

## 6 preferred “framework” plugins for Wordpress

Today we bring the first article about Wordpress on [Office-Tips](#) and the chosen topic is plugins. This is just a short list of today’s favourites and must have plugins.



Later, we plan to write more about Wordpress, installation and standard settings we use. Nice to know features in Wordpress and security including make a backup of your site. How to articles about our fixes to problems we meet with Wordpress. Use of affiliate and other sources of income, dependent of traffic obviously (no point writing about that if [pageviews](#) are low).



But this is the first glance into the [world of plugins](#), what kind of plugins exists and how to use. As you probably know there are 10 of thousands (maybe 100ds of thousands) of plugins. So much nice stuff but installation and use should be done with precautions. There are risks hidden in the world of plugins, slower sites, some plugins are seldom or never updated. These plugins can be a security problem and are best avoided even stated to contain some great features.

The list we bring you today is what we like to call our preferred “framework” plugins, they control site contents and behaviour. Helps us follow up sites and collects information about the sites. These plugins are used to control overall settings not used for blog post writing, a story about that will come later. The list holds security plugins, help with SEO (Search Engine Optimization), site analytics and more. So, let’s jump too it.



The “framework” list contains the following plugins:

- **Security plugin** – After a long and problematic case with restoring [Office-Tips](#) after some bad guys had a visit the Security Plugin is always installed first.



The used plugin for most of our sites

today is [Wordfence Security by Wordfence](#). This is a free and pay version, free works good for most sites. The plugin is installed widely, so they gather lots of intel about unwanted behaviour on the web and uses this information to build a stronger defence product.

\* Highly recommended to install a Security Plugin.

- **Site analytics** – To know your audience is key knowledge when running internet sites. The way of following up this is with an analytics plugin. Knowledge is value to say it like that. The statistics normally found in



your control panel at the site host, like in CPanel does not give a truthful picture of the visitors. There is need of more and better visitor data, our 1<sup>st</sup> choice now is [Google Analytics](#) combined with a plugin from Monster Insights. Register your site with [Google Analytics](#), then install the plugin [Google Analytics for WordPress by MonsterInsights](#) and during setup connect it to your site registration at Google Analytics.

\* Highly recommended to install an analytics plugin.

- **Search Engine Optimization** – In an article on the web they stated that SEO is everything, to have an active page with visitors there is no way around it. To get visitors and be visible on the Internet it is extremely important to do search engine optimization for the site. This helps you get the best possible setup for the search engines to find you and put you're post up there among the stars. To be able to do this a SEO plugin is needed, a plugin that gives the site a solid toolset for SEO. Our preferred plugin for controlling and following up SEO is [Yoast SEO for everyone by Team Yoast](#).



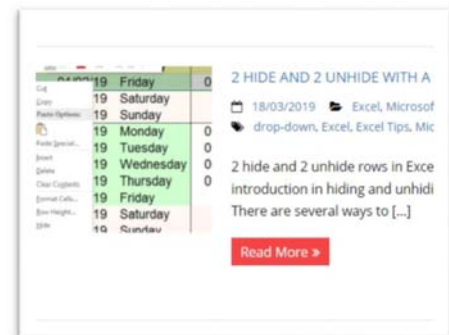
- **Comments Control** – On most of our sites we do not want visitors to comment on the articles. This kind of feedback is normally routed to the Facebook page, on Facebook we post a short intro with a link to the article. Facebook is the place where we want all type of interaction with the customers/visitors, like feedback, questions, requests for articles and so on. Only exception is the contact form on some sites, but they are there for visitors to contact us by sending a mail.



We have found the comments section under each article to have low value compared to what we gain. Lots of unwanted comments and it is time consuming following it up and accepting which comments should be visible. Therefore comments are disabled all over on the sites we operate. This is controlled by the plugin [Disable Comments by Samir Shah](#).

- **Blog list appearance** – On most of our sites there are pages that hold a list of the latest blog posts. These lists are often filtered on one category, the reason for this is to make them relevant for the page and under the menu topic where they are shown.

In addition, we often want to customize these lists to our preferred layout. Normally with a featured image to the left and then a combination of title, author, date posted, categories, tags, short introduction to the article to the right of the picture.



The plugin we use for this is [Category Posts Widget by TipTopPress](#), free version. It is kind of not so user friendly since you have to add the widget short code to the page manually and then complete the settings for the list by choosing the page under Themes Customize in WordPress main menu. But since it is normally used on pages and therefore fine-tuned only once after installed it is worth the effort.

- **Social media Interactions** – Your site can contain the best contents in the world, be better looking than anything seen before but without visitors it is worthless. The key methods to be visible and get visitors today is through search engines and social media sites. It is therefore important to have a Social media plugin on your site that gives share and follow buttons. The plugin we use at most of our sites today is [Social Media Share Buttons & Social Sharing Icons by UltimatelySocial](#). This plugin offers share and follow buttons to the most popular social media platforms, easy to setup with lots of features.



That was our preferred list to control the framework of Facebook, follow up security, social media, comments and SEO. Hope you liked it and found some useful tips. The next articles related to Wordpress should include the plugins we use for post design, ease the design to avoid manual HTML coding.