

WORDPRESS PLUGINS

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Another discussion!

AGENDA

WordPress fundamentals (20 minutes)

- What is a plugin?
- Why are they needed?
- Plugins of interest

Advanced WordPress (40 minutes)

- Your first plugin
- Testing and deploying
- Your second plugin

Discussion (practical tips and techniques)

WHAT IS A PLUGIN?

- Extend WP (like an app on your phone)
- **WP Beginner explanation**
- WP repository (next slide)
- How to choose?

WP PLUGIN REPOSITORY

- **<https://wordpress.org/plugins/>**
- 59,500+ as of mid-January, 2024
- Where to start?

PLUGINS – CHOOSE WISELY

- Do you really need it (bloat/ performance/ security)
- Has it been updated recently?
- Reviews?
- Compatibility with current WP



Wordfence Security – Firewall, Malware Scan, and Login Security

By Wordfence

[Download](#)[Details](#)[Reviews](#)[Installation](#)[Development](#)[Support](#)

Description

THE MOST POPULAR WORDPRESS FIREWALL & SECURITY SCANNER

WordPress security requires a team of dedicated analysts researching the latest malware variants and WordPress exploits, turning them into firewall rules and malware signatures, and releasing those to customers in real-time. Wordfence is widely acknowledged as the number one WordPress security research team in the World. Our plugin provides a comprehensive suite of security features, and our team's research is what powers our plugin and provides the level of security that we are known for.

At Wordfence, WordPress security isn't a division of our business – WordPress security is all we do. We employ a global 24 hour dedicated

Version: 7.11.1

Last updated: 1 week ago

Active installations: 4+ million

WordPress Version: 3.9 or higher

Tested up to: 6.4.2

PHP Version: 5.5 or higher

Languages: [See all 18](#)

Tags: 2FA malware security

two factor WAF

[Advanced View](#)

WHICH PLUGINS INITIALLY?

- Security (WordFence?)
- Backup (UpDraft Plus?)
- SEO (Yoast?)
- Forms (WPForms?)
- Mail (WP Mail SMTP?)

WHAT ELSE?

- About to begin building our first plugin(s).
- Questions/ comments/ arguments?

OUR FIRST PLUGIN

- Typically written in PHP (with HTML, CSS)
- Can't just add PHP code directly (security risks)
- “Hooks” into WordPress
- Create zip archive for uploading

VS CODE (OR ONLINE) – [HTTPS://VSCODE.DEV/](https://vscode.dev/)



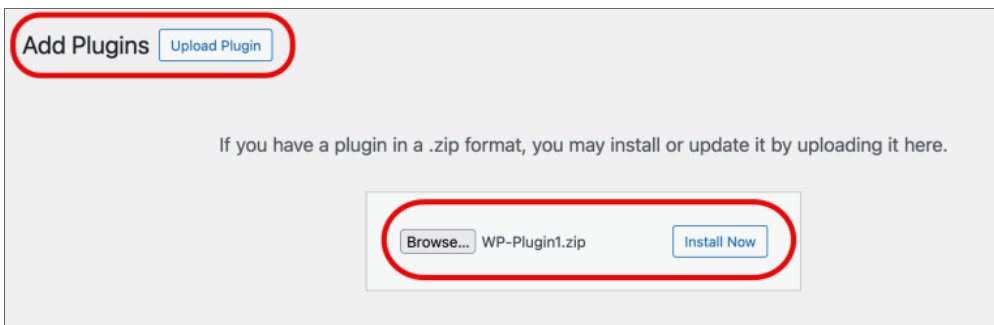
The image shows a screenshot of the Visual Studio Code editor interface. The main editor window displays a PHP file named `plugin1.php`. The code is a WordPress plugin header and a function. Five specific parts of the code are highlighted with red circles and numbered with blue circles:

- 1**: The plugin header block, which includes fields for Plugin Name, Plugin URI, Description, Version, Author, Author URI, License, License URI, Text Domain, and Domain Path.
- 2**: The function definition `function wpg_follow_us($content) {`.
- 3**: The conditional check `if (is_single()) {`.
- 4**: The HTML string being concatenated to the content: `$content .= '<p class="follow-us">If you liked this article, then please follow us on <a href='`.
- 5**: The return statement `return $content;`.

```
1  /*
2
3  Plugin Name: Initial WP plugin
4  Plugin URI:  https://www.webprofessionalsglobal.org
5  Description: Example simple plugin.
6  Version:    1.0
7  Author:     Mark DuBois
8  Author URI: https://www.webprofessionalsglobal.org
9  License:    GPL2
10 License URI: https://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html
11 Text Domain: wpg-tutorial
12 Domain Path: /languages
13
14 Based on example provided by https://www.wpbeginner.com/wp-tutorials/how-to-create-a-wordpress-plu
15 */
16
17 function wpg_follow_us($content) {
18
19     // Only do this when a single post is displayed
20     // see https://developer.wordpress.org/reference/functions/is_single/ for more details
21     // see also https://developer.wordpress.org/reference/functions/is_page/ for single page
22
23     if ( is_single() ) {
24
25         // Message you want to display after the post
26         // Add URLs to your own X (formerly Twitter) profile
27
28         $content .= '<p class="follow-us">If you liked this article, then please follow us on <a href='
29
30     }
31
32     // Return the content
33     return $content;
34 }
```

PLUGIN TESTING/ DEPLOYING

- Comments area should contain meaningful information
- Create Zip Archive
- Upload Archive into your testing environment
- **<https://playground.wordpress.net/>**



Installing plugin from uploaded file: WP-Plugin1.zip

Unpacking the package...

Installing the plugin...

Plugin installed successfully.

[Activate Plugin](#)

[Go to Plugin Installer](#)

Example Post

Jan 12, 2024 — by admin in Uncategorized

Just some basic information to show what happens with a simple post.

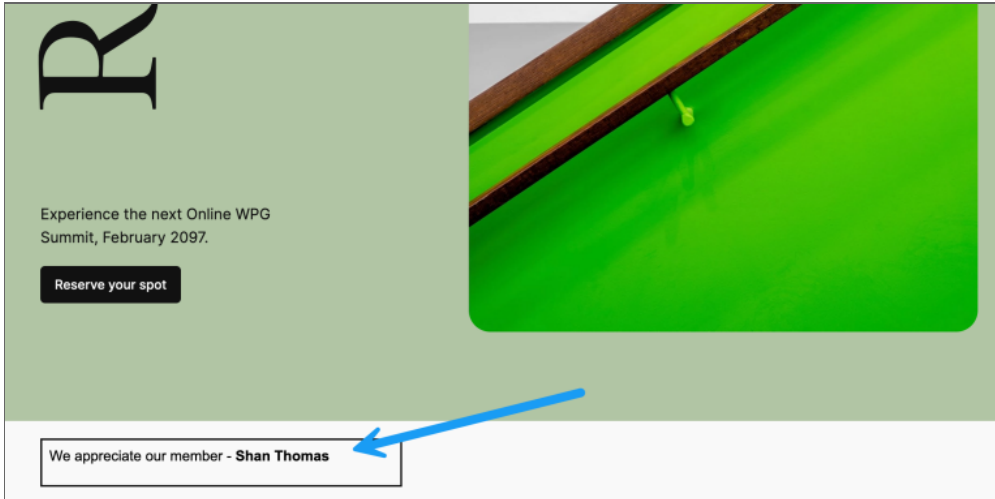
If you liked this article, then please follow us on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) .

SINGLE PAGE PLUGIN

<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial WP plugin Deactivate	Example simple plugin. Version 1.0 By Mark DuBois Visit plugin site
<input type="checkbox"/>	Second WP plugin Deactivate	Another example simple plugin. Version 1.0 By Mark DuBois Visit plugin site

Give some thought to proper naming and descriptions.

Single page now pulls data from another site
(inline frame)



SUMMARY

WordPress plugin fundamentals

- What they are and why they are needed

Your first WordPress plugins

- Single post based plugin
- Single page based plugin

Discussion (practical tips/ techniques)

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If you found this useful, tell others...