

Resources for Building Your Author Website

Domain Registrars

There are many, but here are two I can recommend:

- Name <https://www.name.com/>
- Namecheap <https://www.namecheap.com/>

Before choosing a domain registrar, compare prices for the initial year, but also for renewals and transfers. You may rather register your domain at your web host if you want everything in one place. (Some offer first-year free domains when you sign up.)

Web Hosts

Do not choose on price alone. Compare features, too.

- Bluehost <https://www.bluehost.com/>
- SiteGround <https://www.siteground.com/>

Learn More about WordPress

On the internet...

- WordPress Codex
https://codex.wordpress.org/Getting_Started_with_WordPress
- WordPress Codex <https://codex.wordpress.org/>
- WP Beginner <https://www.wpbeginner.com/>
- Bluehost video series <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQ-eL7zH6rQ>
- YouTube has hundreds of how-to videos

In person...

- WordCamp Orlando <https://2019.orlando.wordcamp.org/>
- WordCamp Jacksonville <https://2019.jacksonville.wordcamp.org/>
- Look for WordPress groups on <https://www.meetup.com/>

Free Images

These sources provide images for download that are in the public domain or released free of copyrights under Creative Commons. That means you may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications and without attribution.

Caution! Some images on these sites will have some restrictions on how they are used. Carefully read and comply with the terms of the site (can often be found in the footer) and the license for individual images. And please consider using attributions even when they are not required.

- Gratisography <https://gratisography.com/>
- Old Book Illustrations. <https://www.oldbookillustrations.com/>
- Pexels <https://www.pexels.com/>
- Picography <https://picography.co/>
- Pixabay <https://pixabay.com/>
- Magdeleine <https://magdeleine.co/license/cc/>
- Unsplash <https://unsplash.com/>
- Visual Hunt <https://visualhunt.com/>
- Museums & Libraries <http://www.openculture.com/2016/05/1-8-million-free-works-of-art-from-world-class-museums-a-meta-list.html>

Tools for Creating & Editing Images

- Book Brush <https://bookbrush.com/> (Ads & social media images for authors)
- Canva <https://www.canva.com/> (Drag & drop design program)
- Gimp <https://www.gimp.org/> (Like Photoshop, but free)

Google Fonts

Many website themes now make it easy to choose your own fonts using Google Fonts. If your theme does not offer this option, and you are comfortable with a little code, you

can also use them, and instructions for how to do this about the internet. Use your Google.

These resources will help you select attractive and readable fonts and font combinations and use them on your site.

- Google Fonts Search fonts.google.com/
- Google Fonts Guide developers.google.com/fonts/docs/getting_started
- Font Pair fontpair.co/
- Inkbot Design inkbotdesign.com/google-font-combinations-mixing-typefaces/

Recommended WordPress Plugins

AntiSpam Bee (Spam control on comments & contact forms)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/antispam-bee/>

Contact Forms 7 – (Contact Forms)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/antispam-bee/>

JetPack (a suite of various plugins)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/search/jetpack/>

MailChimp for WordPress (Opt-in Forms for MailChimp Newsletters)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/mailchimp-for-wp/>

MonsterInsights (Google Analytics Dashboard)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/google-analytics-for-wordpress/>

Pixabay (Image Search)

<https://wordpress.org/plugins/pixabay-images/>

Really Simple SSL (Switches your site to https once your SSL certificate is installed)
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/really-simple-ssl/>

WordFence (Site Security)
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/wordfence/>

Yoast SEO (Search Engine Optimization)
<https://wordpress.org/plugins/wordpress-seo/>

###