



## 5 WordPress Alternatives for Making a Website, Blog, or Ecommerce Store

WordPress not your cup of tea? There are plenty of WordPress alternatives that offer a simpler (or more flexible) approach depending on your needs.

In this post, we've collected five great alternatives including everything from simple, hosted website builders like Wix to flexible, scalable content management systems like Drupal.

Read on to find the platform that's perfect for you...

Five best WordPress alternatives

### 1. [Wix](#)

[Wix](#) is an intuitive website builder that contains most elements required for website-building. You just need to select and drag them around, choose between a few options and you're almost there. All without knowing a word of code. 125 million+ use Wix, so let's see what the team has gotten right:

#### *Key features*

- Packs in powerful, easy-to-use tools in a drag-and-drop WYSIWYG editor
- The Wix Artificial Design Intelligence helps you build personalized websites
- 500+ design templates covering any and every type of website
- Built-in tools to customize design and layout
- Hassle-free coding for advanced functionality
- Mobile-friendly and SEO-friendly

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## *Pricing*

Wix offers a basic branded plan for free, but serious webmasters will want [a premium plan](#):

- **Combo** – \$8.50 per month
- **Unlimited** – \$12.50 per month
- **VIP** – \$24.50 per month

## *WordPress or Wix?*

- WordPress offers a huge library of themes and plugins, some of which can cause incompatibility. Wix has a smaller number that are perfectly compatible in every way
- Unlike WordPress, with Wix, you're pretty much stuck with the template you choose
- Wix comes with a WYSIWYG editor, so you see the elements being added visually. With WordPress, you'll reach for the preview button to see your page shaping up or use [a page builder plugin](#)
- Like most WordPress alternatives, Wix offers limited payment gateways
- Wix lays stress on being user-friendly, while WordPress lays importance on being flexible and customizable too
- Wix packs in all the regular features needed for a website. But, but for something beyond the ordinary, WordPress offers more functionality

## *Who should use*

Anyone who wants everything taken care of and needs only the regular website features. However, bloggers may want to give this one a miss, as it lacks many blog-specific features. That's why some bloggers end up [migrating Wix to WordPress](#).

## 2. [Drupal](#)

[Drupal](#) is the most popular [content management system \(CMS\)](#) behind WordPress. It's open-source, fast-loading, highly scalable, and includes features to cater to every kind of website. Here's what makes it more suited to larger organizations:

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### *Key features*

- [Modular structure](#) that imparts flexibility to build versatile content. Themes help to vary presentation and add-ons enhance functionality
- Packaged Drupal content or ‘Distributions’ serve as starter-kits. Throw in integration with external services or apps, and there’s no end to Drupal’s scalability
- Drupal is reliable and highly secure
- Rich media support for images, audio and video files
- API driven, multi-channel content delivery in both decoupled and hybrid decoupled modes
- Customizable workflows, mobile-first approach

### *Pricing*

Drupal is free. However, you’ll have to find your own web host and pay for technical expertise, if you’ve got no coding skills.

### *WordPress or Drupal?*

- You’ll likely need technical help to customize or update Drupal, though a helpful host can make it easy for beginners. WordPress is way more intuitive and easy to customize
- Drupal is highly secure. By itself, the WordPress core is very secure, but many themes and plugins can cause vulnerabilities
- WordPress is SEO-friendly out of the box, and Drupal is designed with best SEO practices in mind
- Drupal is faster, though keeping it running smoothly is not really for D-I-Y types. [WordPress also can be optimized](#) to load in milliseconds

### *Who should use*

Of all the WordPress alternatives, Drupal is perhaps best suited for building content-heavy websites with advanced features. The multi-level taxonomy and highly secure environment, coupled with flexibility and scalability make it a good fit for larger organizations with a hierarchical structure. Newbies brave enough to try it out can find the starter-kits helpful.

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### 3. [Squarespace](#)

[Squarespace](#) offers an all-in-one platform for almost every type of website. It's a [fully-managed website builder](#) with something for everyone, and particularly suited to creative folks. Simply choose a template, edit it to suit your requirements and a stunning website is ready to showcase your work.

#### *Key features*

- A sufficient number of well-designed, all-in-one templates to make your website look professional
- Customize by dragging and dropping entire sections
- Wide range of features to help build any website
- Dozens of integrations to apps/services
- Free, unlimited hosting with no limits on website storage space or bandwidth
- Mobile optimized right from the start, AMP-compatible pages

#### *Pricing*

Squarespace offers a brief free trial, after which you'll need a premium plan:

- **Personal** – \$12 per month
- **Business** – \$18 per month
- **Basic Commerce** – \$26 per month
- **Advanced Commerce** – \$40 per month

#### *WordPress or Squarespace?*

- WordPress has many themes with ready-to-use templates, but Squarespace templates really shine when it comes to design
- Unlike WordPress, customization with Squarespace is restricted to the features available in the customizer
- Squarespace includes a WYSIWYG section-based editor. With WordPress, you see the changes only in preview mode unless you use a page builder



- Besides many built-in tools required for a website, Squarespace allows some integrations with online services. The WordPress API is powerful to allow developers to greatly extend most functions
- Though Squarespace comes with unlimited storage and bandwidth for all plans, you can build [cheaper websites with WordPress](#)
- Squarespace allows [only limited content export in an XML file](#) (excludes product pages, audio, and video content). That's not the case with WordPress, where you can export everything

#### *Who should use*

For any website that needs to display high-quality images in attractive settings, Squarespace is a great option. It has built-in blogging tools, so it's ideal for a creative's website that has an accompanying blog. The stunning display with great eCommerce features makes it a good storefront for small websites. But you'll feel restricted as your business grows, as design and external integrations are limited.

#### 4. [Ghost](#)

For anything and everything to do with blogs, magazines, publishing, or any kind of writing, [Ghost](#) is a wonderful platform. You can self-host your own Ghost- powered website or opt for the Ghost servers. Here's what can make it a writer's favorite:

#### *Key features*

- Fully managed secure service that includes a clutch of modern and powerful publishing tools
- The fully extendible editor allows you to pull in dynamic blocks of content such as images, embeds, videos and text
- Dynamic routing and robust tagging functionality allows you to create custom homepages, URL structures, and multi-language content
- Complete SEO optimization, integrated AMP support, detailed structured data, full RSS feeds, subscription capture forms, and Slack integration hook – all help to distribute your content widely over social media and other forums
- A JSON API that allows you to have full control over obtaining and displaying data, and totally customizing user experience



*Pricing:*

Like WordPress, you can also self-host the Ghost software for free.

You can also pay Ghost to host it for you. After a 14-day free trial, here are [the premium plans](#):

- **Basic** – \$29 per month
- **Standard** – \$79 per month
- **Business** – \$199 per month

### [WordPress or Ghost?](#)

- While Ghost is designed specifically for bloggers and publications, WordPress can be used for [any type of website](#)
- The WordPress editor separates the entire page into blocks. With Ghost, the WYSIWYG editor allows you to view the entire page
- WordPress has an extensive range of themes and plugins to cover the needs of a wide variety of websites. Ghost has a smaller number to support blogs
- Ghost uses Node.js, which makes it faster than WordPress
- Installing and starting off is harder with Ghost

*Who should use*

Ghost can be the ideal solution for any blogger looking for an all-in-one, clean blogging solution. The simple content creation process can be a huge draw.

## 5. [Shopify](#)

[Shopify](#) is one of the best WordPress alternatives if you specifically want to create an ecommerce store. Here's what makes Shopify a hit with store-owners:

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### *Key features*

- Completely hosted, provides 24-hour technical support
- [Numerous stylish, interactive contemporary themes](#) and templates to choose from. You can also tailor-make your own theme
- An easy-to-navigate backend facilitates adding products and other variants
- Easy tracking of order and fulfillment-status, notes and comments
- Offers a variety of payment options
- A unique shipping and tax calculator
- A vibrant third-party [app store helps you extend your store](#)

### *Pricing*

You can try Shopify with a 14-day free trial. After that, here are [the full-featured premium plans](#):

- **Basic Shopify** – \$29 per month
- **Shopify** – \$79 per month
- **Advanced Shopify** – \$299 per month

### *WordPress (WooCommerce) or Shopify?*

- Shopify is a tad easier to easy to set-up, manage, operate and update
- Shopify is straight-off an eCommerce platform, WordPress needs extensions such as [WooCommerce](#) to [add an online store](#)
- The number of [features you can add to your WordPress stores](#) using third-party tools and add-ons is much more with WordPress than Shopify
- With free extensions and no transaction fee, basic online [WordPress stores are cheaper](#). Shopify apps and transaction fees can add up to make Shopify stores more expensive

### *Who should use*

Beginners who want a great-looking, fully functional store, without being too hands-on can pick Shopify.

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Summing up these WordPress alternatives

And that wraps up our collection of the five best WordPress alternatives for a variety of uses. To recap, you have:

- [Wix](#) – hosted website builder.
- [Drupal](#) – flexible CMS.
- [Squarespace](#) – hosted website builder.
- [Ghost](#) – for blogging.
- [Shopify](#) – for eCommerce stores.