

VOLUME ONE

5 WAYS TO SECURE YOUR WORDPRESS

BY GANESH BOMMANAVENI

AN ULTIMATE GUIDE WHICH SHOWS YOU 5 AMAZING WAYS TO
SECURE YOUR WORDPRESS FROM HACKERS & BAD GUYS



DO YOU KNOW ?

THERE IS AN ATTACK ON WEB EVERY

39

SECONDS

ACCORDING TO WEBARX SECURITY

**WORDPRESS POWERS
ABOUT 35% OF THE
INTERNET**

**HENCE, IT IS THE
PRIME TARGET FOR
HACKERS**

ABOUT ME



RankMe1

I am Ganesh Bommanaveni, a Certified SEO by ClickMinded and a Digital Marketer from Hyderabad, India. I am The founder of RankMe1.com where I help StartUps and Brands to get more Traffic and leads. I am a fan of Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation.

I WORKED WITH



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SECURING YOUR WORDPRESS

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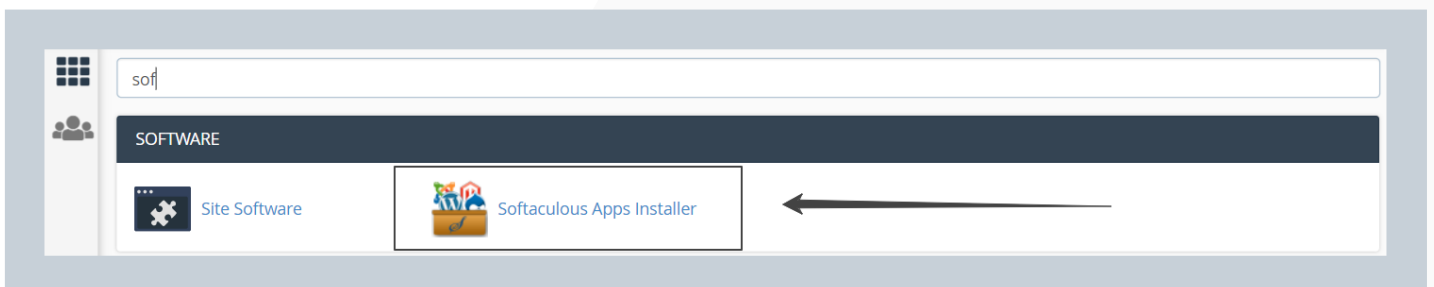
1. INSTALLING WORDPRESS

THE RIGHT WAY

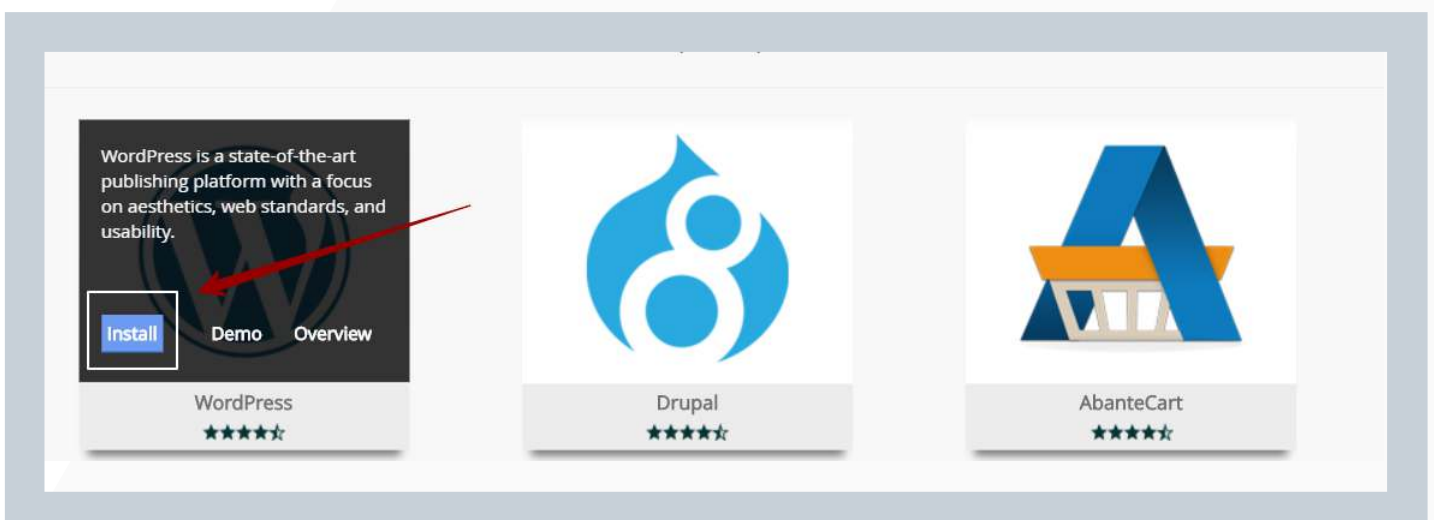
Installing WordPress Correctly is Crucial, If you are Using a Web Host which has **CPanel**, Probably you have an App Installer called **Softaculous** , Installing WordPress with Softaculous is Super Easy. Let's Get Started !

INSTALLING WORDPRESS WITH SOFTACULOUS

Go To cPanel > Search > Softaculous



Click on **Install** Button of WordPress



Just fill in the basic Info. like site settings and admin account Settings.

Don't use Default Username and Password, You can use your nick name, etc., as your username and always use the Combination of Characters, Numbers and Special Characters in Password.

CHANGING DB Name & PREFIX OF TABLE

By Default, WordPress will be Installed with a Prefix of 'wp_' which is Not so secure, I Recommend you to Change the Database name and Table Prefix to Something Similar as shown below.



The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Options' section of a WordPress installation. It features two input fields: 'Database Name' and 'Table Prefix'. The 'Database Name' field contains 'tlive' and 'wp59', with a red arrow pointing to 'wp59'. The 'Table Prefix' field contains 'wpq1_', with a red arrow pointing to it. Below the 'Database Name' field, there is a small text label: 'Type the name of the database to be created for the installation'.

After changing the Database name and Table Prefix, Click on Install Button, Your WordPress will be Installed on the Server.

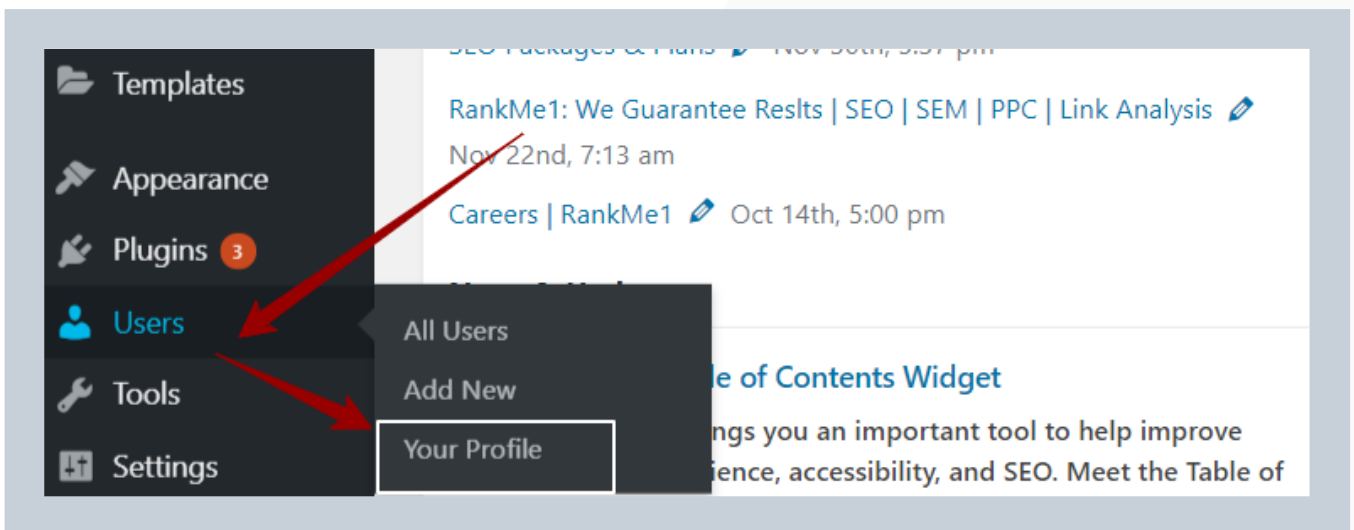
WHY : Most of the WordPress Sites are Installed with Default 'wp_' Prefix, by changing the Table Prefix, It is now much harder for the Hackers to Hack your WordPress.

SECURING WORDPRESS

After the Installation is done, Login to your WordPress and follow the below steps :

1. Go to WordPress Dashboard
2. Users > Your Profile
3. Add your First and Last Names
4. Change Your Display Name

By doing this, you've Hided your Username , which Usually appears above / below your Posts.



Once you've made the changes, click on **Update Profile** Button.

DO YOU KNOW ?

Websites with HTTPS Ranks better on Google, It is now an official Google Ranking factor. When you use an SSL on your Website, the data transfer between browser and Server is Encrypted. Including the Usernames and Passwords.

2. INSTALLING AN SSL CERTIFICATE

If your Website has an SSL Certificate, a **Green lock** will appear beside the Address bar. This is Crucial if you have an E-Commerce website, because, Now Chrome shows '**Not Secure**'. If your website is Not on HTTPS. Customer's don't feel safe because of the 'Not Secure' Warning by Chrome.

Now a days, Almost all Quality web hosts provide Free Let's Encrypt SSL with in CPanel. This comes with Auto SSL Renewal. So you can focus on your core Business, your web host will take care of your SSL. Once the SSL is Installed, Go to Settings in Wordpress and Change the URL Protocol of your Wordpress from HTTP to HTTPS.

3. HIDING SERVER IP ADDRESS & BLOCKING DDOS ATTACKS

THE POWER OF CLOUDFLARE

People use Cloudflare to Improve the security and performance of their web sites. Cloudflare even protects your websites from DDOS attacks. You can even set a few Firewall rules to block Bad bots / Specific IPs, Countries Etc.,

FOR FREE

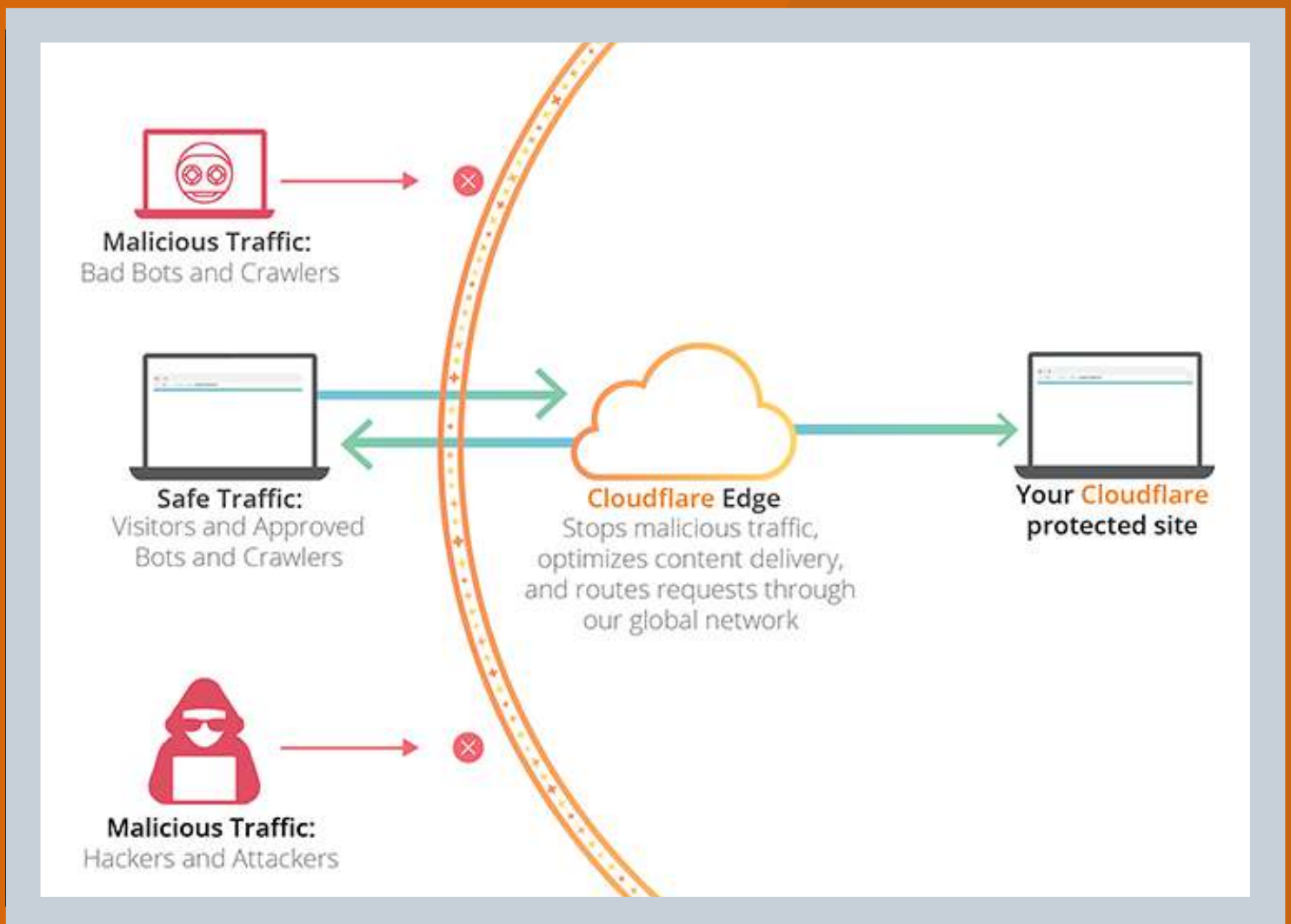
Yes, You Read it Right, Cloudflare has a Free plan which is more than enough for most of the people.

DO YOU KNOW ?

Cloudflare also offers Free SSL for websites, If your web hosting Provider is unable to provide you an SSL, Don't worry, Cloudflare provides it for Free.

Cloudflare Masks your Original server IP Address, So any bad bots, DDOS Attacks will be automatically Blocked by Cloudflare's Intelligent Firewall.

I Strongly Recommend Cloudflare. If you need Security + Speed for Free., Cloudflare is a Must.



Make use of Cloudflare & Secure your Website from Modern Attacks .

3. INSTALLING WEB APPLICATION FIREWALL

A web application firewall filters and Monitors the Traffic. It protects web sites from attacks such as cross-site forgery, cross-site-scripting (XSS), file inclusion, and SQL injection

WEBARX SECURITY

WebArx is a web application firewall which protects your website from Hackers. If you are Reading this, you probably have a Wordpress site. WebArx has a wordpress plugin, which makes the Integration process simple and easy.

WebArx is a Paid Service, If you are on a Budget and need a Free WAF, I Recommend **iThemes Security** Wordpress Plugin, which you can find on the WordPress Plugin repository. People use Plugins like WordFence, but i think it is Too Heavy if you are on Shared Hosting Plan.

4. SETTING UP AUTOMATIC BACKUPS

Backups are like Insurance for a Website, Suppose you don't have a backup and your site got Infected with Malware. Then, It's gone FOREVER ! All your years of hard work will be wasted. If you are with a Quality web Host, They will provide backups for a Day or a Week or a Month as complementary, Depending on the Hosting plan.

UpDraft Plus WordPress Plugin

Updraft Plus is a Free plugin which is available on Wordpress repository. This plugin will backup your entire wordpress to your Dropbox / Google Drive / Amazon Bucket for Free on Daily Basis. You can Select the Number of Backups you want, For example you can have 30 Days backups of Database and 20 Days backups of Files. With a Single click of a Button, The Plugin can Restore the selected backup.

This Plugin is definitely a Life Saver.

THE BOTTOM LINE

WordPress is a Pretty Safe Platform, But it is True that No Software is 100% Secure. When there is any security vulnerability in Platform, WordPress Team will send Bug Fixes in the form of Updates.

As we know WordPress is an Open Source Project, Every one, Including the Hackers has the Access to the Code. Hackers always try to Find the Loop holes in the Code.

Web application firewall providers like WebArx, Malcare, iThemes Security constantly Scans for vulnerabilities in WordPress Themes and Plugins. When they find any vulnerability, They will Report it to the Plugin / Theme developers Privately.

In Simple Words : Backup your WordPress Regularly, Keep your WordPress, Themes, Plugins Up to Date.

THANKS FOR READING

ANY QUESTIONS ?

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