

Preface

WordPress is an open-source blog engine released under the GNU general public license. It allows users to easily create dynamic blogs with great content and many outstanding features. It is an ideal tool for developing blogs and though it is chiefly used for blogging, it can also be used as a complete CMS with very little effort. Its versatility and ease of use have attracted a large, enthusiastic, and helpful community of users.

If you want to create powerful, fully featured blogs in no time, this book is for you. This book will help you explore WordPress showing you what it offers and how to go about building your blog with the system.

You will be introduced to the main aspects of a blog – users, communities, posts, comments, news feeds – and learn how to manage them using WordPress. You will develop the skills and confidence to manage all types of content, be it text or images, on your blog, and also understand how users interact with the blog. In working through the book you'll be inspired as well as informed, and have the capability and the ideas to make your blog cutting edge and exciting to maximize its impact.

What This Book Covers

Chapter 1 will take you to the world of blogging by introducing different blog engines available on the Internet. This chapter will also introduce you to the types of blog and the core parts of a blog. You will find this chapter very helpful to find out what the major blog engines are and why we choose WordPress among them.

In *Chapter 2*, you will learn how to start using WordPress as a blog engine. You can either register your blog at `wordpress.com` or set up in your own web host. You will learn how to install WordPress using FTP, how to manage permissions in the MySQL database, how to install it from cPanel, and how you can upgrade your old WordPress blog to a newer one. This chapter also shows the basic operations to kick start your blog.