TORQUE®

THE BEST WORDPRESS PLUGINS FOR SITE MAINTENANCE

WHITE PAPER

WordPress is the most popular CMS in the world, powering more than 27 percent of the entire internet. One of its biggest selling points is the robust plugin marketplace. With more than 46k plugins available for free in the WordPress directory alone, users can easily extend the functionality of their sites.

From marketing to maintenance to optimization and editorial, there are literally plugins for adding almost any functionality to your site.

With thousands of plugins to sort through, however, it can be tricky to determine which ones to use. That's why we put together a series of white papers to help you harness the integration capabilities of WordPress and build better digital experiences.

The plugins in this white paper were nominated by the WordPress community. To ensure that we are promoting secure, quality plugins, each plugin is included in the official WordPress repository and meets the following criteria:

- 10,000+ downloads
- 3+ star rating
- Compatible with the most current version of WordPress

In this white paper, we look at 16 of the best maintenance plugins for WordPress.

Auto Terms of Service and Privacy Policy
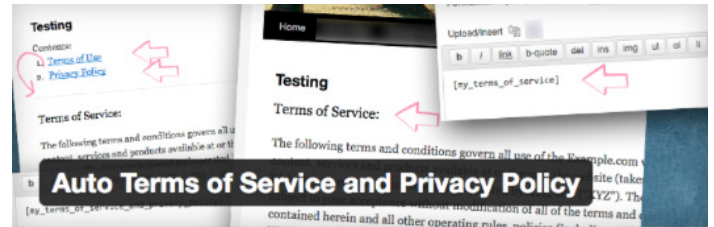
This plugin adds your own site's information to a versions of Automattic's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy -- both available under the Creative Commons Sharealike license. The versions have been updated to include more generic language that can be applicable to almost any site or service, while removing Automattic-specific language.
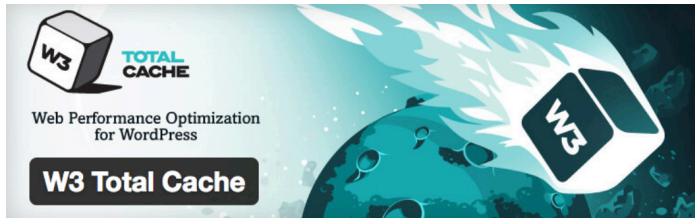
WP Security Audit Log
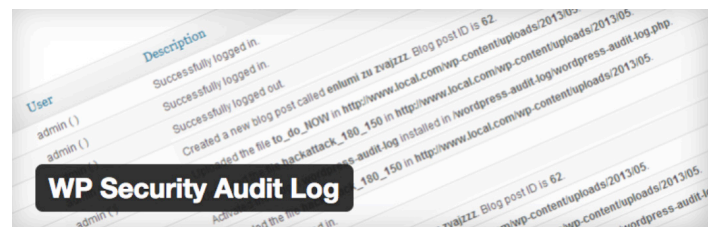
WP Security Audit Log is one of the most comprehensive user monitoring and audit plugins used to ensure user productivity.

This plugin enables you to track everything that happens on your WordPress site and multisite. It can even be used to help you identify security issues and address them before they become a problem.

W3 Total Cache

W3 Total Cache is a WordPress caching plugins that improves the SEO and user experience of your site by increasing site performance and reducing load time.

This plugin is web host agnostic and is trusted by companies like AT&T, Mashable, Smashing Magazine, and more. The benefits include 10-times improvement to site performance, browser caching, optimized progressive render, and more.

If you're a WP Engine customer, this plugin does not cooperate with our environment. That's because we already do the caching for you.

iThemes Security

iThemes Security is robust, yet wrapped in a nice interface which makes it easy for any novice to use.

This plugin addresses many issues that leave WordPress sites vulnerable, as well as hardens the security. For example, it will hide the login and admin pages, remove information hackers use to gain access to your site, scan your site for any vulnerabilities, and make regular backups of your database.

Wordfence

Wordfence is a security plugin that provides comprehensive site security, and leverages the Threat Defense Feed to keep your site safe and secure.

This plugin offers robust security benefits, including web application firewall, real-time blocking from known attackers, scans for the HeartBleed Vulnerability, Multisite security, and more.

Note that this plugin is disallowed on WP Engine's platform. Because it is a caching plugin, we already provide custom built caching for you within our infrastructure.

WP Super Cache
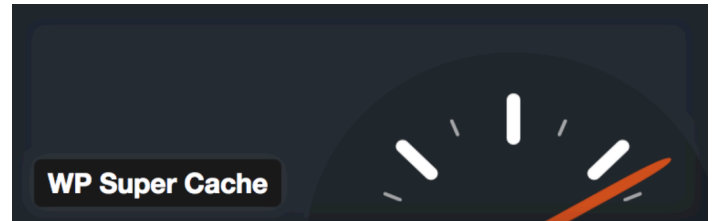
WP Super Cache generates static html files from your WordPress site to help improve site performance.

This plugin serves static files to the majority of your site visitors (99%). The cached files are served in three ways: Mod_Rewrite, PHP, and Legacy caching.

Again, WP Engine customers need not install this plugin as it is disallowed due to the fact that we already provide caching for our customers.
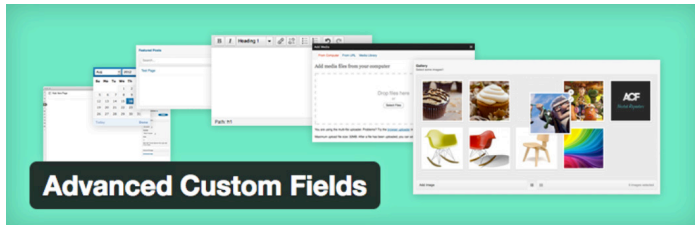
Comet Cache

Comet Cache is an easy-to-use, advanced WordPress caching plugin which enables you to dramatically improve the speed of your site.

This plugin offers robust features including user-agent exclusion, HTTP referrer exclusion patterns, WP-CLI compatibility, caching for 404 requests, and more.
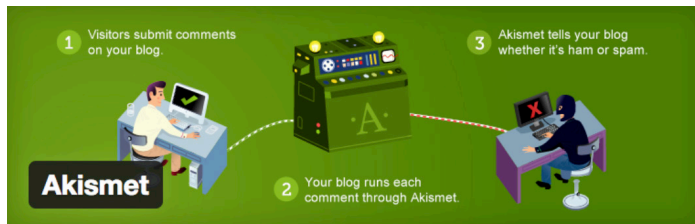
Advanced Custom Fields

Advanced Custom Fields enables easy customization to your WordPress site, providing powerful, professional, and intuitive fields.

This developer favorite allows you to visually create fields, assign your fields to multiple edit pages, and easily load data through a simple and friendly API.
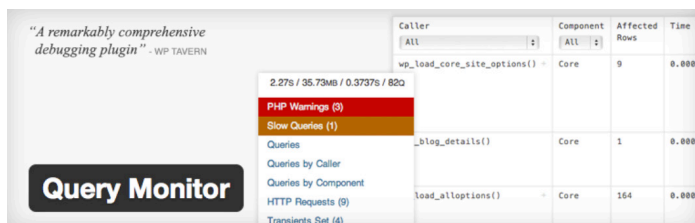
Akismet

Akismet is a spam-prevention plugin, which monitors the comments on your blog and tells your site if it's spam.

This plugin automatically checks all comments and filters out spam. It also includes a history status of each comment so you can easily review which comments were flagged by Akismet.

Query Monitor

Query Monitor is one of the most advanced debugging plugins, including debugging of AJAX calls, REST API requests, redirects, and the ability to narrow down its output by plugin or theme.

This plugin shows all database queries performed on the current request, filters queries by calling function, shows affected rows and time for all queries, and more.
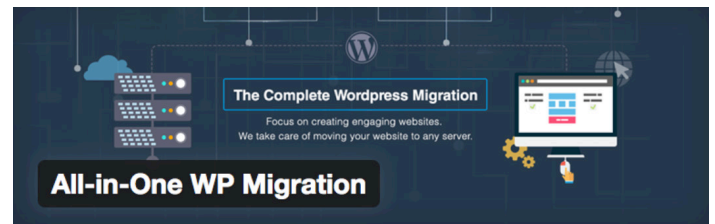
WP-PageNavi
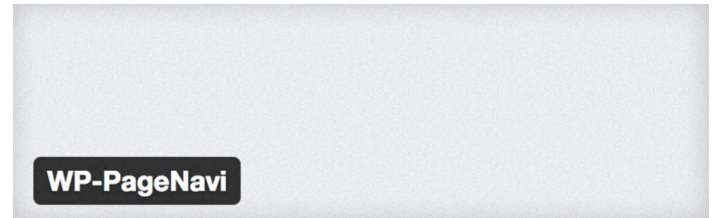
WP-PageNavi is a simple, yet powerful plugin, adding an advanced paging navigation interface to your WordPress site.

This powerful plugin provides totally automated pagination to your site and is easy to use.

All-in-One WP Migration

All-in-One WP Migration allows you to easily export your database, media files, plugins, and themes.

This plugin offers a truly mobile experience on WordPress version 3.3 and up, and works on all hosting providers. It does not depend on any extensions and has been tested on the major linux distributions, Mac OS X, and Microsoft Windows.

WP Broken Link Status Checker
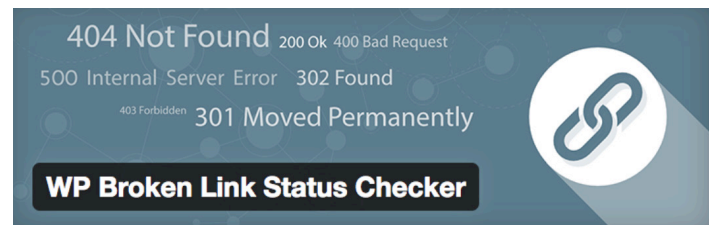
WP Broken Link Status Checker checks links to all of your content and images, searching for broken links, link redirections, nofollow links, and more.

This plugin continuously scans your site for broken links that can hurt its ranking and performance.

Google Authenticator

Google Authenticator

Google Authenticator for your WordPress blog.   Download Version 0.48

Description   Installation   FAQ   Screenshots   Other Notes   Changelog   Stats   Support   Reviews   Developers

Even the strongest passwords out there are only so strong. There are still methods hackers can use to find your password and gain access to your site.

The Google Authenticator plugin keeps your site safe by providing two-factor authentication using the Google Authenticator app for Android/iPhone/Blackberry.

All in One WP Security & Firewall
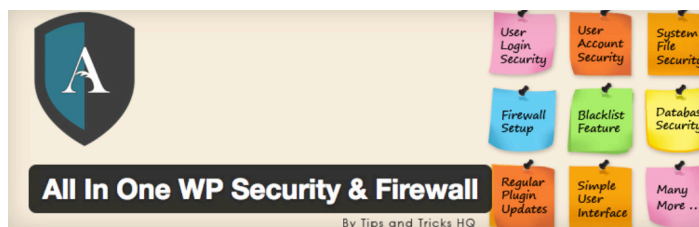
All in One WP Security & Firewall provides comprehensive security and firewalls to your WordPress site, taking your sites security to an entirely new level.

One of the most important features of All in One WP Security & Firewall is the meter on your dashboard that gives your site a score of how secure it is. By adding additional security options, you can increase your score.

BackWPup

Keeping your site backed up is one of the laws of WordPress maintenance. BackWPup makes this easier than ever, enabling you to schedule automatic backups of your WordPress installation.

This plugin can be used to save your complete installation and push it to an external backup service like Dropbox, S3, FTP, and more.

Note to WP Engine customers that this plugin is disallowed on our platform because we already have automatic backups built into our technology.

Let the madness begin!

Voting for *Torque's 2017 Plugin Madness* is now open. Modeled after the NCAA college basketball tournament March Madness, we use a bracket-based voting system to pit plugins against one another each week.

This year we asked you to nominate your favorite plugins, and today we're happy to kick things off with an impressive lineup of plugins. Head on over to pluginmadness.com to vote for your favorite plugins now.

**Vote for your favorite plugins here**

The voting schedule is as follows:

March 7: The Enchanting 64 (Round 1)
March 14: The Thrilling 32 (Round 2)
March 21: The Supreme 16 (Round 3)
March 28: The Exceptional 8 (Round 4)
April 4: The Phenomenal 4 (Semi-finals)
April 11: Championship
April 18: Winner Announced!

When you vote, remember to tell the world using #pluginmadness for a chance to win an awesome prize! And don't forget to check Torque weekly for competition updates!

TORQUE ®

About Torque

Torque is a news site featuring all things WordPress. We are dedicated to informing new and advanced WordPress professionals, users, and enthusiasts about the industry. Torque focuses primarily on WordPress News, Business, and Development, but also covers topics relating to open source and breakthrough technology. Torque made its debut in July 2013, at WordCamp San Francisco, and has since produced valuable content that reflects the evolution of WordPress, both as a platform and a community. Torque is a WP Engine publication, though maintains complete editorial independence. *torquemag.io*
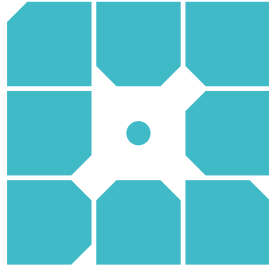
About WP Engine

WP Engine powers amazing digital experiences for websites and applications built on WordPress. The company's premium managed hosting platform provides the performance, reliability and security required by the biggest brands in the world, while remaining affordable and intuitive enough for smaller businesses and individuals. Companies of all sizes rely on WP Engine's award-winning customer service team to quickly solve technical problems and create a world-class customer experience. Founded in 2010, WP Engine is headquartered in Austin, Texas and has offices in Limerick, Ireland, San Francisco, California, San Antonio, Texas, and London, England.

www.wpengine.com

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