# How To Use Featured Images In WordPress

**wptrainingmanual.com**/wordpress-tutorials/featured-images

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Tutorial Contents

This tutorial explains how to use featured images in WordPress and covers the following:

- **What Is A Featured Image?**
- **Editing A Featured Image**
- **Removing A Featured Image**
- **Featured Images And WordPress Themes**
- **Featured Images And WordPress Plugins**

See these tutorials for additional information:

- **Using Images In WordPress**
- **How To Add And Format Images In WordPress**
- **How To Use The WordPress Media Library**
- **How To Edit WordPress Media Library Images**
- **Where To Find Free & Royalty-Free Images For Your Content**

## What Is A Featured Image?

A **Featured Image** (previously known as a "Post Thumbnail") is an image that you choose to represent your Posts, Pages, or **Custom Post Types**.

Featured images can be used to make your posts and pages look more attractive and enticing to your readers and increase the visual appeal of your site and your content.



A featured image can help make your post stand out.

WordPress themes with "magazine-type" layouts, for example, tend to use featured images prominently. With some themes, featured images may display only on the home page as post thumbnails, or only on the header section of single posts and pages and alongside **post excerpts**.
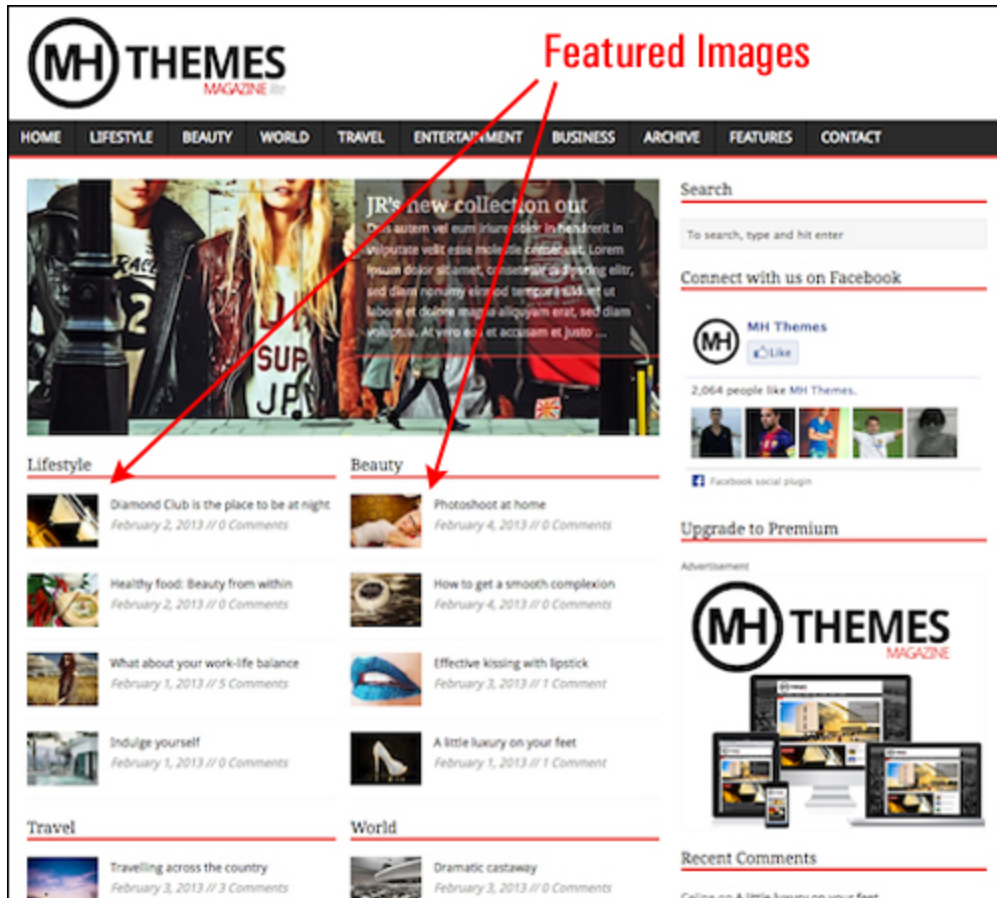
Magazine-style themes use featured images. (Source: mhthemes.com)

You can **find free WordPress themes** that use featured images by searching for themes in the **free WordPress Theme directory** or the 'Add Themes' screen in your dashboard with the "*Featured Images*" search filter enabled.

Use the Feature Filter to find WordPress themes that use featured images.



Your **WordPress theme** controls whether featured images display on your posts, pages, and custom post types or not, so make sure that the theme(s) you choose support using featured images.

If you plan to use a theme that doesn't automatically support using featured images, you may need to ask a WordPress developer to **customize your theme templates**.

To learn more about using WordPress themes go here: **WordPress Themes Explained**

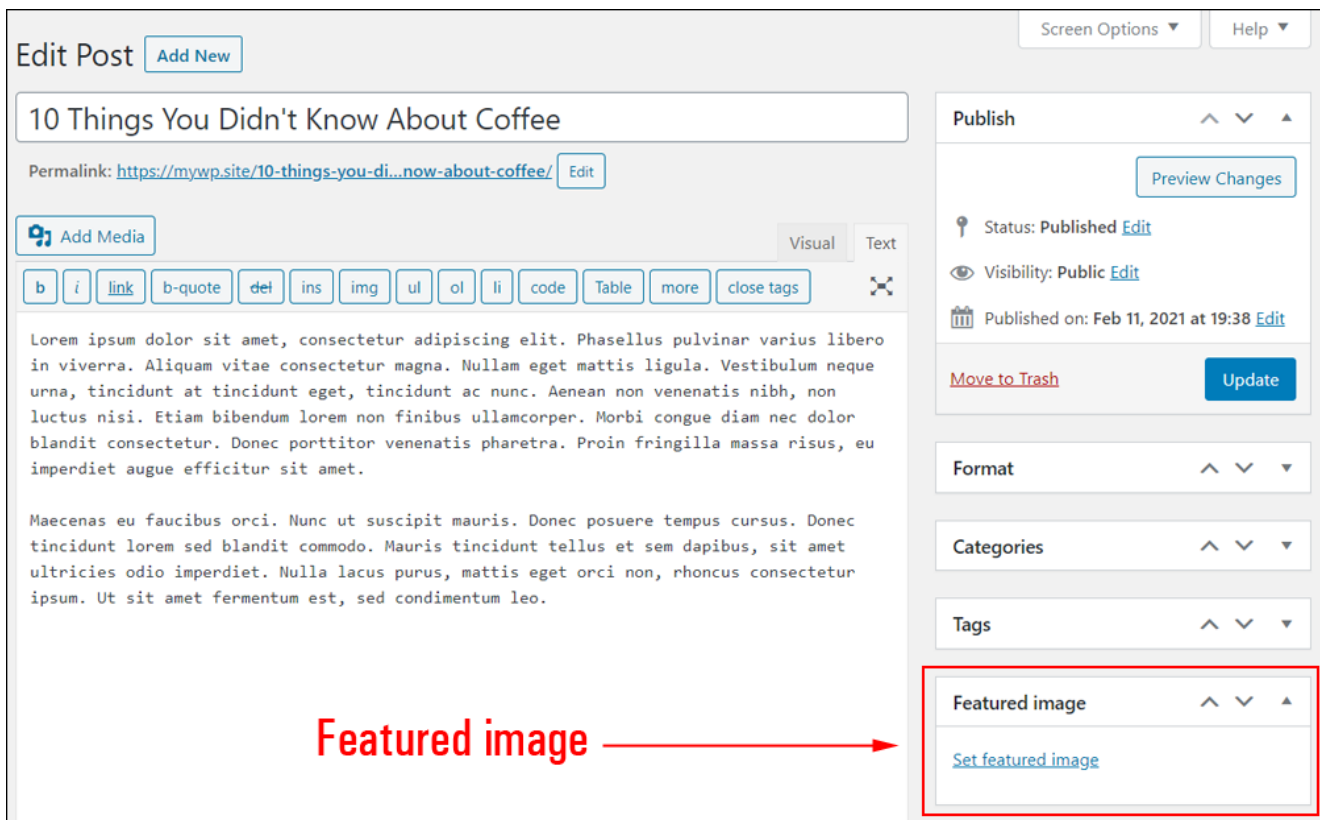## How To Set A Featured Image For Your Posts

In this section, we'll add a featured image to a post using the **WordPress Classic Editor** and the **WordPress Block Editor**.

If you need help creating or editing posts or pages, see these tutorials:

- **How To Create A Post In WordPress**
- **How To Edit and Delete Posts In WordPress**
- **How To Create Pages In WordPress**
- **How To Edit And Delete Pages In WordPress**

## WordPress Classic Editor

To add a featured image to your post, make sure that the **Featured Image** box in the sidebar of your **Edit Posts** screen is visible.
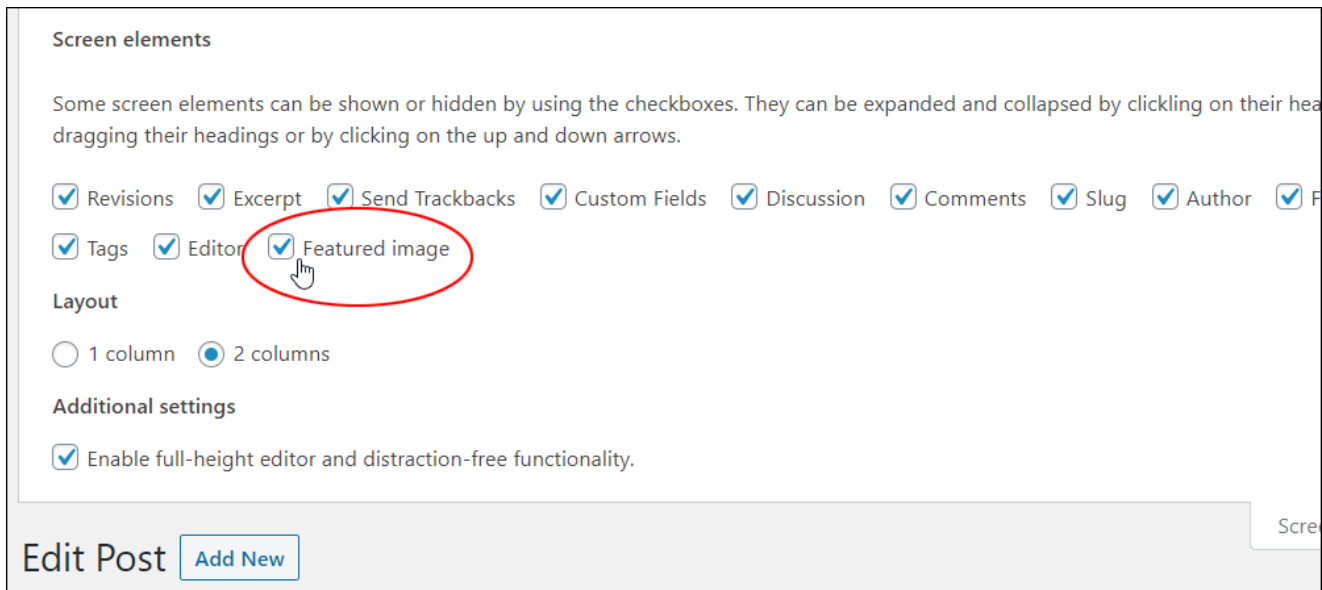


Use the Featured Image box to add a featured image to your posts or pages.

If you cannot see the Featured Image box in your Edit Post screen, click on the **Screen Options tab** at the top of your screen.
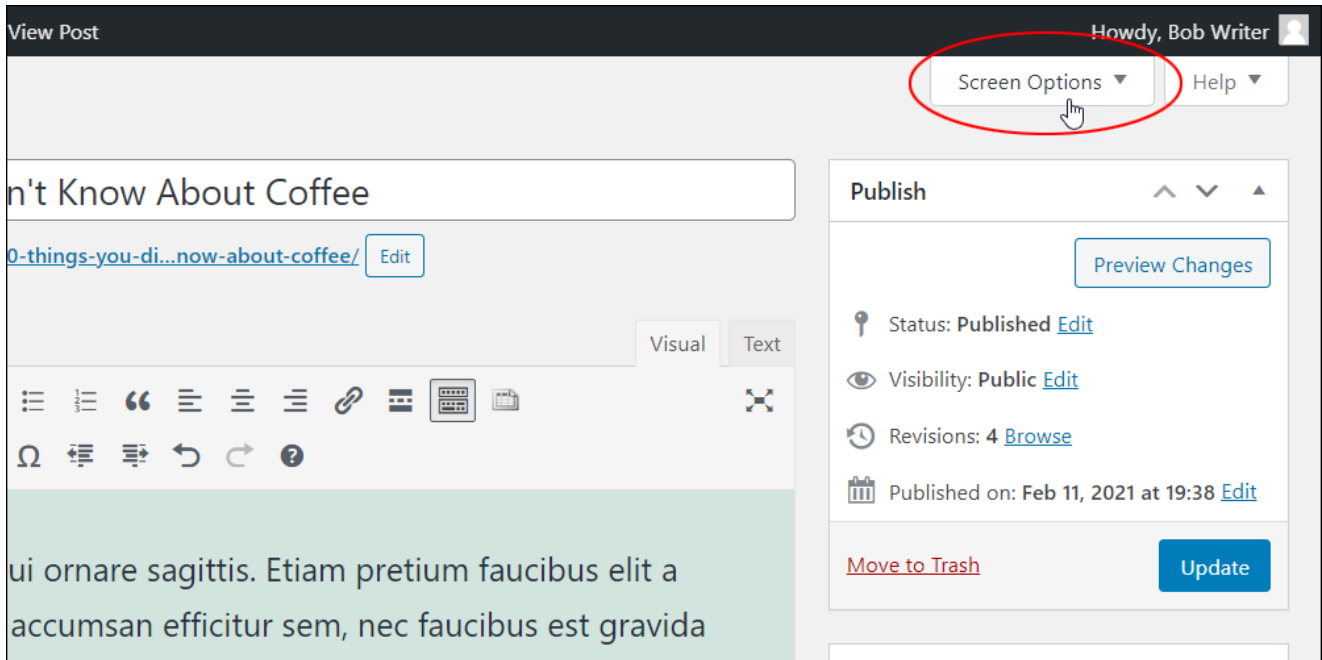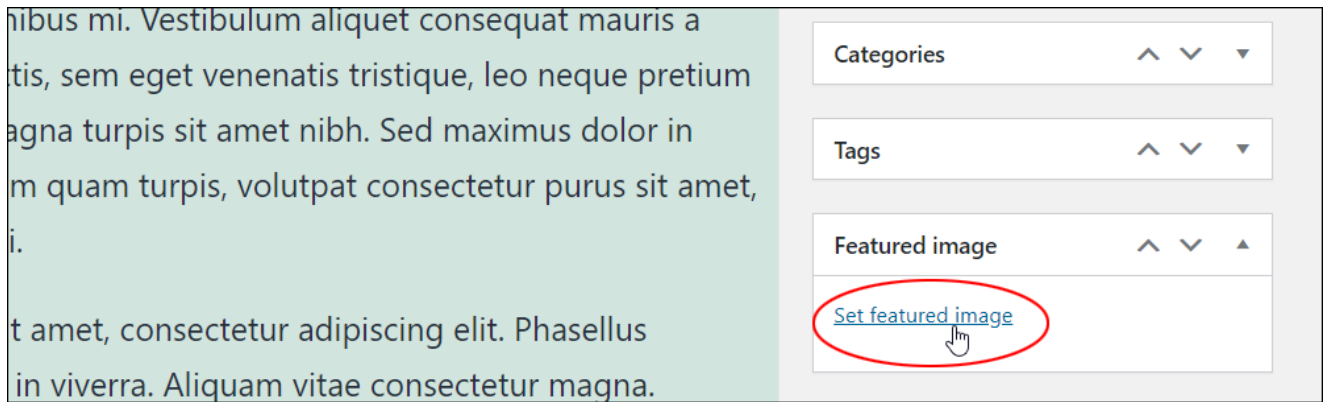
Click on the Screen Options tab.

Make sure that the checkbox next to **Featured Image** in the **Screen elements** section is ticked.



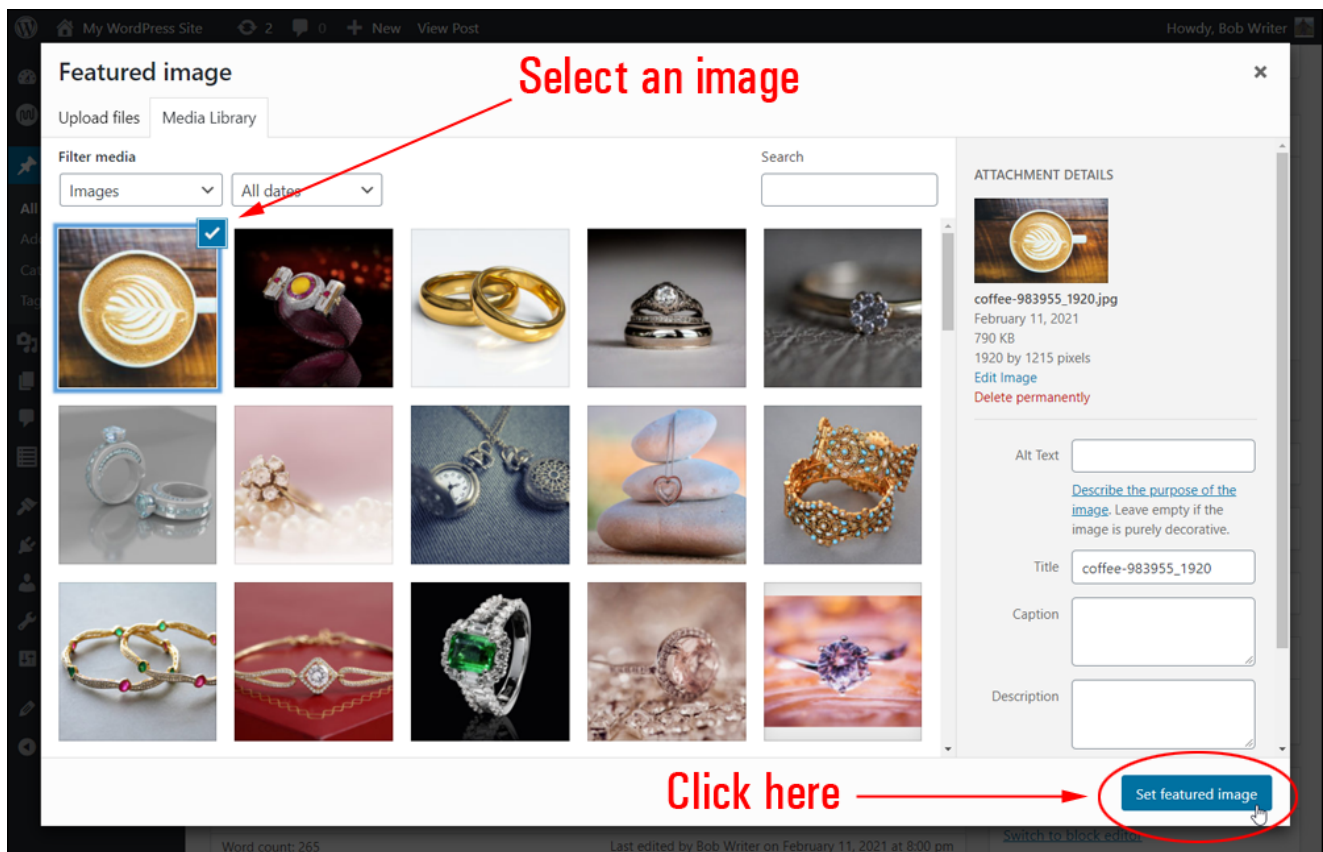Make sure the Featured image checkbox is enabled in the Screen Options tab.

With the Featured image box visible, click on the **Set featured image** link.
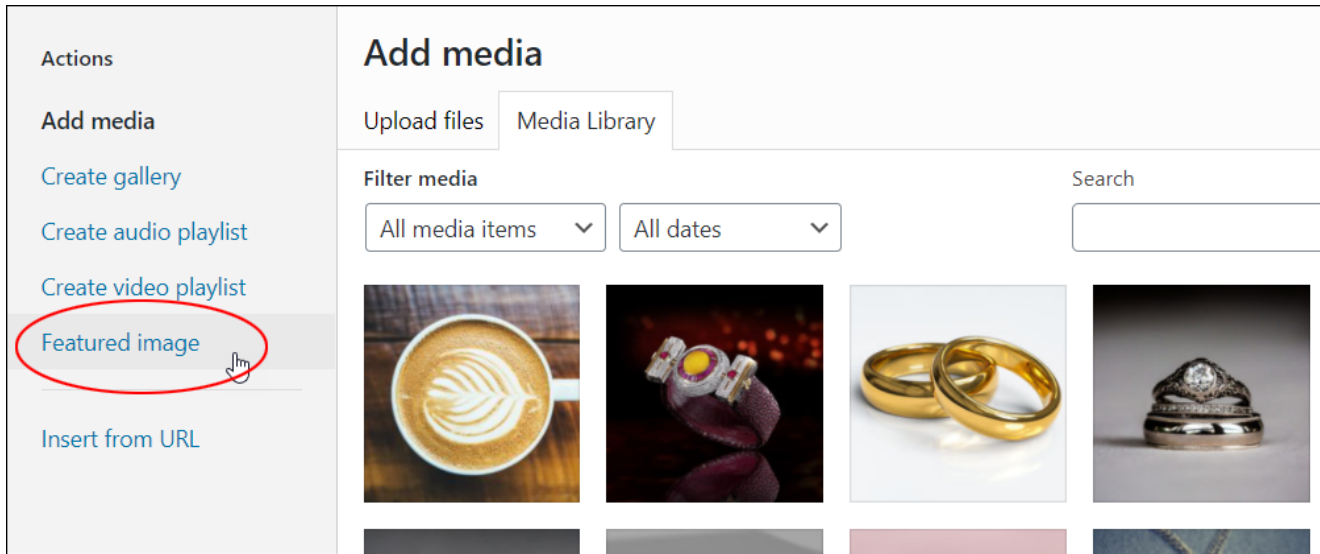
Click on the Set featured image link.

This will open the **Featured Image** screen.

Select the image you would like to use as your featured image and click on the **Set featured image** button.
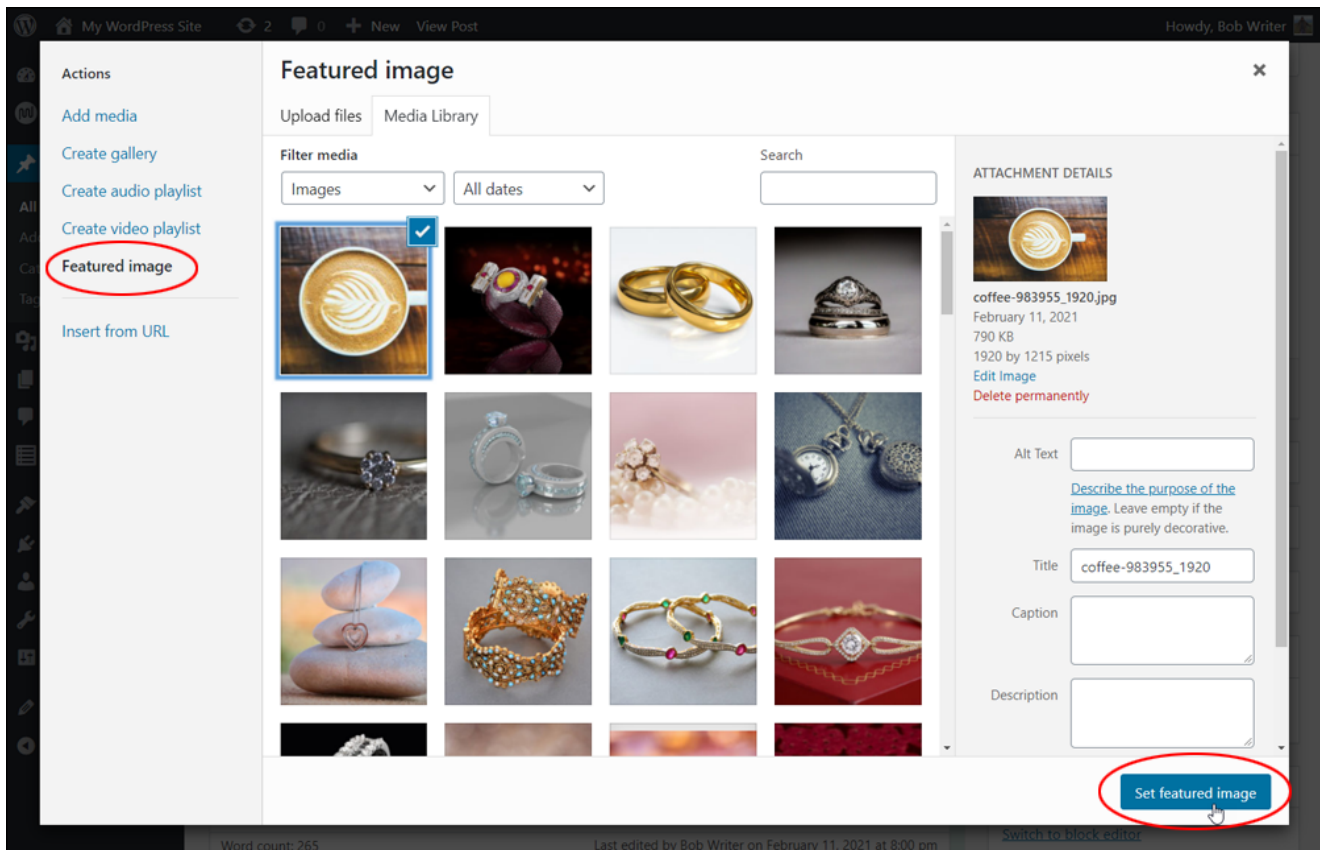


Select an image and click on the Set featured image button.

The image you have selected will be added to your post as a featured image.

Featured image selected.

Another way to set a featured image in a WordPress post is to click on the **Add Media** button inside your Edit Post screen.



Click on the Add Media button.

This will open the **Add Media** screen in your **Media Library**.

Click on the **Featured Image** link in the *Add media* menu.

Select Featured image.

Next, select the image you would like to use as your featured image and click on the **Set featured image** button.



Select your featured image and click on the Set featured image button.

Your selected image will be set as the featured image of your post (or page).

Remember to click **Update** to save and publish your new post settings.

Update your post to save your new settings.

## WordPress Block Editor

Adding a featured image in the Block Editor follows a similar process.

If you can't see the Featured Image box in the sidebar of your block editor, check that this option is enabled in your **Block Options menu** (the vertical ellipsis) > Preferences > Panels > Document settings section.
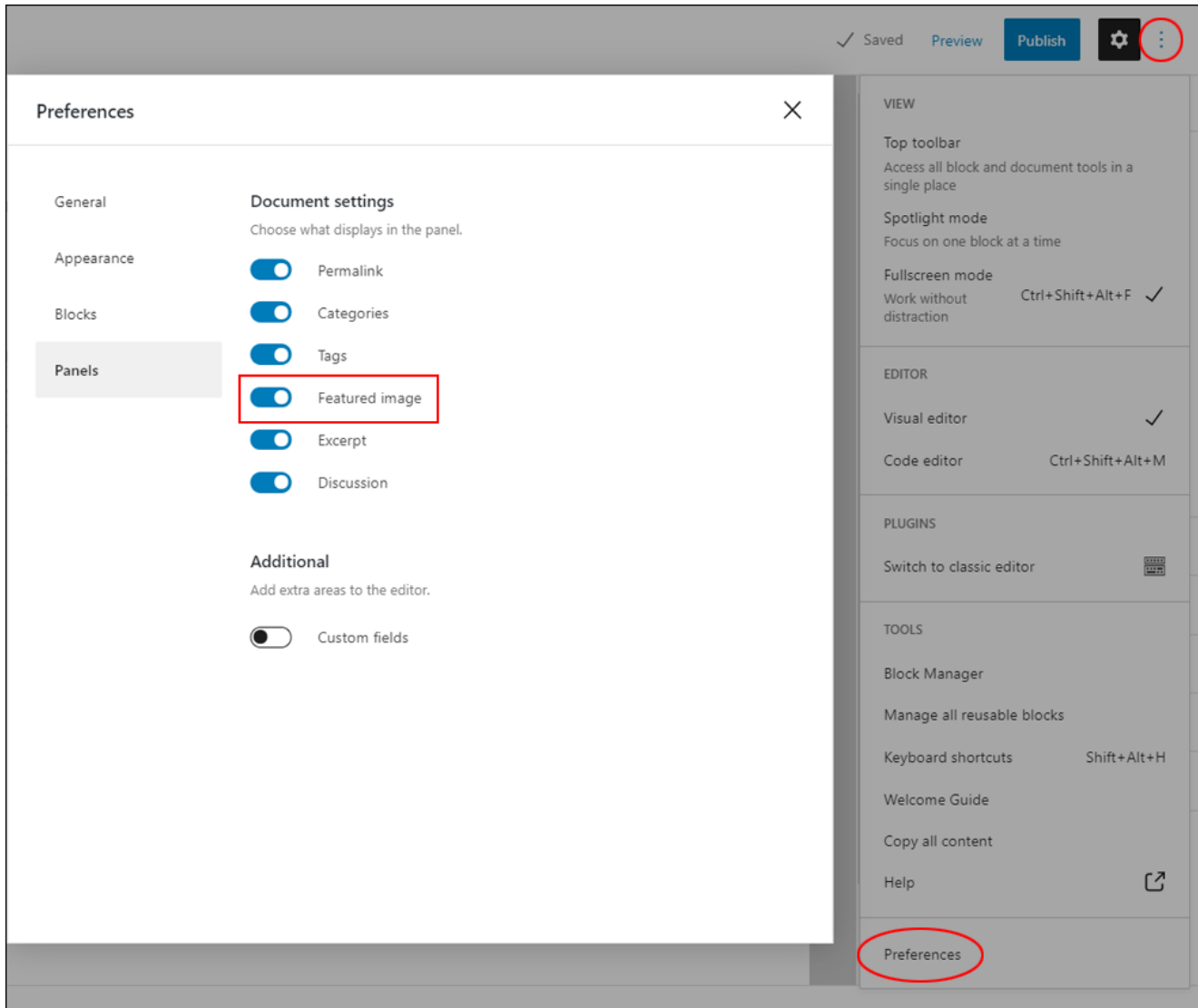
Enable the Featured image settings in the Preferences – Panels area of the Block Editor's Options section.
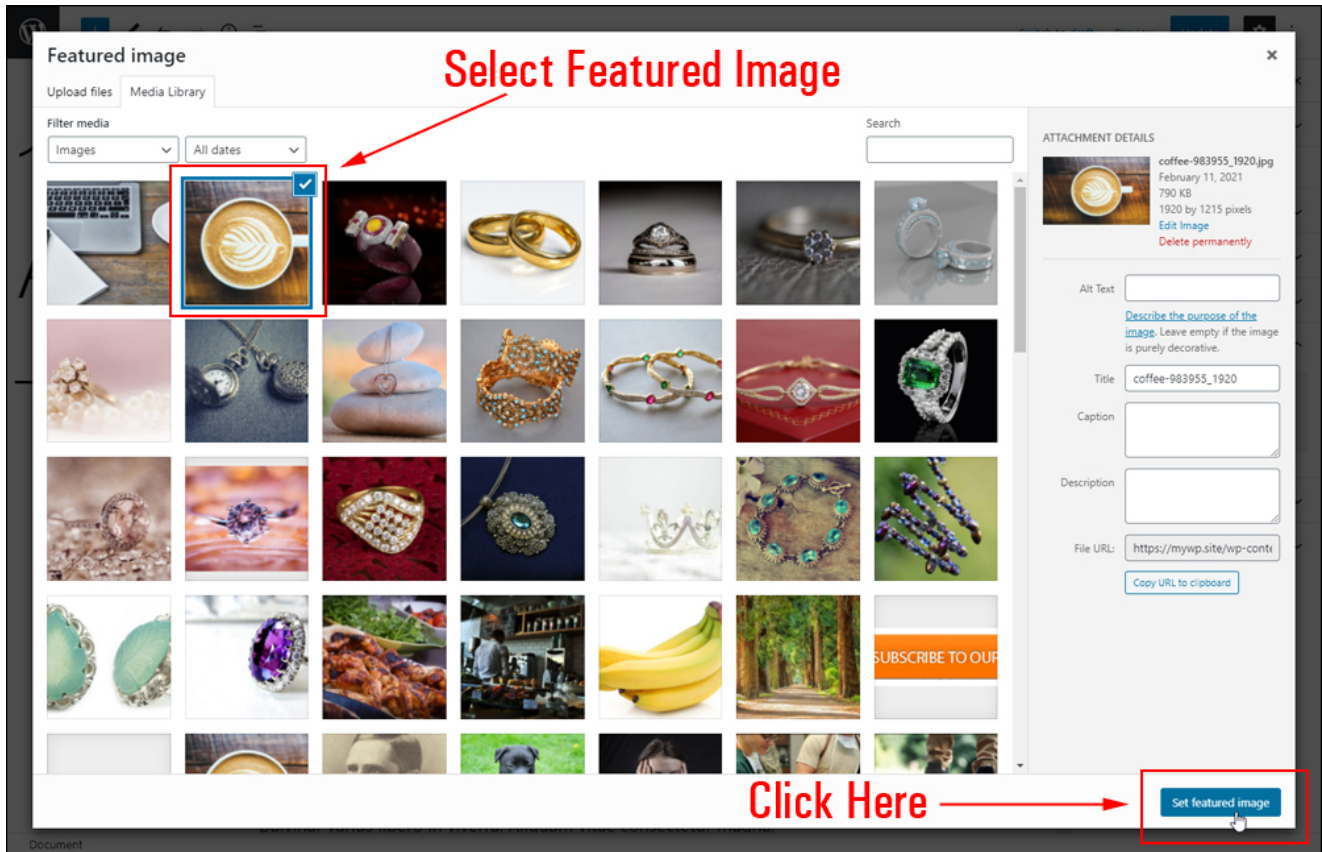
With Featured image settings enabled, click on the 'Set featured image' panel.
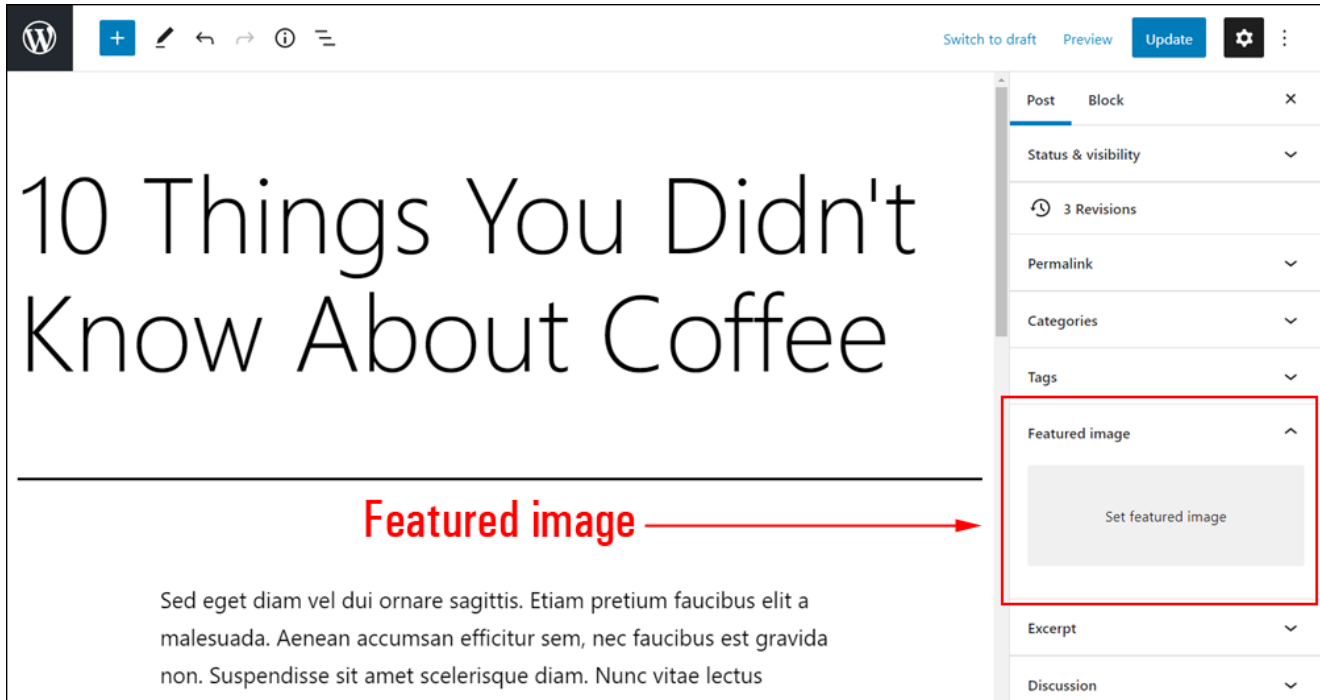
Click on the Set featured image area.

This brings up the Featured image screen

Select the image you would like to use as your featured image and click on the **Set featured image** button.

Select and add a featured image.

This will add the selected image to your post as a featured image.

Featured image added to post.

Save and publish your post (or page) and visit your post to view the featured image you have specified and make sure that it is displaying correctly.

My Tagline Goes Here

# 10 Things You Didn't Know About Coffee



Sed eget diam vel dui ornare sagittis. Etiam pretium faucibus elit a malesuada. Aenean accumsan efficitur sem, nec faucibus est gravida non. Suspendisse sit amet scelerisque diam. Nunc vitae lectus aliquet, tincidunt libero ac, finibus mi. Vestibulum aliquet consequat mauris a consequat. Cras sagittis, sem eget venenatis tristique, leo neque pretium tortor, id euismod magna turpis sit amet nibh. Sed maximus dolor in blandit dignissim. Nam quam turpis, volutpat consectetur purus sit amet, venenatis faucibus mi.
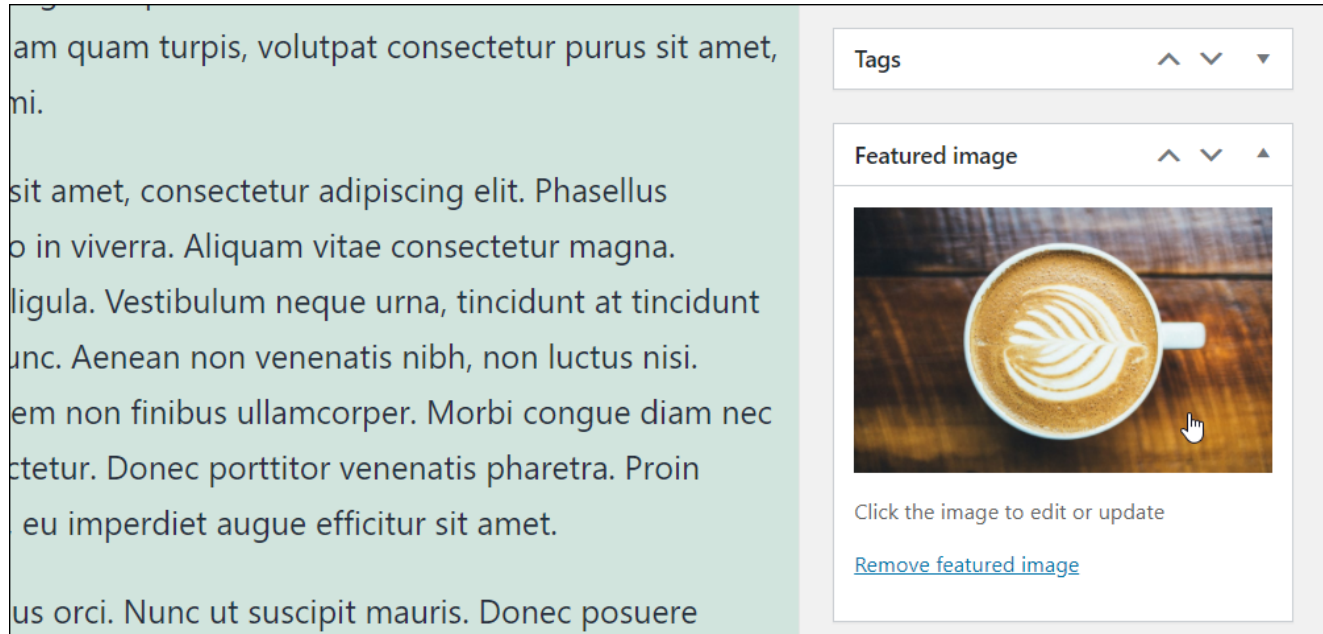
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Phasellus pulvinar varius libero in viverra. Aliquam vitae consectetur magna. Nullam eget mattis ligula. Vestibulum neque urna, tincidunt at tincidunt eget, tincidunt ac nunc. Aenean non venenatis nibh, non luctus nisi. Etiam bibendum lorem non finibus ullamcorper. Morbi congue diam nec dolor blandit consectetur. Donec porttitor venenatis pharetra. Proin fringilla massa risus, eu imperdiet augue efficitur sit amet.

Your post now displays a featured image.

## Editing A Featured Image

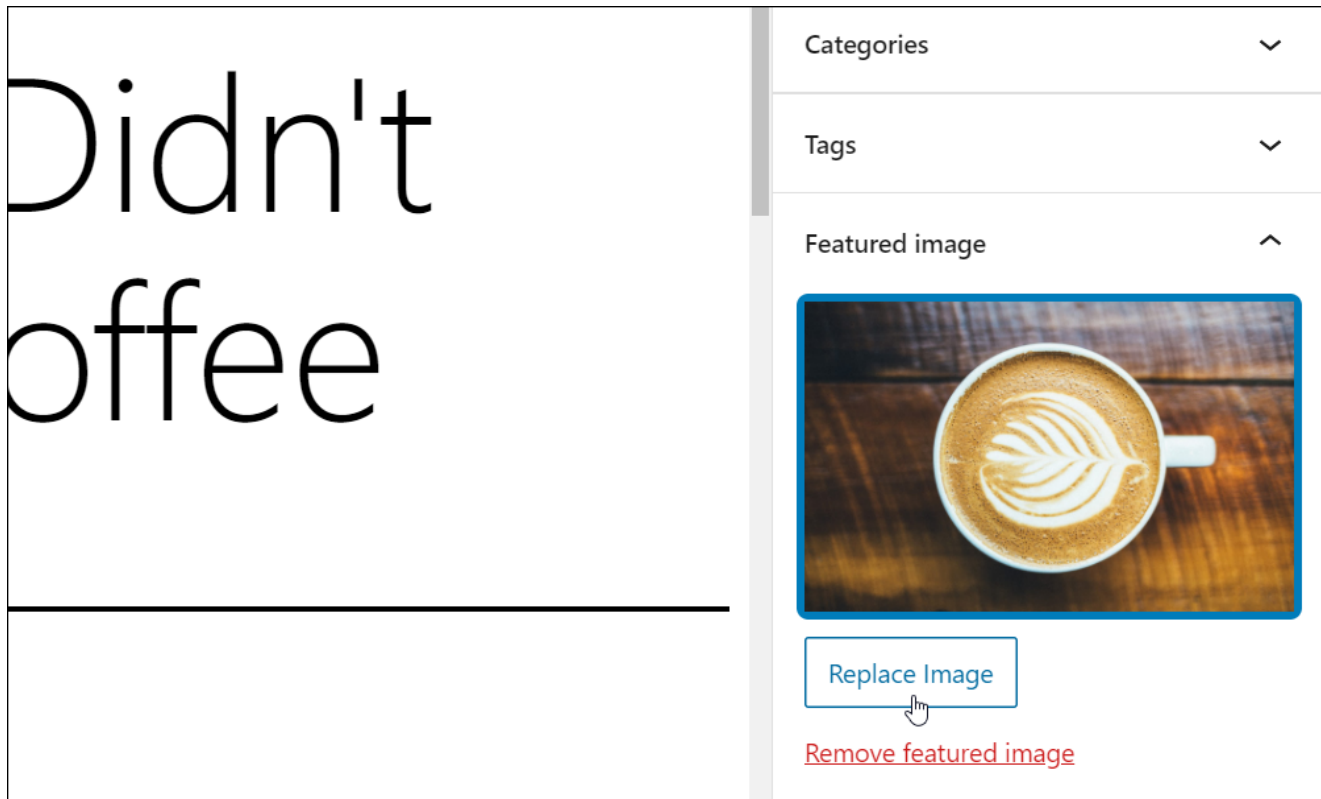To replace a featured image in a post or page, do the following:

If using the **WordPress Classic Editor**, click on the image in the Featured image box, select a new image from the **Media Library**, and add it to your post or page using the methods described earlier in this tutorial.



Click the image to edit or update.

If using the **WordPress Block Editor**, click on the 'Replace Image' in the Featured image section and follow the same process as described above.

Click the Replace Image button.



If you need to resize, crop, or adjust your featured image, refer to this tutorial: **How To Edit WordPress Media Library Images**

## Removing A Featured Image

Removing a featured image from a post or page works in the same way regardless of the content editor you are using.

To remove a featured image from a post, edit the post, then scroll down to the Featured Image box and click on the **Remove featured image** link.

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us orci. Nunc ut suscipit mauris. Donec posuere

Remove featured image

## Featured Images And WordPress Themes

The featured image should continue to display on your post or page even if you change the active WordPress theme on your site if the new theme supports using featured images.

As mentioned earlier, your WordPress theme controls how featured images display on your site.

Some themes, use featured images to make posts stand out on the home page…

# My WordPress Site

My Tagline Goes Here

Salads   Summer Recipes   Winter Recipes   Blog   Login

## 10 Things You Didn't Know About Coffee

Posted on February 11, 2021 by Bob Writer

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Phasellus pulvinar varius libero in viverra. Aliquam vitae consectetur magna. Nullam eget mattis ligula.

Read Article

## The World's Most Desirable Jewelry Collection

Posted on February 7, 2021 by Bob Writer

Nulla convallis, magna eget volutpat ullamcorper, sem risus varius tellus, ut ullamcorper sapien tortor at risus.

Read Article

This theme uses featured images prominently. (Theme: Ada Pearl)

Portfolio themes also rely on featured images to draw visitors in.

A portfolio theme (Theme: BlogJr Portfolio)

Several themes display featured images with post excerpts on their blog section.

Featured images are typically used in blog pages to draw attention to posts. (Theme: Twenty Sixteen)

To learn where to find quality free and premium WordPress themes, see this tutorial: **Where To Find WordPress Themes**

## Featured Images And WordPress Plugins

You can also use plugins to enhance the use of featured images and add new features and functions to your site, such as:

- Add images to RSS feeds.
- Automatically set a featured image for posts if a featured image has not been set manually (e.g. make a featured image from the first image on your post).
- Bulk replace and delete featured images in your posts.
- Use external images as featured images.
- Add multiple featured images to posts.
- Display custom captions in featured images.
- and more!

You can search for feature image-enhancing plugins inside your WordPress dashboard (**Plugins > Add New**), or by visiting the **free WordPress Plugin Directory**.
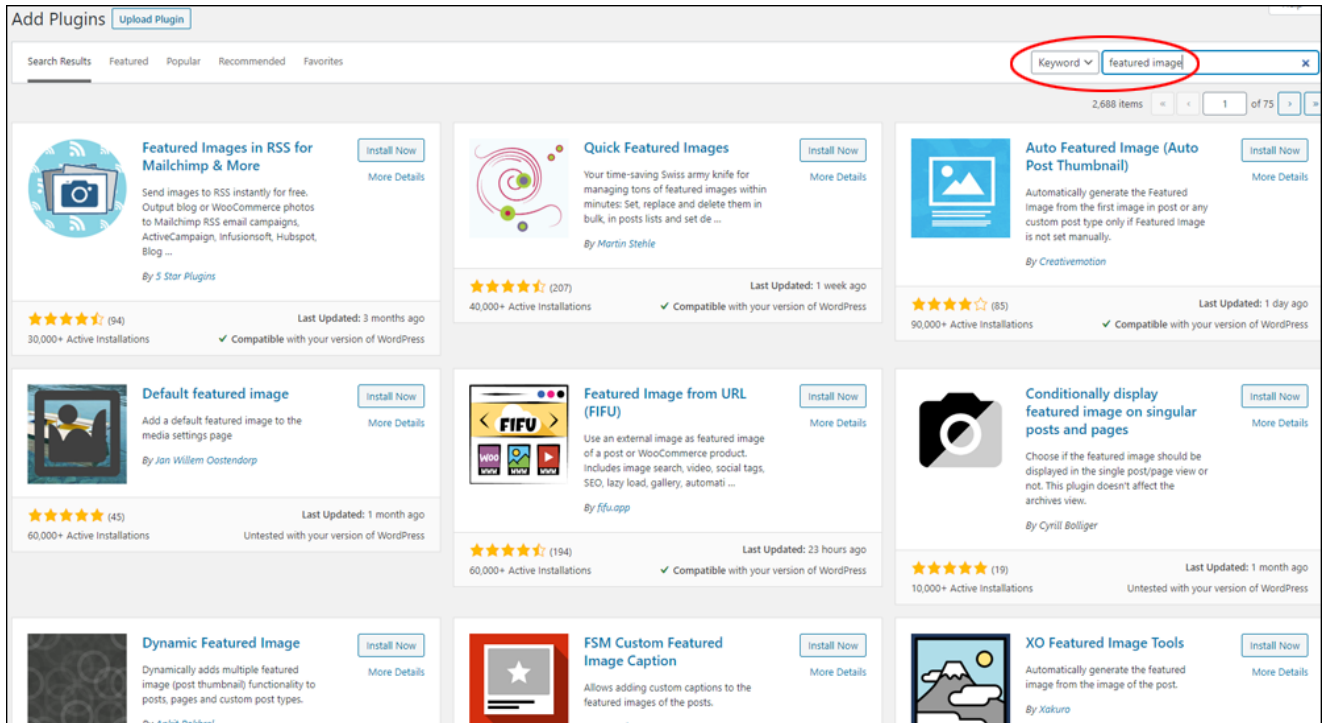
WordPress plugins can extend the capabilities of using featured images on your site.

Search the free WordPress Plugin Directory for feature image plugins here: **WordPress Featured Image Plugins**

# 10 Things You Didn't Know About Coffee



Sed eget diam vel dui ornare sagittis. Etiam pretium faucibus elit a malesuada. Aenean accumsan efficitur sem, nec faucibus est gravida non. Suspendisse sit amet scelerisque diam. Nunc vitae lectus

Featured image

Congratulations! Now you know how to use featured images on your WordPress site.

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Updated: April 9th, 2023