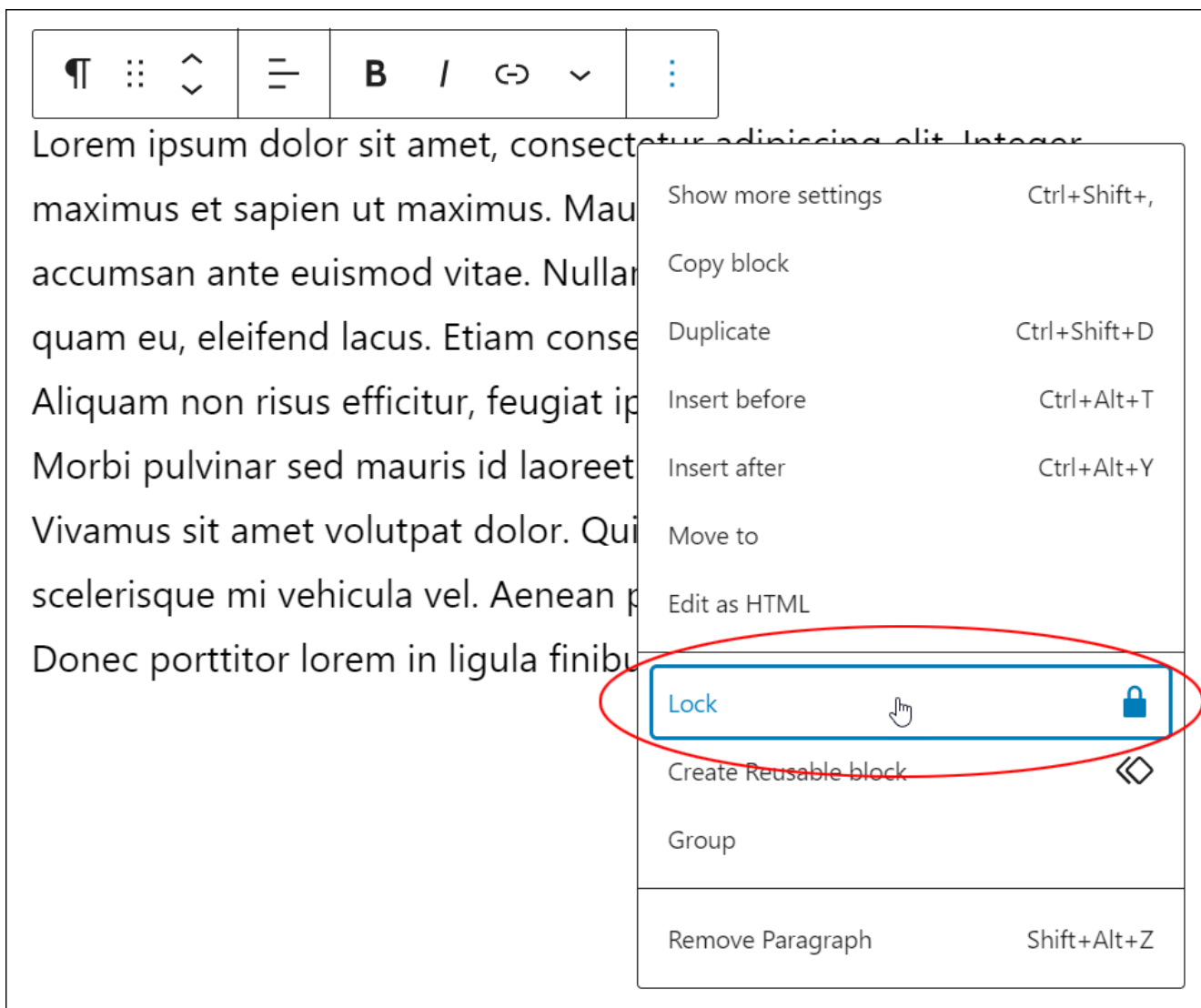
Block locking helps to prevent important blocks from being moved on the page or accidentally removed by users.

You can lock core and experimental blocks in WordPress.

Web developers can perform several types of block locking to prevent users from:

- Inserting blocks.
- Removing blocks.
- Moving blocks using drag or drop, arrow keys, or the list view.
- Editing anything except text and media.
- Restrict the editing of reusable blocks.

Users can lock and unlock blocks in the editor, depending on their **user permissions**.

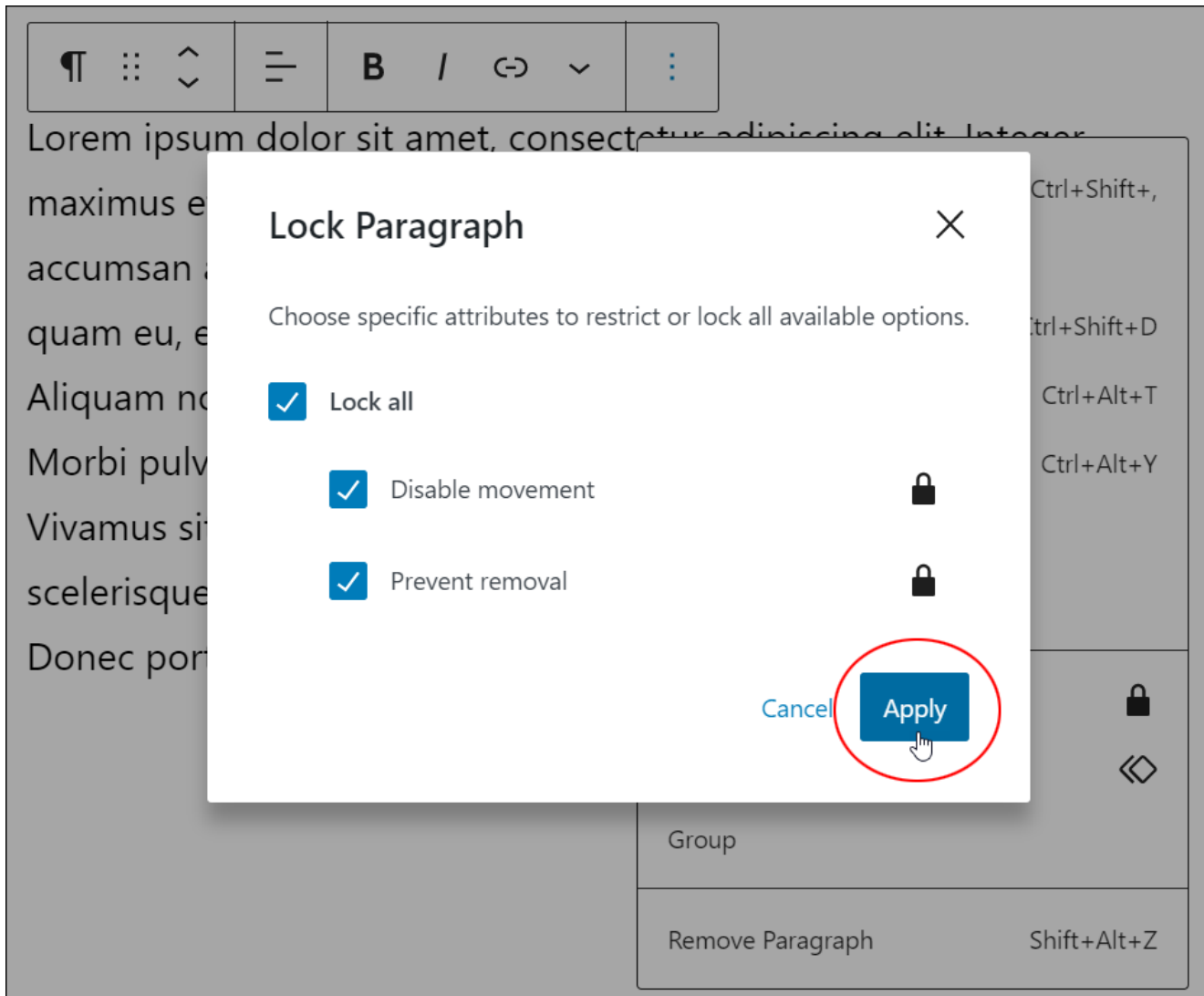


More Options – Lock setting.

Choosing to lock a block brings up a pop-up window giving you a choice of the following attributes:

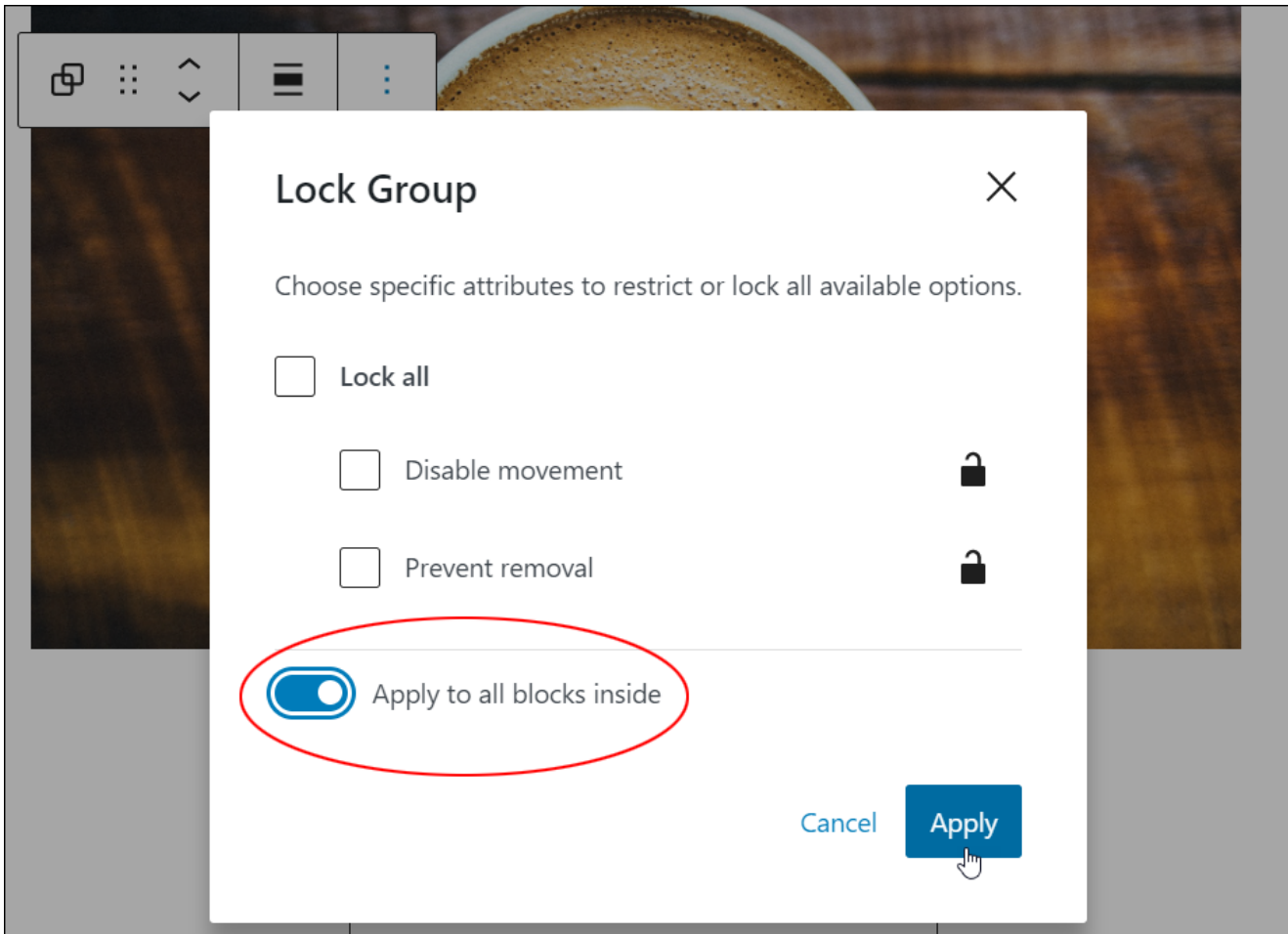
Lock all – Tick this box to enable all lock options or select the individual options below:

- **Disable movement** – Prevents users from moving blocks using drag or drop, arrow keys, or the list view.
- **Prevent removal** – Prevents users from deleting the block
- **Apply to all blocks inside** – This option appears in the modal when locking the inner blocks of container blocks such as **Group**, **Cover**, and **Columns**.



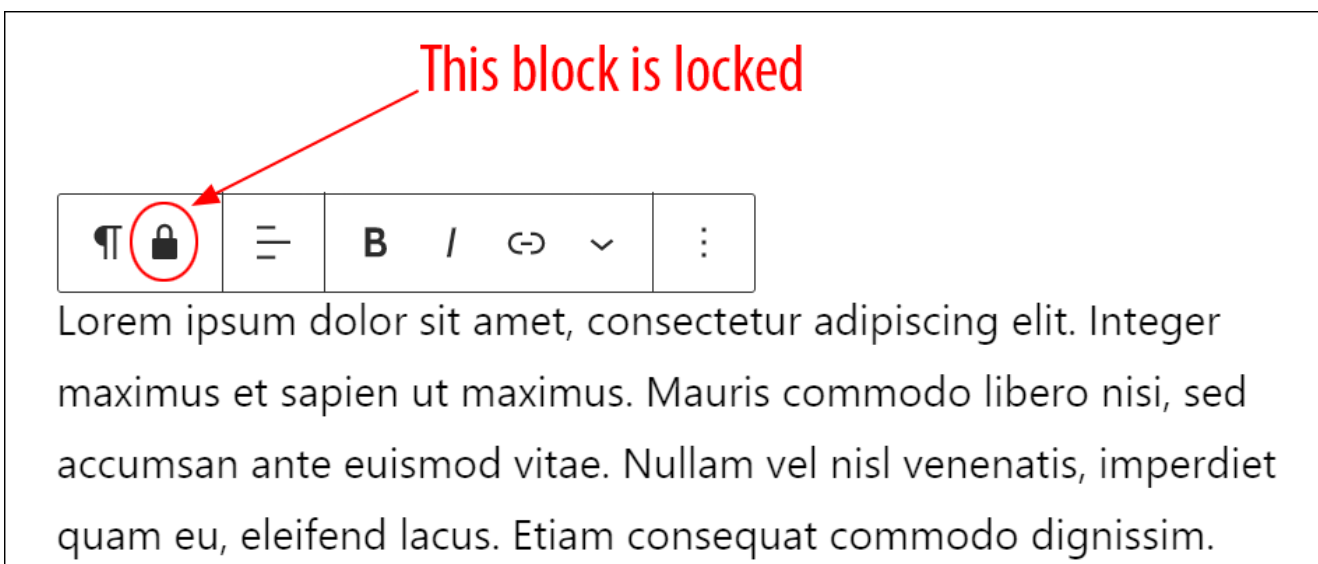
Block locking options.

The **Apply to all blocks inside** toggle appears when working with grouped blocks.



Container blocks include an additional option to lock all blocks inside the group.

You can tell that a block is locked if the padlock icon displays in the block menu toolbar.



This block is locked.

To unlock a blocked lock, either:

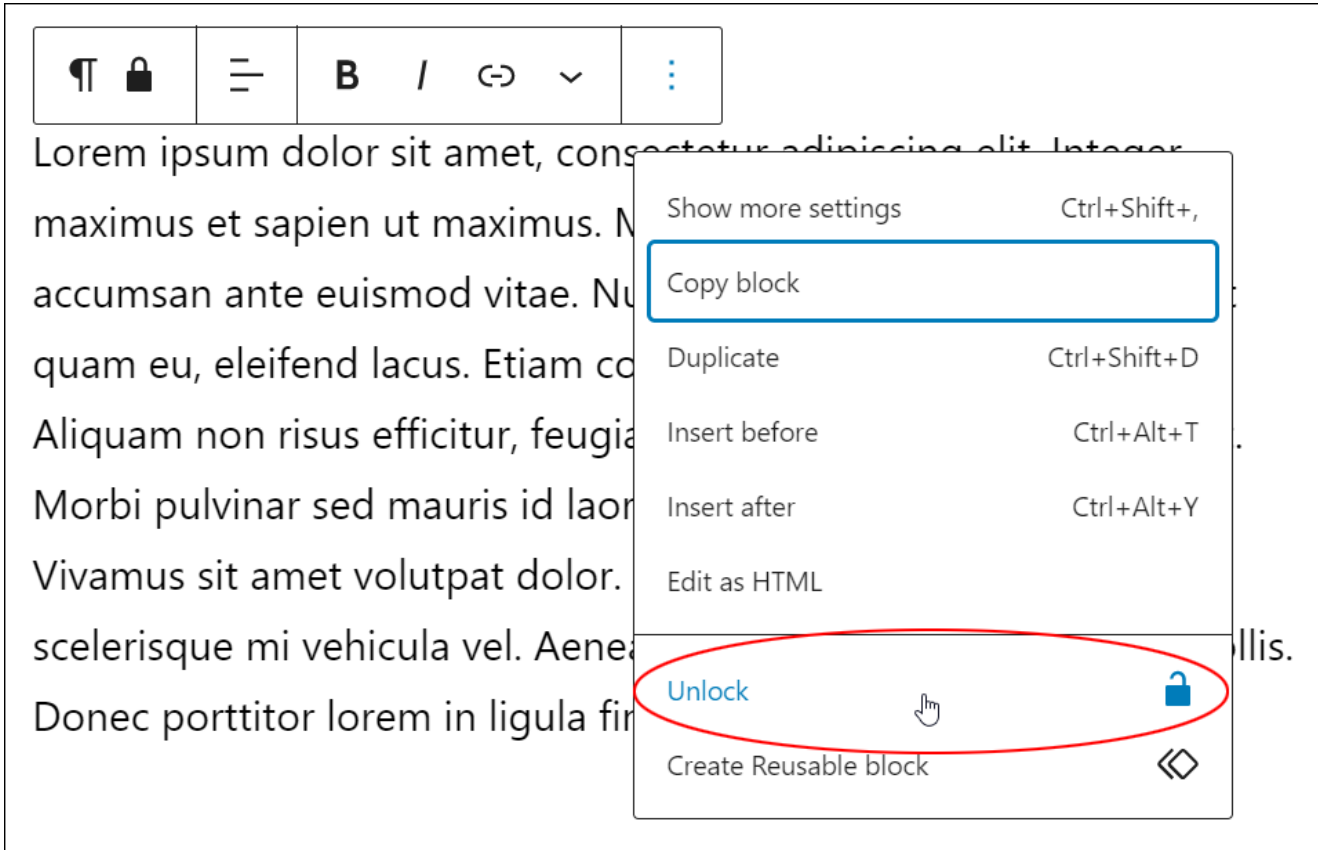
Click on the padlock icon in the block menu toolbar and select unlock options...



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 scelerisque mi vehicula vel. Aenean porta lacus sit amet lacinia mollis.
 Donec porttitor lorem in ligula finibus, eget luctus lorem lacinia.

Click on the padlock icon to unlock the block.

Or click on the *Options* menu and select *Unlock*

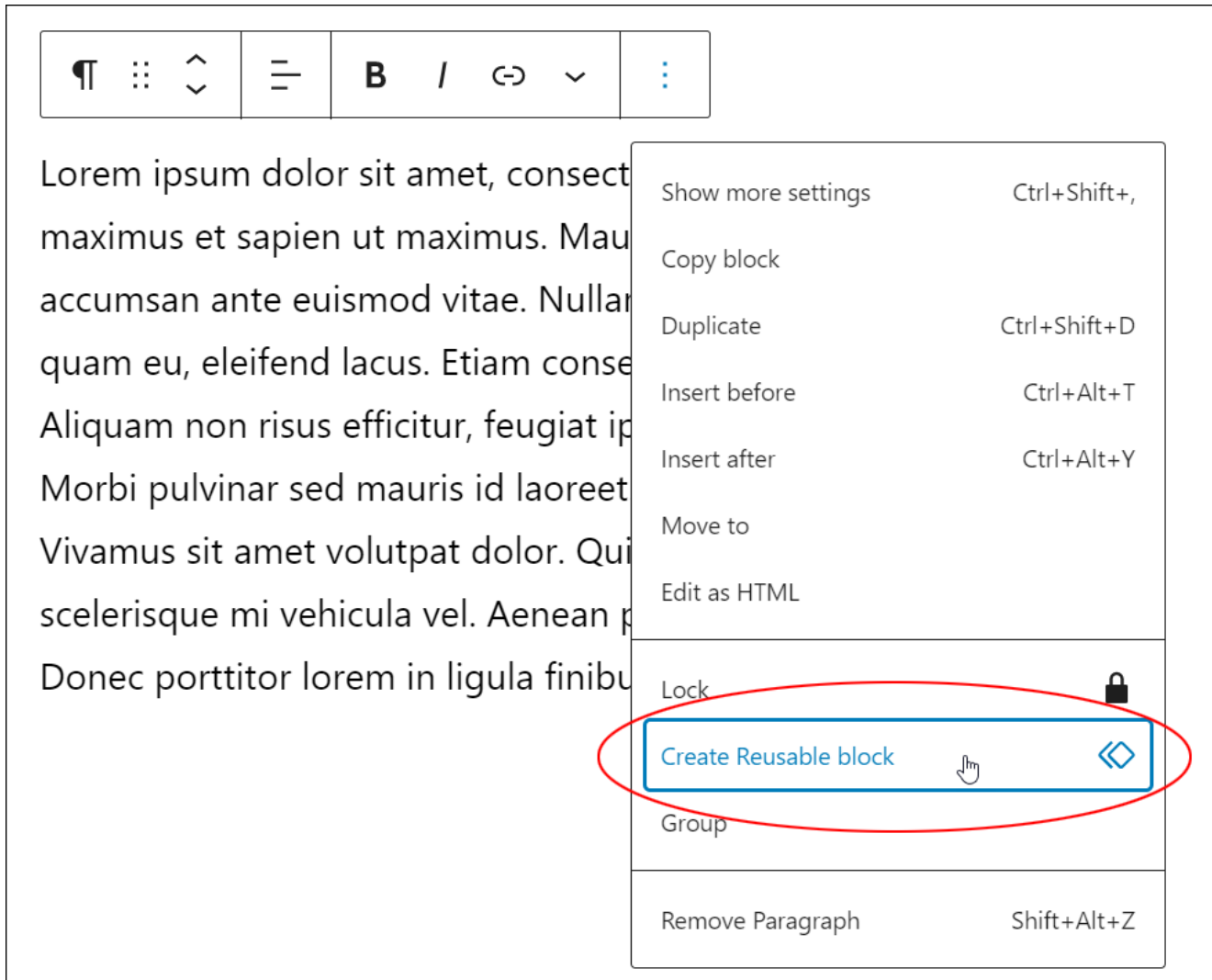


Click Unlock to unlock a locked block.

Note: depending on user permissions, a user may not be able to unlock a block that has been locked by an administrator or developer.

Create Reusable Block

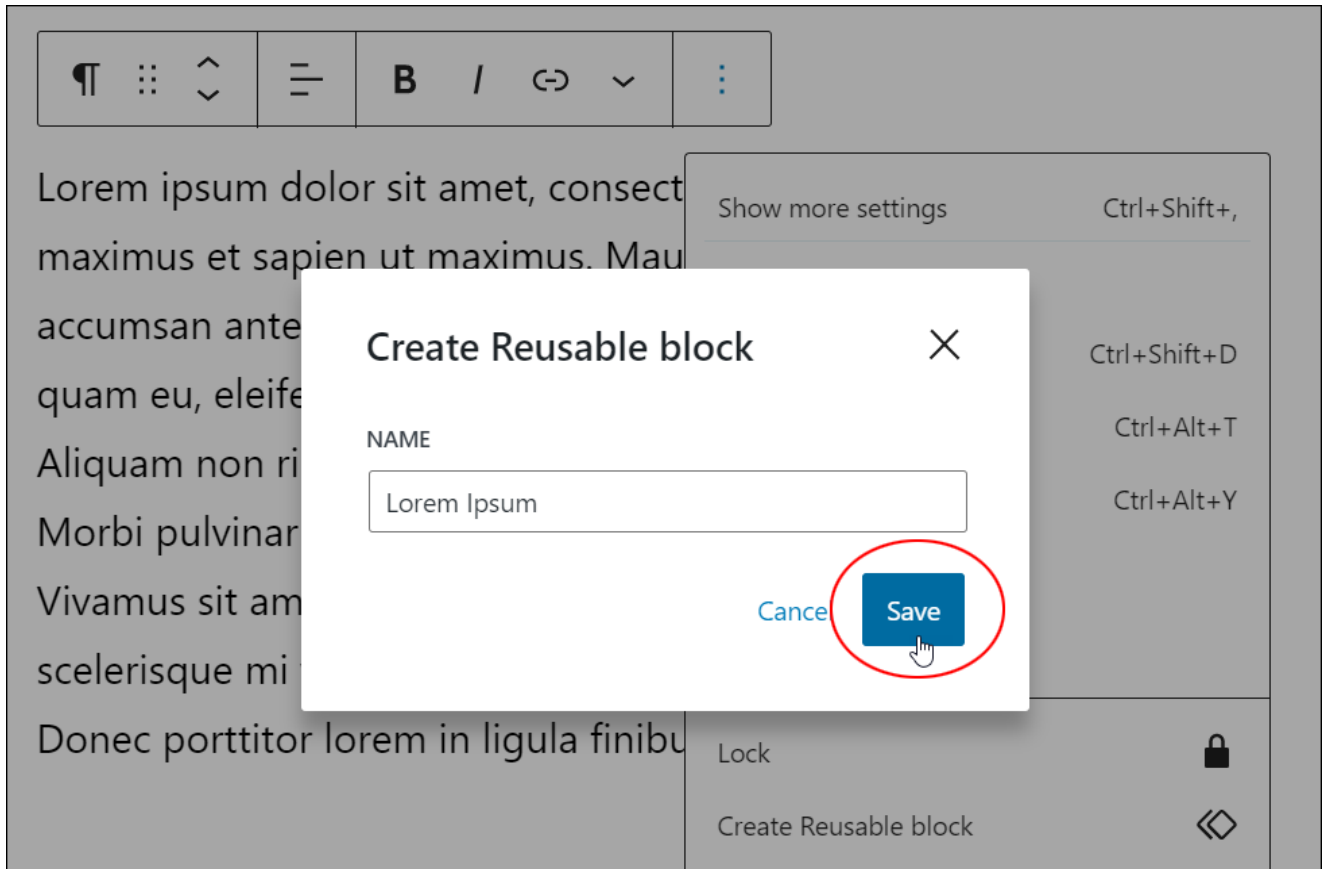
This setting lets you store a customized block that can be reused anywhere you like on your site.



More Options – Create Reusable block setting.

To save a block as a reusable block:

- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'Options' menu.
- Click 'Create Reusable Block'.
- Give the newly-created block a name and click Save.
- Your block will be stored in your site's 'Blocks' library.



Note: Reusable blocks are *global*. This means that any edits you make to a reusable block will be applied to every instance of that repeatable block used on your site.

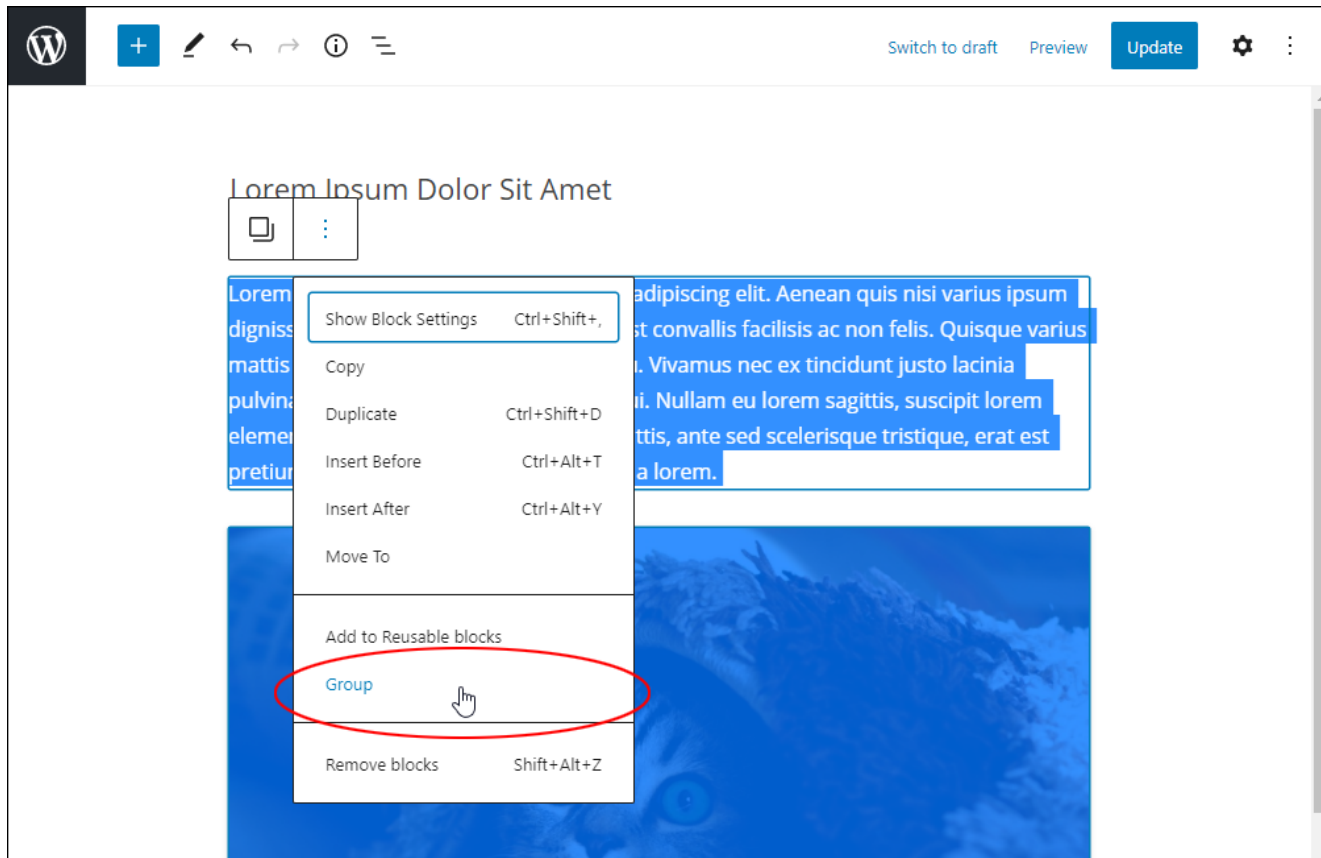


Use this function to add a selected block to your site's Reusable block library.

To learn more about creating, editing, using, and managing reusable blocks, see this tutorial: [Reusable blocks](#)

Group

This setting lets you group different blocks together.



More Options – Group setting

To group blocks together:

- Either:
 - Drag your cursor to highlight a group of blocks, or
 - Hold down the 'Shift' key and click on the blocks you want to group together
- A Block Editor will display after you have selected multiple blocks.
- Either:
 - Click on the left-hand icon (i.e. the two overlapping boxes) and select 'Transform to Group', or
 - Click on the three dots (vertical ellipsis) to expand the 'More Options' menu and then select 'Group'.
- Your selected blocks will be grouped together.
- You can also ungroup the blocks using the same process.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet

Cat Herding Secrets

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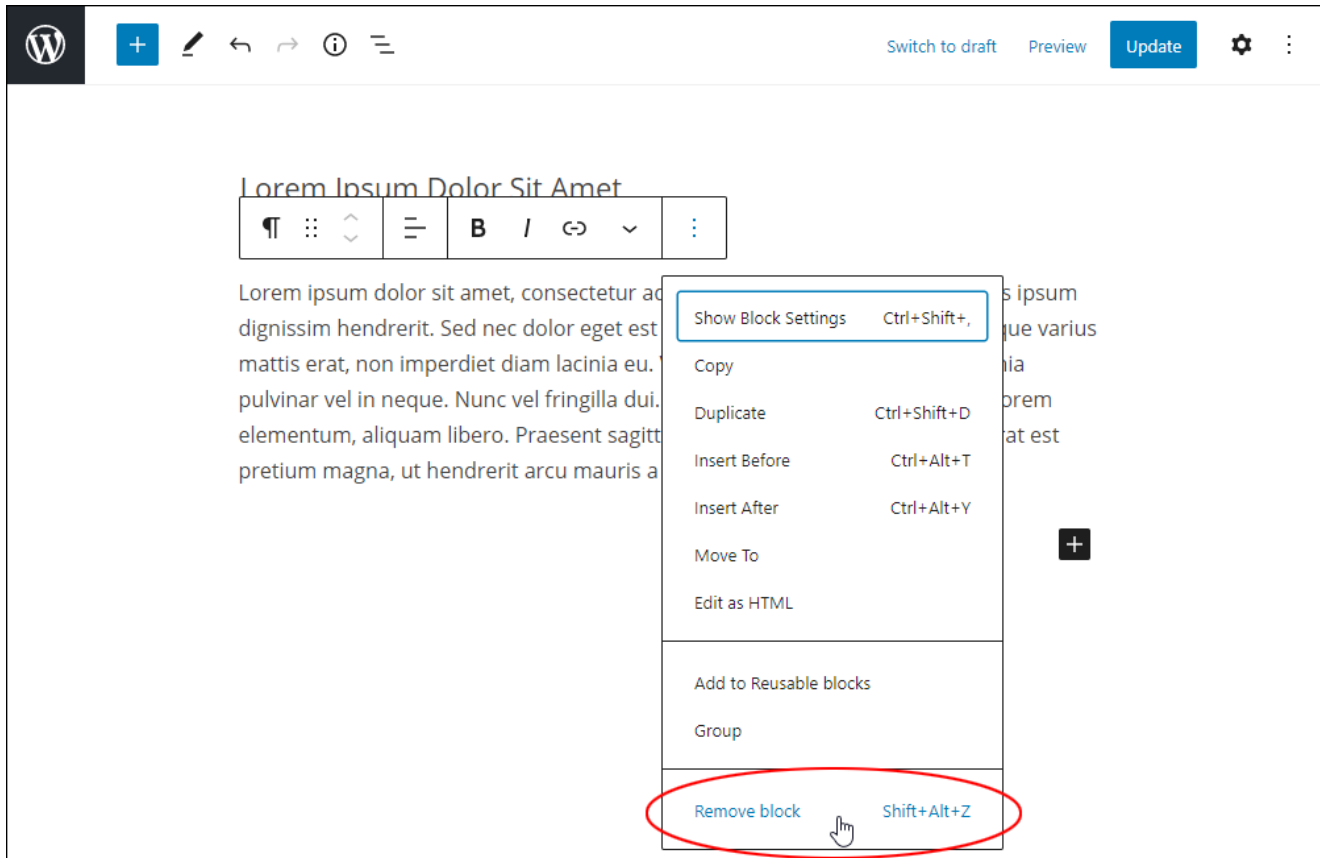
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Use this function to group blocks together.

Note: You cannot move other blocks on your post or page (eg using the 'Move to' function) between grouped blocks.

Remove Block

This setting lets you remove a block that you no longer need from a post or page.



More Options – Remove block setting.

To remove a block from your post or page:

- Select the block you want to remove.
- Click anywhere inside the block to view the Block Editor.
- Select the 'More Options' menu.
- Click 'Remove Block'.
- Your block will be deleted from your post or page.
- Save your post or page to update your content.



Switch to draft

Preview

Update



Lorem Ipsum Dolor Sit Amet

Cat Herding Secrets

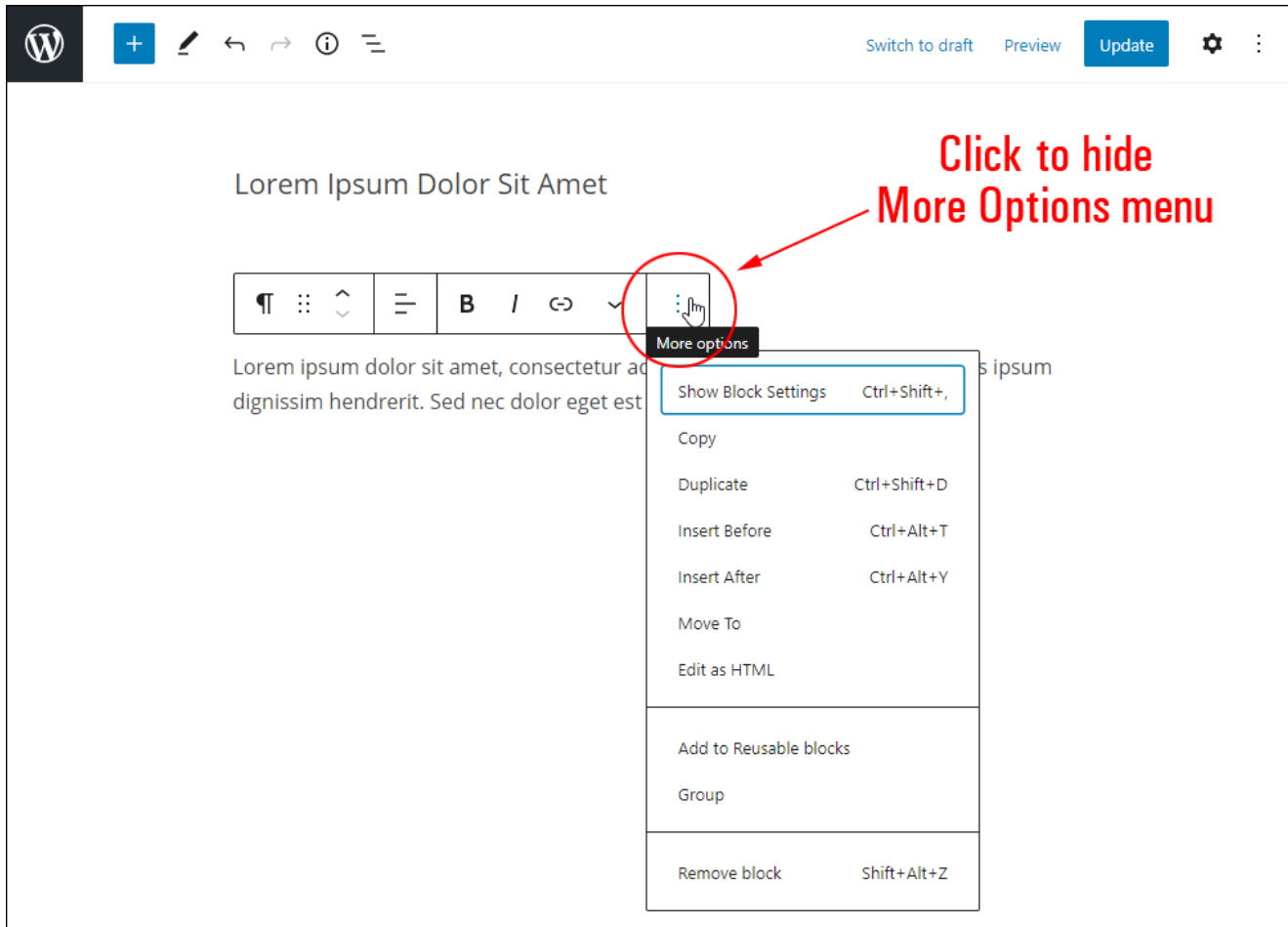
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean quis nisi varius ipsum dignissim hendrerit. Sed nec dolor eget est convallis facilisis ac non felis.



Mauris sollicitudin rutrum rhoncus. Pellentesque ut odio elementum, tristique felis sit amet, volutpat ligula. Maecenas faucibus efficitur hendrerit.

This function lets you remove a block.

To hide the 'More Options' menu, click on the three dots (vertical ellipsis) on the Block Editor menu.



Click on the three dots (vertical ellipsis) to hide the More Options menu.

More Rich Text Controls

Many block editors include a 'More rich text controls' section with the following options:

- **Inline Code** – Convert selected text into code (e.g. `printf("Enter a character: ");`)
- **Inline image** – Insert an image directly within your text (e.g. a logo or image thumbnail).
- **Strikethrough** – Add a ~~strikethrough~~ effect to your selected text.
- **Subscript** – Convert selected text into subscript text. (e.g. H₂O)
- **Superscript** – Convert selected text into superscript text. (e.g. 10²)
- **Text color** – Change the color of your selected text (select a color from a predefined palette or add your own custom color).



More rich text controls.

Advanced Block Settings

Many blocks contain an *Advanced Settings* section with advanced options such as:

- **Title Attribute** – The title attribute can be used to add text for a tooltip, an image credit or a description of the image, etc. *Note:* many devices and browsers do not display this text.
- **HTML Anchor** – Also known as *Page Jumps* or *Jump Links*, this allows you to link directly to any section of your page using a unique URL. **[Learn how to use HTML anchors.](#)**
- **Additional CSS Class(es)** – This field lets you add multiple CSS classes to your block separated with spaces. This allows you to write custom CSS and style the block as you see fit. *Note:* This requires having knowledge of CSS (Cascading Style Sheets).

How To Add Blocks To Content

Blocks can be added anywhere on the page with the click of a button, inserted before or after other blocks using dropdown menus, converted into different block types, and easily reordered using 'drag and drop', or 'up and down' buttons.

You can add blocks to content in several different ways.

For example, you can add blocks:

1. From the 'Add Block' tool in the **Editing Toolbar**
2. From the 'Add Block' tool in the **Content Area**
3. From inside an existing block.
4. From your 'Reusable Blocks' library.

To learn how to add blocks to your posts and pages, see this tutorial: **The WordPress Block Editor Content Area**



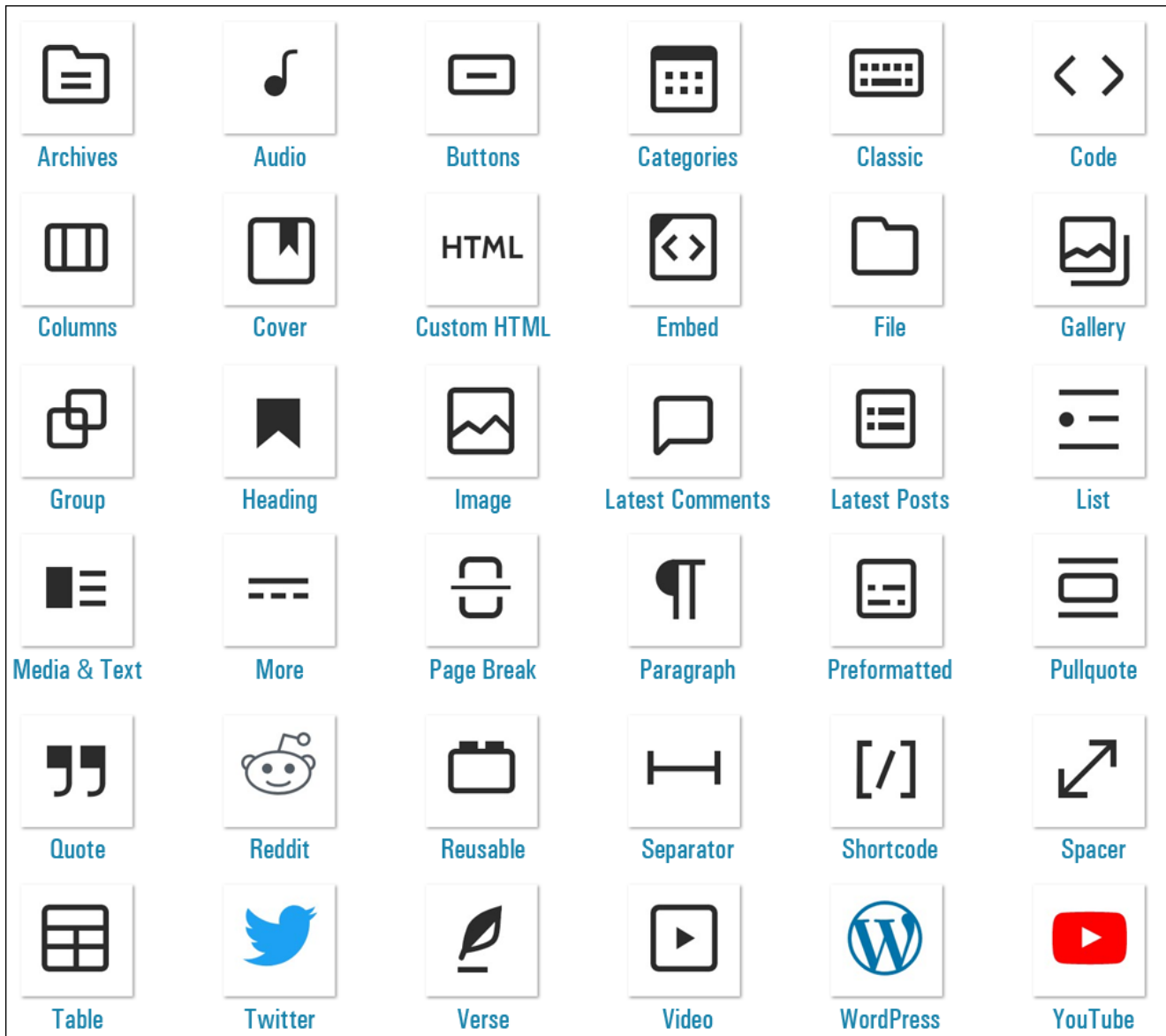
Creating content for posts and pages using the WordPress Block Editor works the same way regardless of what type of site you have (e.g. a blog, company website, eCommerce site, etc.).

Because blocks are designed to allow your website to integrate with all kinds of new and external applications, how your content will look after publishing your posts or pages depends on various factors like:

- The **WordPress Theme** installed on your site (and any specific theme styles or customizations).
- Different block settings, options, and configurations.
- Any content modification **plugins** you have installed on your site (most plugins now include their own custom blocks for the WordPress block editor).
- Integrations with third-party applications (many third-party application developers are now also creating blocks that allow their apps to integrate seamlessly with the WordPress block editor),
- Any additional site customizations, etc.

WordPress Gutenberg Blocks

The WordPress block editor includes many useful default blocks.



Some default WordPress blocks.

More block-enabled plugins are being continually developed by the WordPress developer community to help you extend and expand the functionality of the Gutenberg content editor.





Plugins

Extend your WordPress experience with 57,953 plugins.

Search plugins

Block-Enabled Plugins

[See all](#)

 <p>Photonic Gallery & Lightbox for Flickr, SmugMug, Google Photos & Others ★★★★☆ (139) Galleries on steroids! A stylish lightbox & gallery plugin for WP, Flickr, SmugMug, Google Photos,....</p> <p>Sayontan Sinha 10,000+ active installations Tested with 5.4.4</p>	 <p>startpage ☆☆☆☆☆ (0) Create your own browser startpage within your WordPress.</p> <p>Alex Kirk 20+ active installations Tested with 5.1.8</p>
 <p>Conditional Blocks – Control any Gutenberg Block ★★★★★ (8) Conditionally show or hide any Gutenberg Blocks!</p> <p>Conditional Blocks 700+ active installations Tested with 5.5.3</p>	 <p>Double Image for Gutenberg ★★★★★ (2) A custom block designed to insert two images side by side or stacked with optional...</p> <p>Sébastien Dumont 40+ active installations Tested with 5.0.11</p>

WordPress Plugin directory – Block-Enabled Plugins. (Source: <https://wordpress.org/plugins>)

If you click on ‘See all’ in the Block-Enabled Plugins section, you can browse many plugins that offer blocks for the block-based editor to help enhance and extend your content.

WordPress.ORG


Showcase Themes **Plugins** Mobile Support Get Involved About Blog Hosting [Get WordPress](#)

Search WordPress.org

Plugins My Favorites Beta Testing Developers Search plugins


Browse: Blocks

Plugins that offer blocks for the block-based editor.




Yoast SEO
 ★★★★★ (27,265)
 Improve your WordPress SEO: Write better content and have a fully optimized WordPress site using...

Team Yoast
 5+ million active installations Tested with 5.5.3




Jetpack – WP Security, Backup, Speed, & Growth
 ★★★★★☆ (1,558)
 The best WP plugin for backup, anti spam, malware scan, CDN, AMP, social, search, contact...

Automattic
 5+ million active installations Tested with 5.5.3




The Events Calendar
 ★★★★★☆ (1,779)
 The Events Calendar is a carefully crafted, extensible plugin that lets you easily manage and...

Modern Tribe, Inc.
 800,000+ active installations Tested with 5.5.3




Advanced Editor Tools (previously TinyMCE Advanced)
 ★★★★★☆ (311)
 Extends and enhances the block editor (Gutenberg) and the classic editor (TinyMCE).

Automattic
 2+ million active installations Tested with 5.5.3



MC4WP: Mailchimp for WordPress
 ★★★★★ (1,300)
 Mailchimp for WordPress, the #1 unofficial Mailchimp plugin.

ibericode
 1+ million active installations Tested with 5.5.3

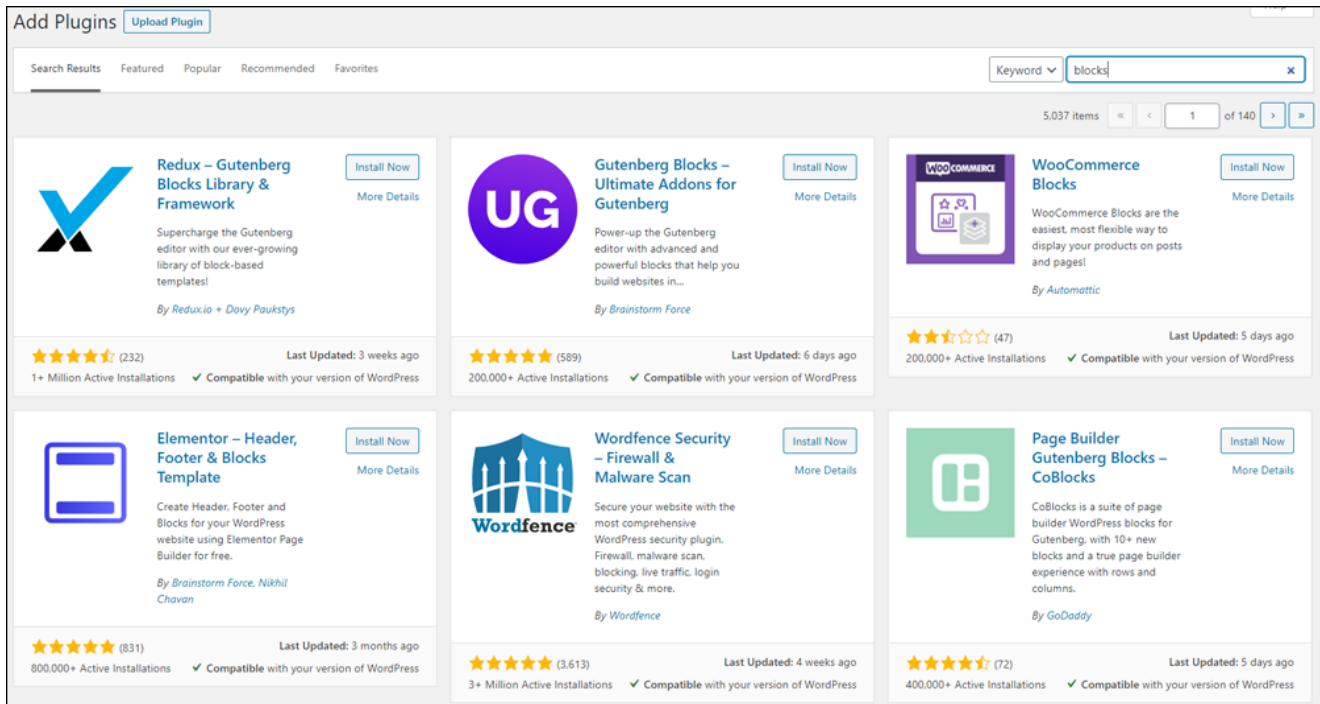


Smush – Lazy Load Images, Optimize & Compress Images
 ★★★★★ (5,304)
 Compress images & optimize images with lazy load, WebP conversion, and resize detection to make...

WPMU DEV
 1+ million active installations Tested with 5.5.3

Browse Block-enabled plugins in the WordPress plugin directory.

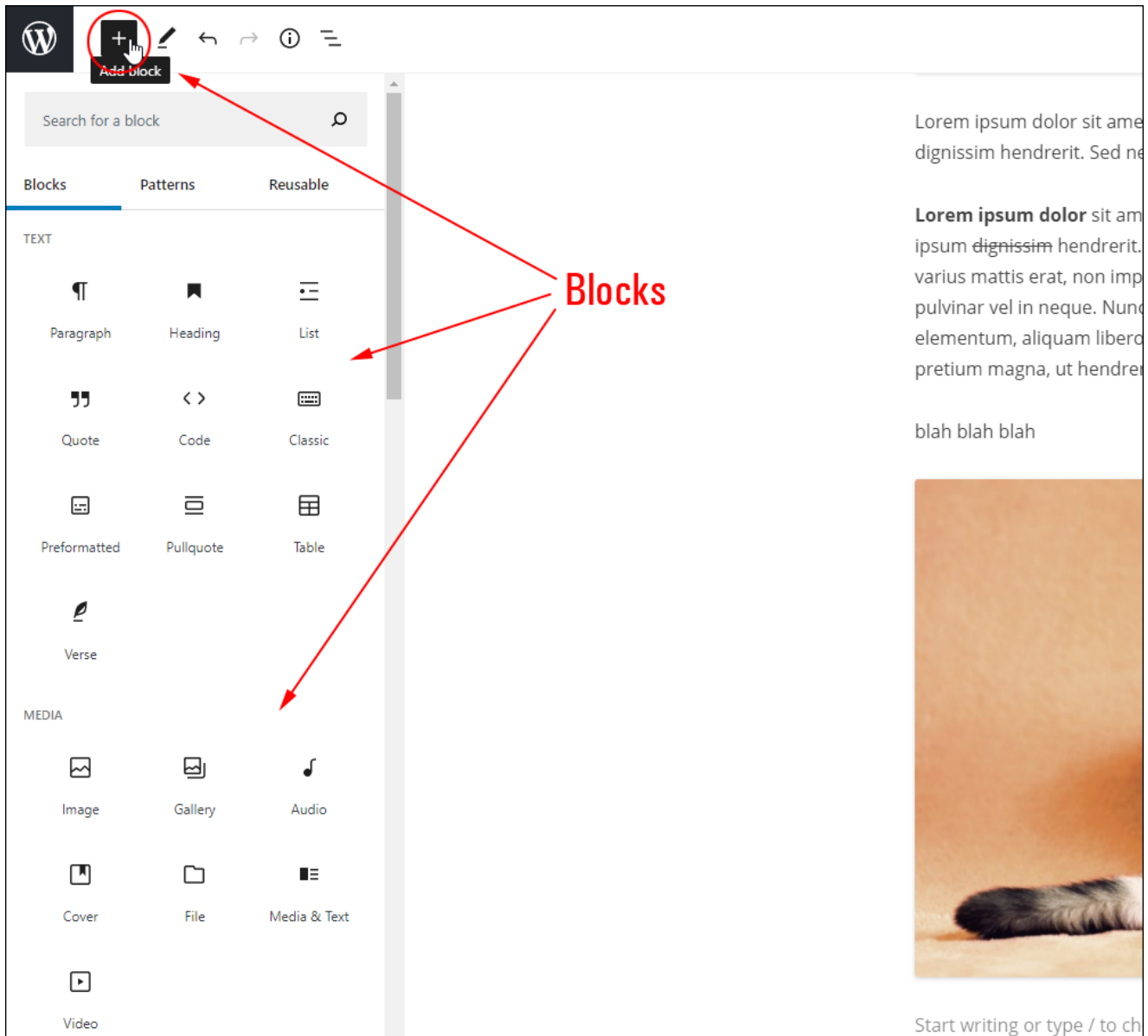
Additionally, you can search the WordPress plugins library from your dashboard for new block-enabled plugins (*Plugins > Add Plugins*).



Search for block-enabled plugins in the Add Plugins screen.

WordPress Block Editor – Blocks

Clicking on the 'Add Block' tool in the **WordPress Block Editor Toolbar** brings up a list of Blocks.



Choose blocks from this list.

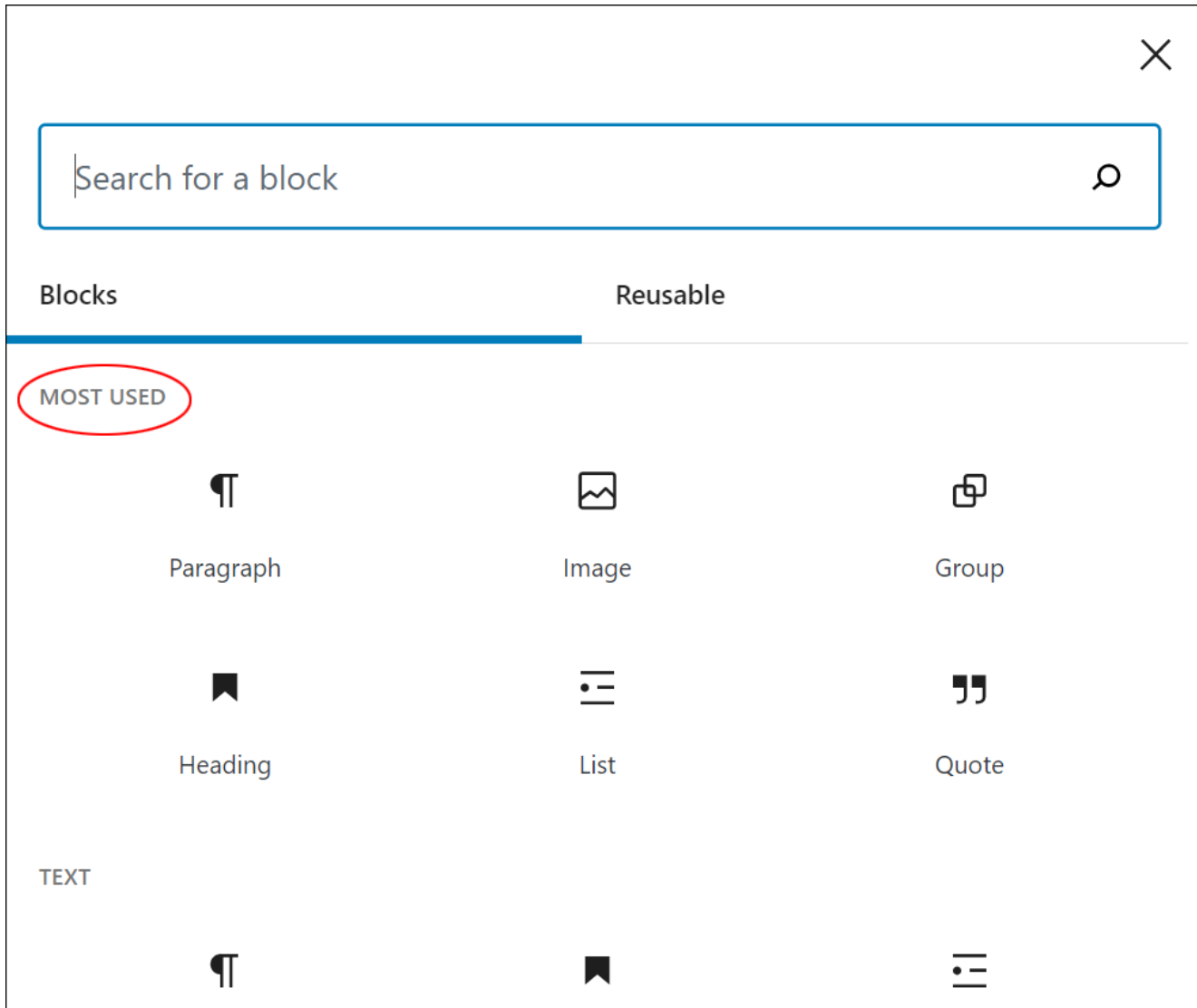
This tool contains a 'Search' field and tabbed sections for Blocks, Patterns, and your Reusable Blocks library (you need to create at least one reusable block for this tab to display).

The **Block List** is divided into the following sections:

- Most Used (see below to learn how to add this section)
- Text
- Media
- Design
- Widgets
- Embeds
- Reusable (only displays when a reusable block is created)

See Your Most Used Blocks

If you use the same blocks often, you can display your most used blocks at the top of your block list.



Most Used Blocks category.

To enable the most used blocks category, do the following:

Click the icon with the three dots (vertical ellipsis) in the top right-hand corner of the editor screen to access the 'More tools & options' section.

+

Draft Preview Update

More tools & options

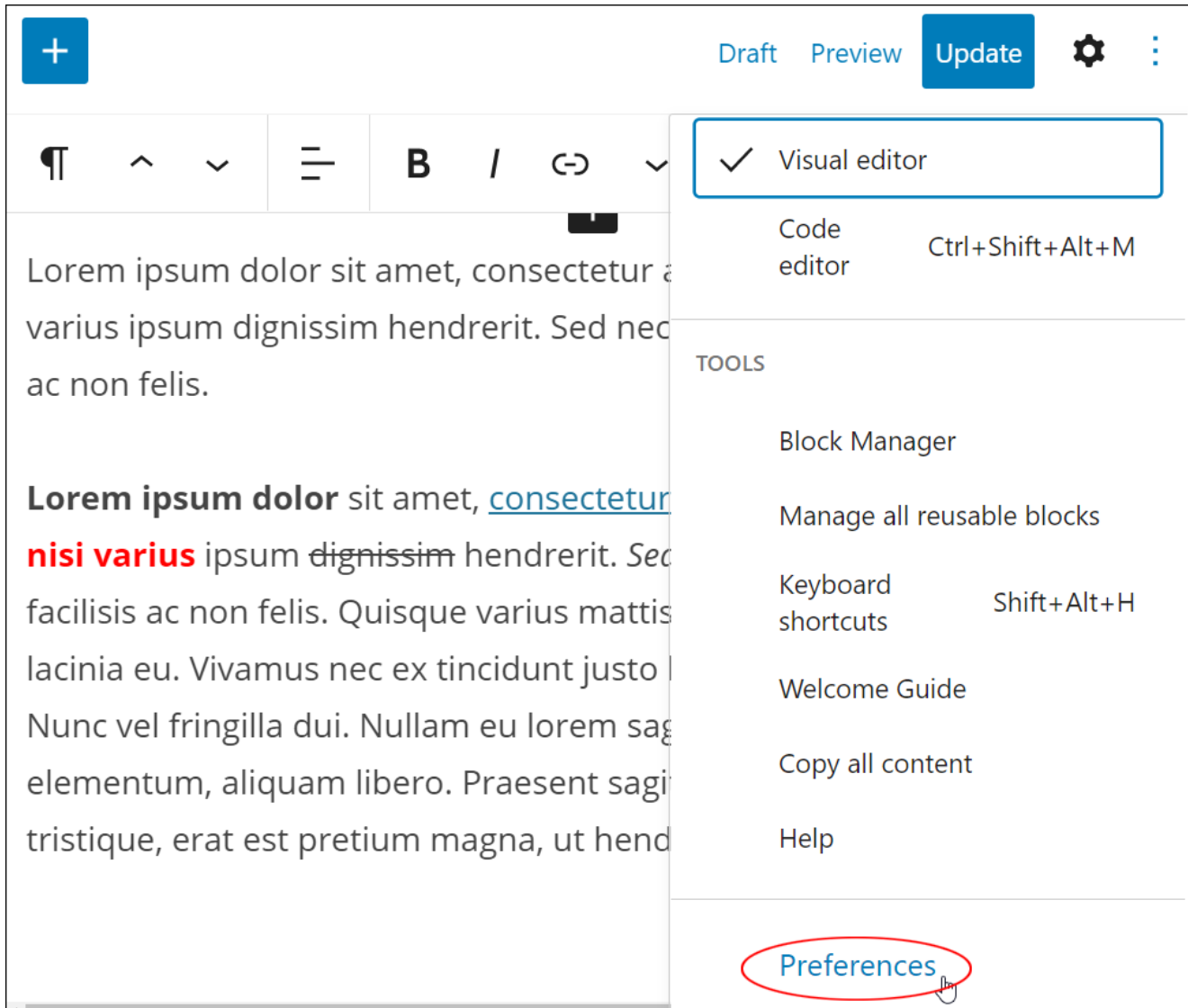
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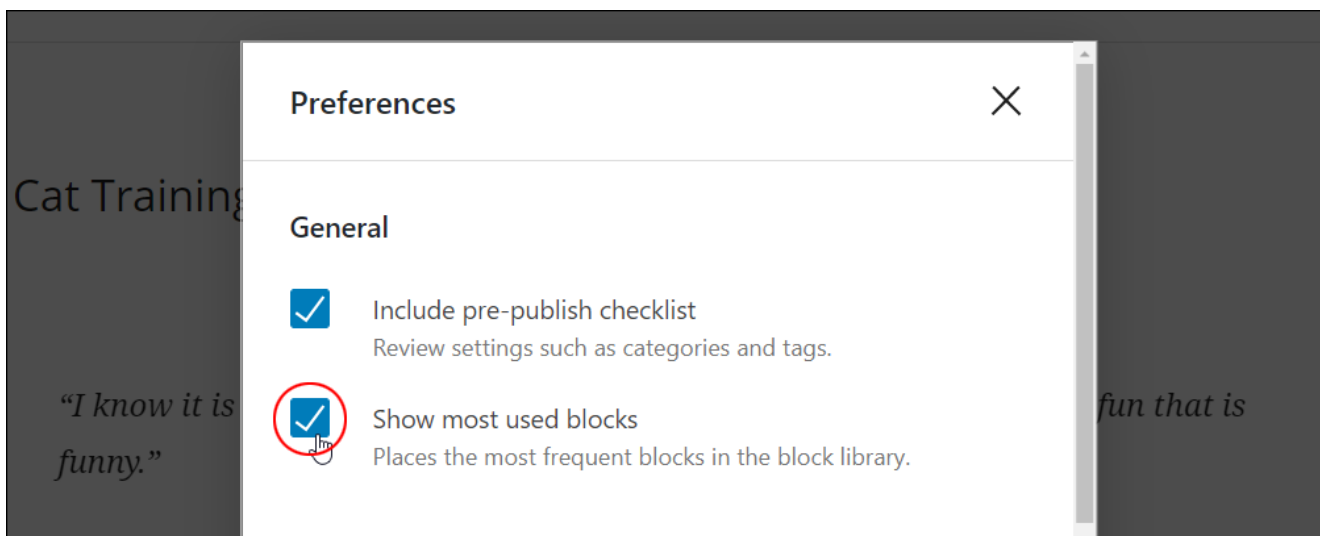
Click on More tools & options...

Click on **Preferences**.



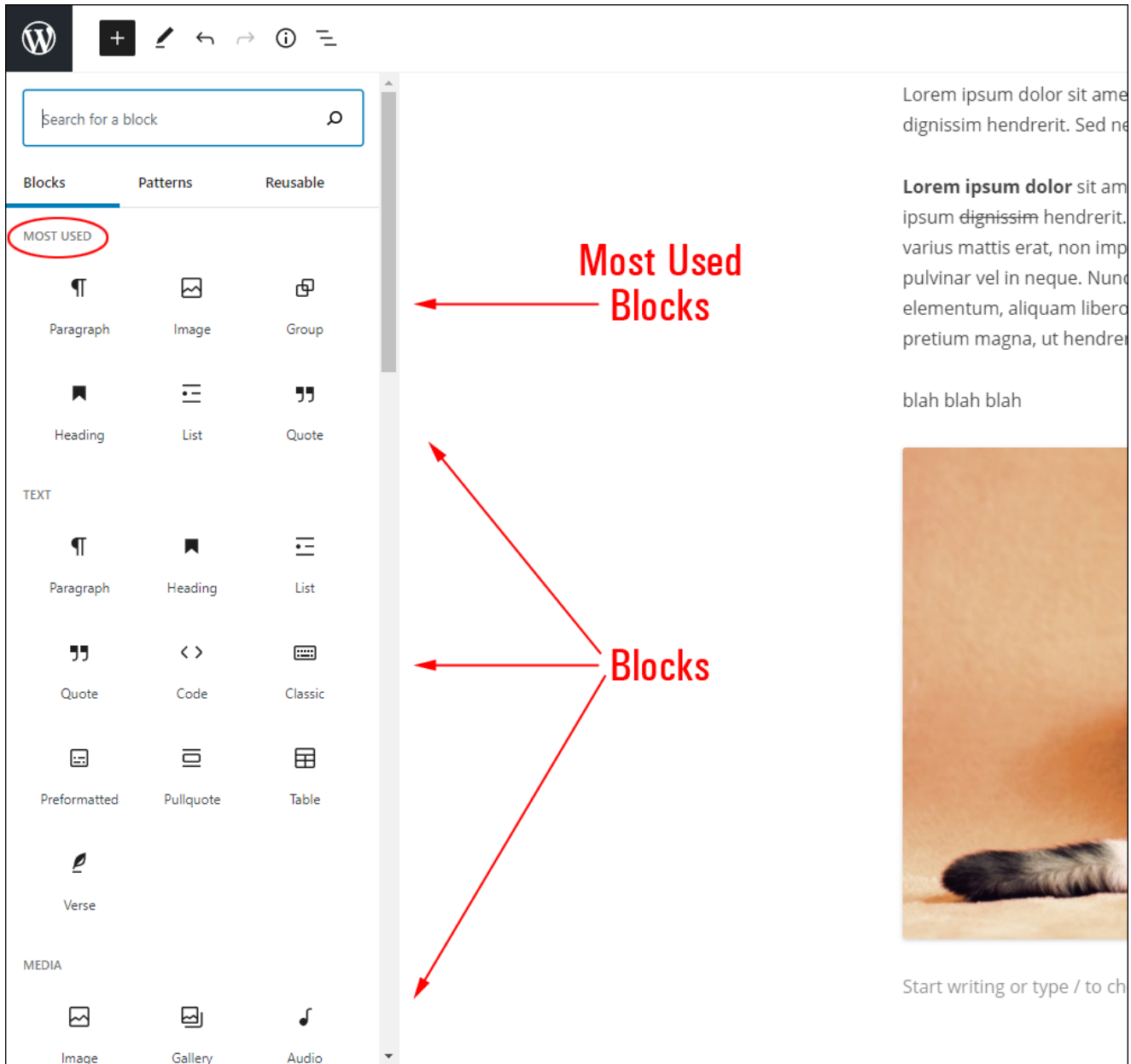
Select Preferences...

In the **Preferences > General** section, check the box next to **Show most used blocks**.



Check the box.

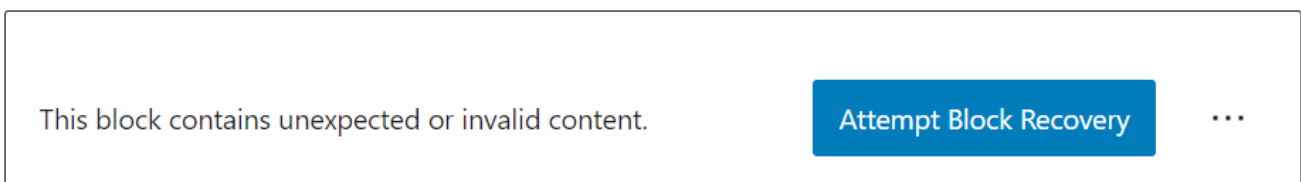
The 'Most Used' blocks category will now display at the top of your list of Blocks.



The Most Used blocks category now displays in the list of Blocks.

Troubleshooting Issues With Blocks

Sometimes when editing a post or page, a block will not display in your content and you will see this error message instead:



“This block contains unexpected or invalid content.”

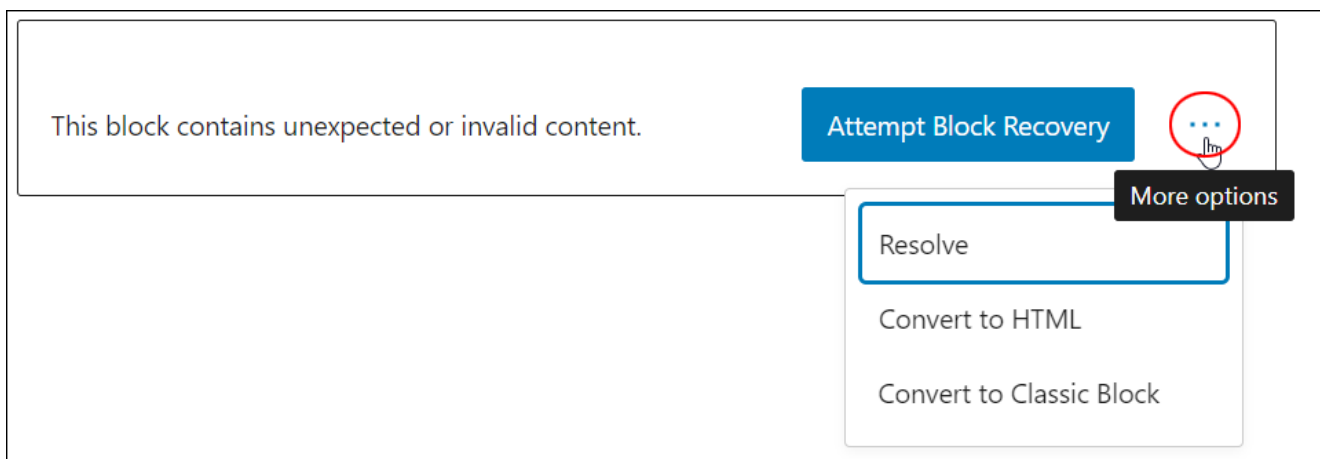
This can happen for a number of reasons:

1. You created a page or post using the **WordPress Block Editor**, then edited later using the **WordPress Classic Editor**. When you go back to the Block Editor, this can affect some blocks and this message displays instead.
2. You modify the HTML of the block in the Code Editor and make a syntax error. You can check the HTML to make sure you have used the correct syntax (see below).
3. A third-party block installed via **plugins** can cause the error to appear if you are using an old version of the block or the markup is incorrect. If this happens, we recommend speaking to your web developer or reporting the error directly to the plugin's developer.

How To Fix Block Errors

WordPress blocks give you several options to try and fix errors when you see the message “This block contains unexpected or invalid content.”:

- **Attempt Block Recovery** – Displays as a clickable button.
- **Resolve** – Select the “More options” menu by clicking on the ellipsis (three-dot) icon to access this option.
- **Convert to HTML** – Select the “More options” menu by clicking on the ellipsis (three-dot) icon to access this option.
- **Convert to Classic Block** – Select the “More options” menu by clicking on the ellipsis (three-dot) icon to access this option.

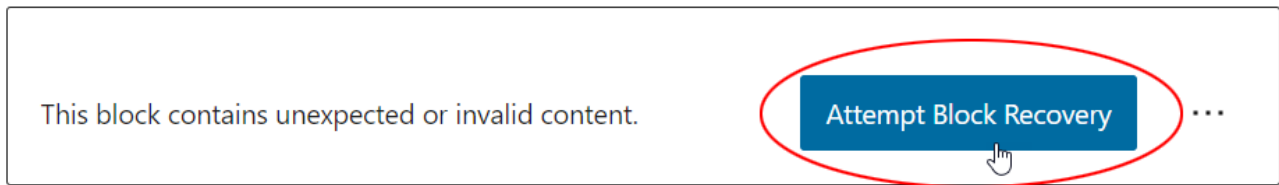


WordPress gives you 4 options to try and fix block errors.

Let's go through each of these options:

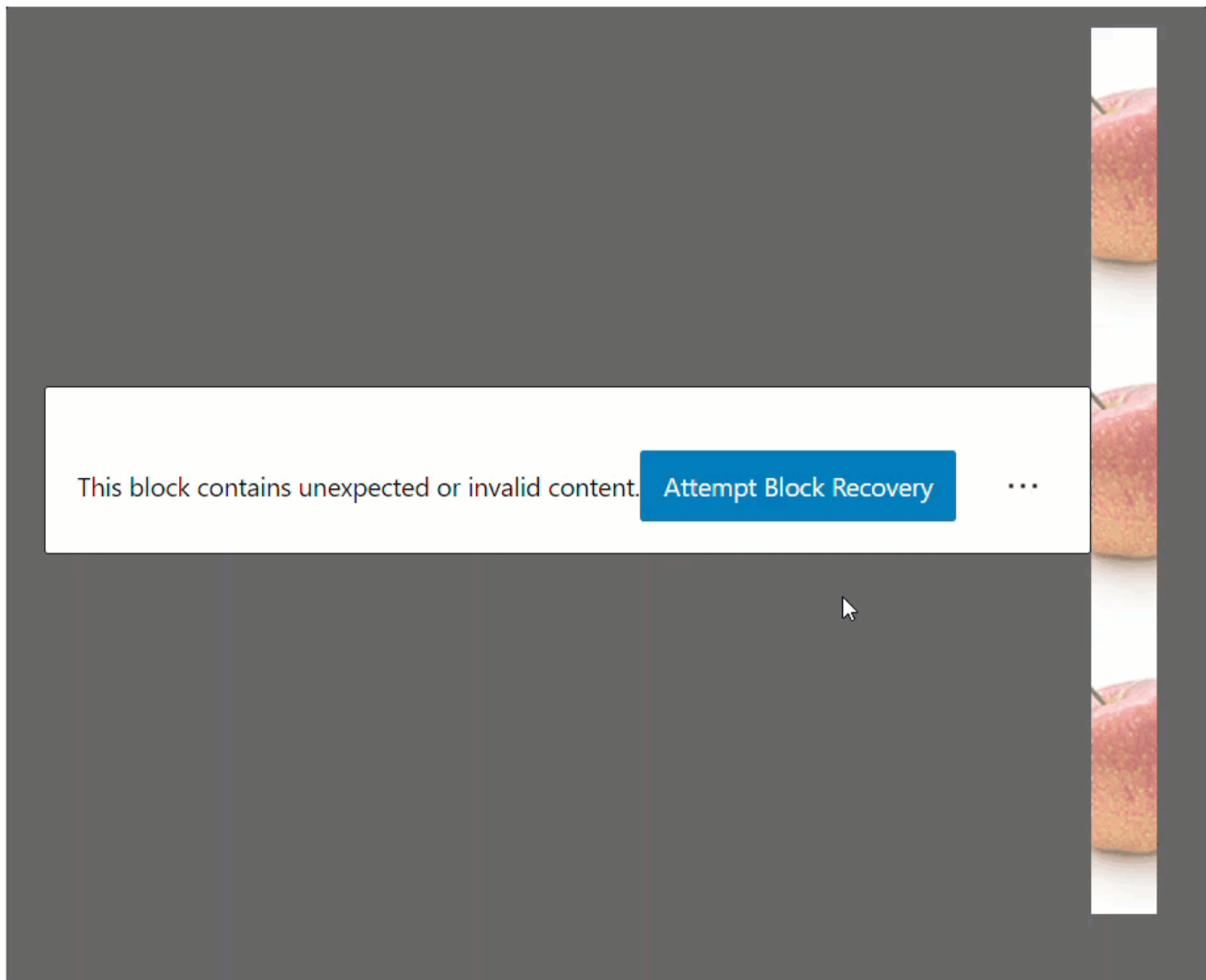
Attempt Block Recovery

To check if the block editor can restore the block to how it was before the error appeared, click on the **Attempt Block Recovery** button.



Attempt Block Recovery checks if the block editor can restore the block as it was before the error.

Clicking this button requires no technical skills and often fixes the block errors.



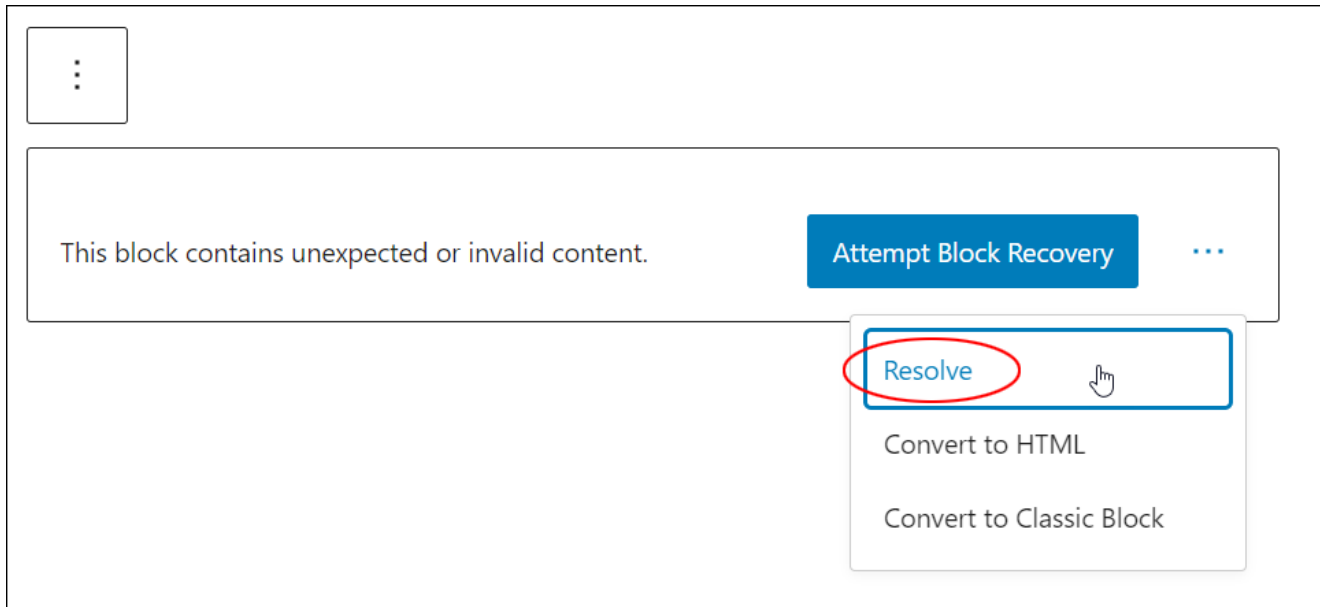
Clicking this button will often fix the problem.

The other options below require some technical knowledge, so if you are a non-technical user, then it's probably best to leave these to your website developer.

Nonetheless, let's go through these options:

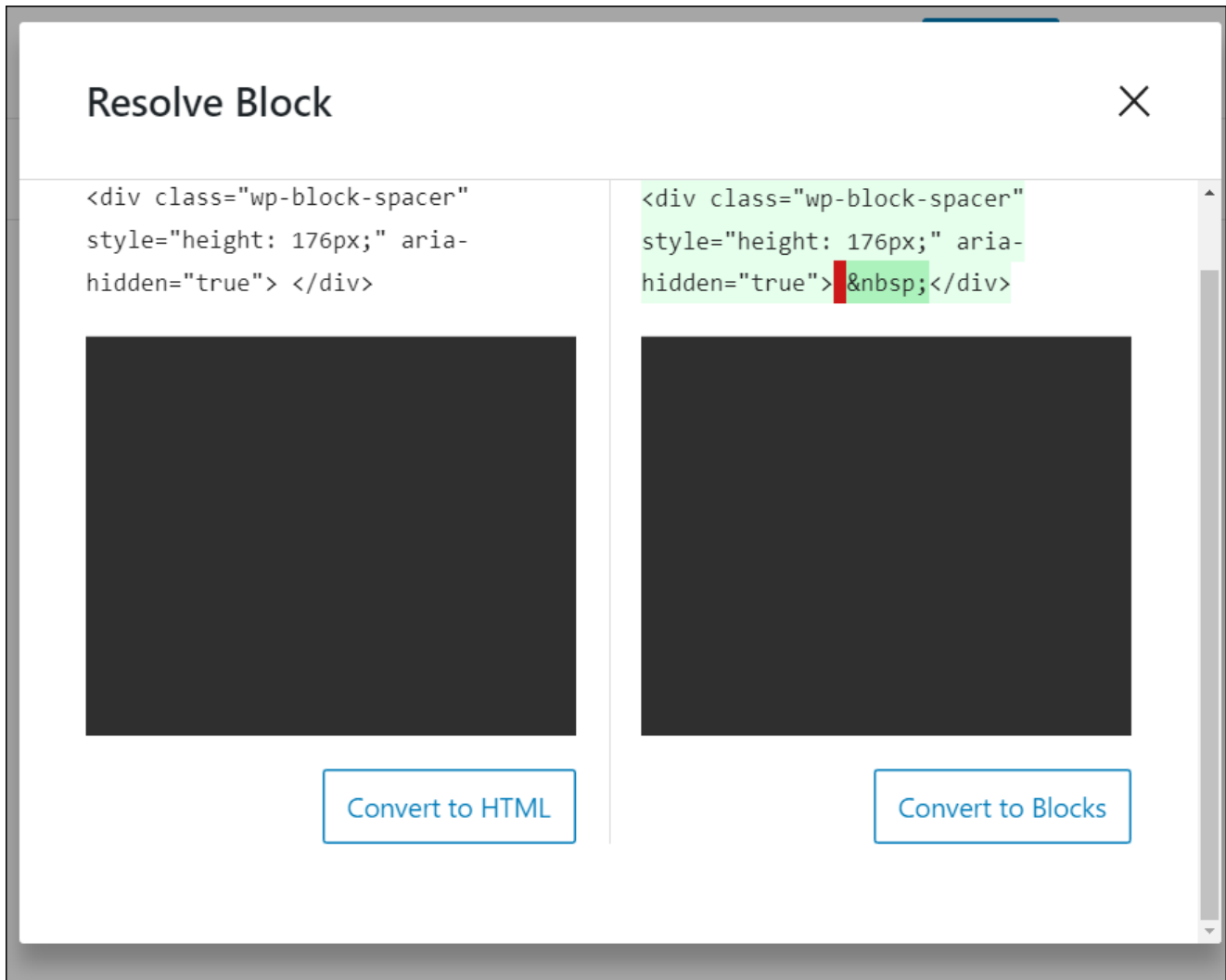
Resolve

Select the “More options” menu by clicking on the ellipsis (three-dot) icon and select **Resolve...**



Resolve attempts to automatically present a block-based solution by splitting the results into two columns:

- **Left column** – displays code and the **Convert to HTML** button.
- **Right column** – displays code and the **Convert to Blocks** button.



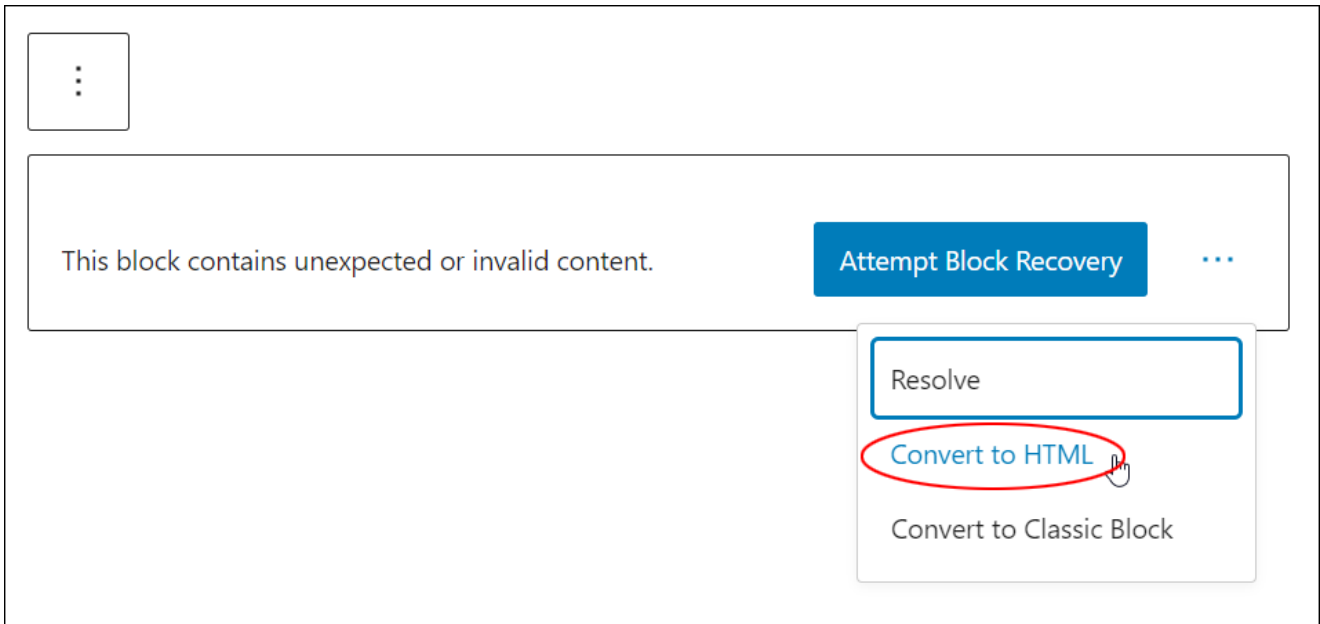
Resolve Block compares converting the invalid content to a Custom HTML block (left column) or attempting to fix errors and return the fixed content to the block it was added to.

Convert to HTML

The Convert to HTML block converts the invalid content directly into an HTML block.

Note: This is the same function as the Convert to HTML option which is part of the Resolve option above.

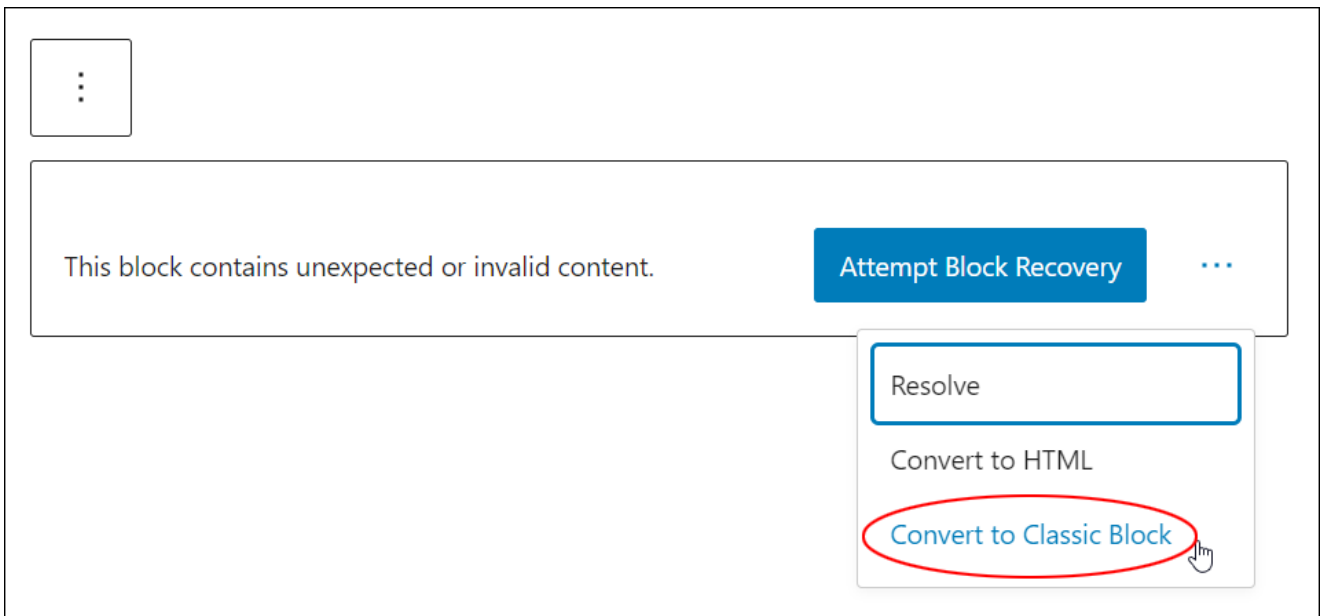
Select the “More options” menu by clicking on the ellipsis (three-dot) icon and select **Convert to HTML...**



Convert to HTML

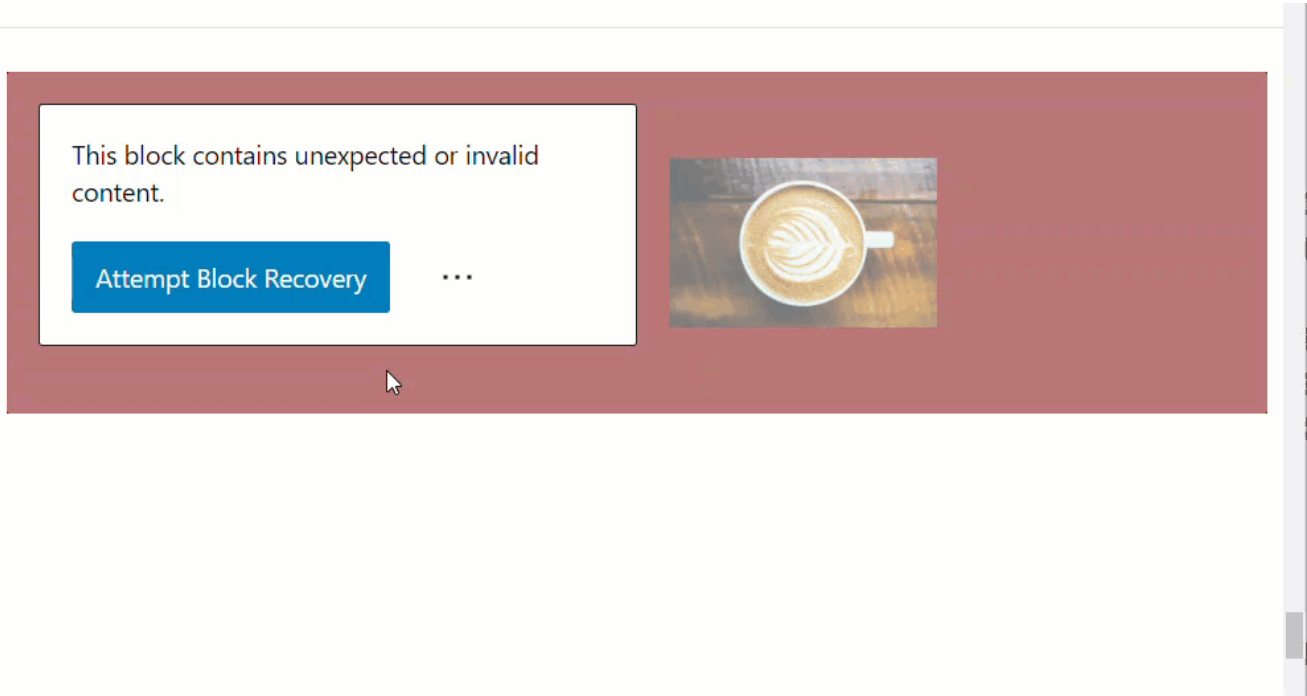
Convert to Classic Block

To convert the invalid content into a **Classic block**, click the ellipsis (three dots) button, and choose **Convert to Classic Block** from the menu.



Convert to Classic Block

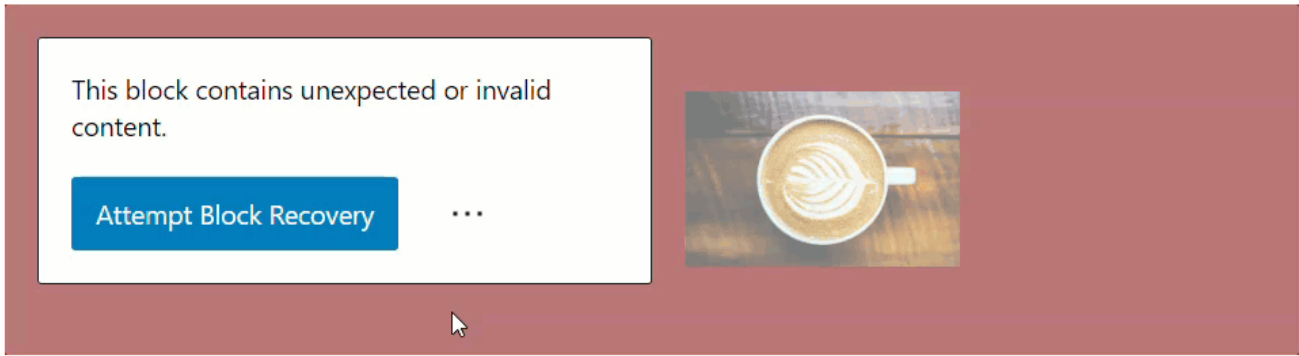
This will convert the block into a Classic block and allow you to edit the block's content using Classic editor features.



The Block with an error has been converted into a Classic block.

As mentioned above, clicking on the **Attempt Block Recovery** button will often fix most of the errors you experience with blocks and does not require any technical knowledge or skills.

If clicking on the **Attempt Block Recovery** button doesn't fix the issue, you can try exploring the other options or contact your website developer for further assistance.



WordPress gives you several options for fixing “This block contains unexpected or invalid content” block errors.

Default WordPress Editor Blocks – Tutorials

For detailed tutorials on using the WordPress Block Editor’s default blocks, click on the links below:

Congratulations! Now you know how to use WordPress Blocks when creating and editing content using the WordPress Block Editor.

Additional WordPress Block Editor Tutorials

To learn more about using the WordPress Block Editor, see these tutorials:



Learn how to use WordPress Editor Blocks

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