Getting Started with WordPress

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PART 1

What is WordPress

What is WordPress

- Released in 2003 as a blogging application
- Created by Matt Mullenweg and Mike Little
- Fork of another application: b2/cafelog.

What is WordPress

- Key decision to release as open source under GPL license
- Over time, WordPress became a true content management system

What is a Content Management System (CMS)

- CMS were created to eliminate the need for any kind of programming by the users of a web publishing system.

- CMS allow different users access to different types of content and multiple people can edit at the same time

PART 2

WordPress.org vs WordPress.com

WordPress

WordPress.org

Open-source

Runs on your own servers

Complete control over the code and experience

Custom Themes and Plugins

“With great power comes great responsibility”

WordPress.com

Self-service + easy setup

SaaS: we run the infrastructure

Beginner friendly: highly scalable and secure

Limited customization at base

Premium upgrades

BUSINESS: Custom Themes and Plugins

PART 3

What do I need to get started?

Domain

To host your own WordPress site, you will need a domain name. These are the unique names that end in .com, .org, .net, or any of the other available extensions. These extensions are actually called top level domains (TLD).

Domains are registered and managed through companies called domain registrars. (But can also come from web hosting companies). Some prefer to keep domain registration and hosting separate.

Web Hosting

Web hosting companies provide space on their computers for the files and databases that make up most websites, including your WordPress site. These computers are usually located in large data centers with multiple power sources and large networks connecting them to the Internet

So many options: Shared, VPS, Managed, etc...

If you go with WordPress.com, they will be your host

PART 4

WordPress Building Blocks

WordPress Core

The files that make up the WordPress Application

Run on your host's server (but, can run locally)

Download from WordPress.org & Install on server

But, most hosts install for you (1-click install)

Written in PHP

DO NOT edit WordPress Core Files

IMPORTANT: DO update WordPress Software

WordPress Database

Stores all of your data for your site in MySQL Database (text, images, settings)

Automatically created using one-click install

If manually uploading software, create database and wp-config.php file

ONLY core file you should edit is wp-config.php

Themes

Controls the way your WordPress Site looks

Fonts, colors, layout elements

Themes should control design, NOT functionality

Can change themes without redoing content

Thousands and Thousands of free + paid themes or code your own

Want to customize an existing theme? Create a child theme!

BEWARE of where your theme comes from!

Plugins

Software modules that add functionality to your site

Examples: image galleries, contact forms, eCommerce, anti-spam, video players, etc., etc., etc!

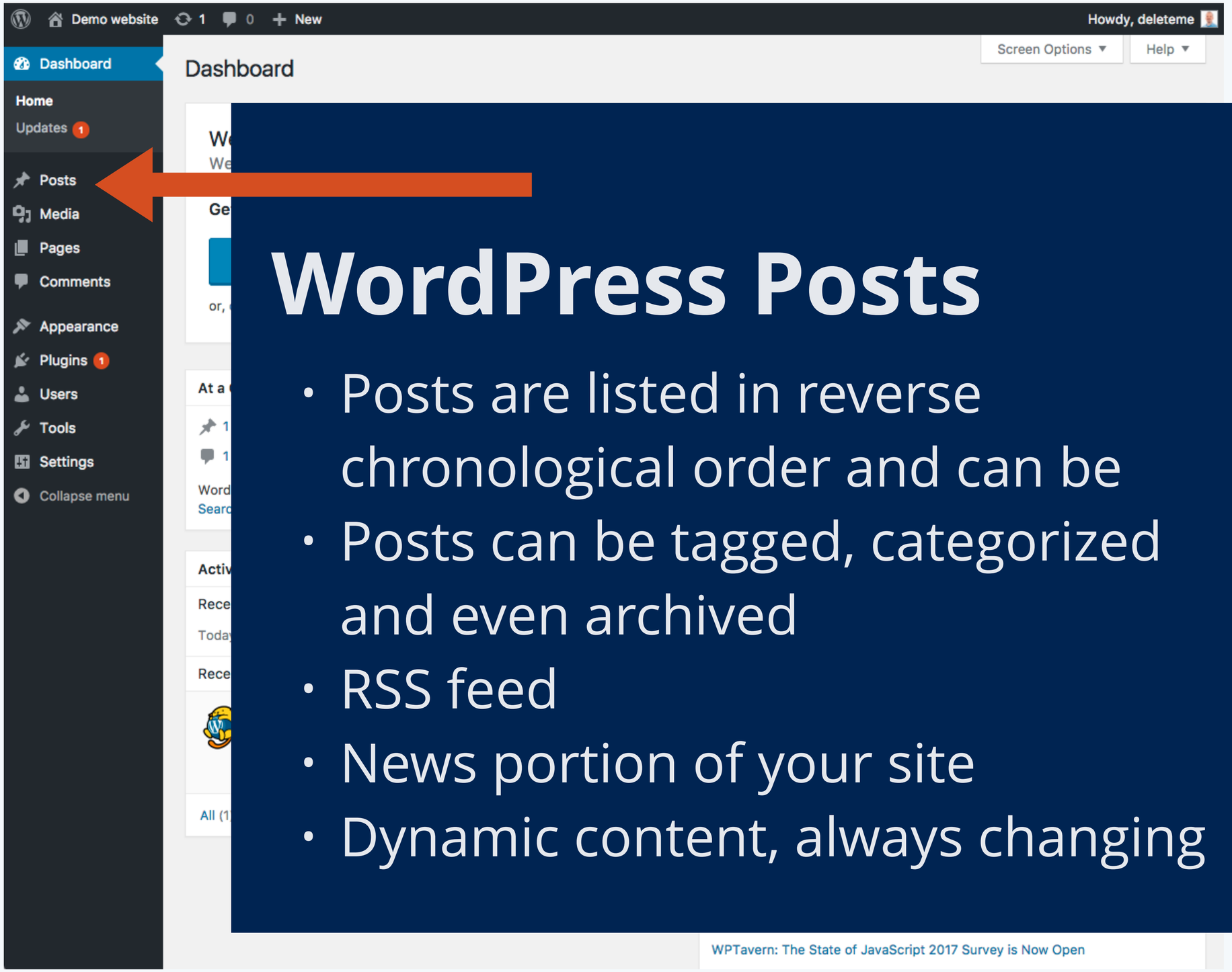
Thousands and Thousands of free and paid plugins

Use trustworthy sources

How many is too many?

PART 5

Things to Remember


Demo website
1
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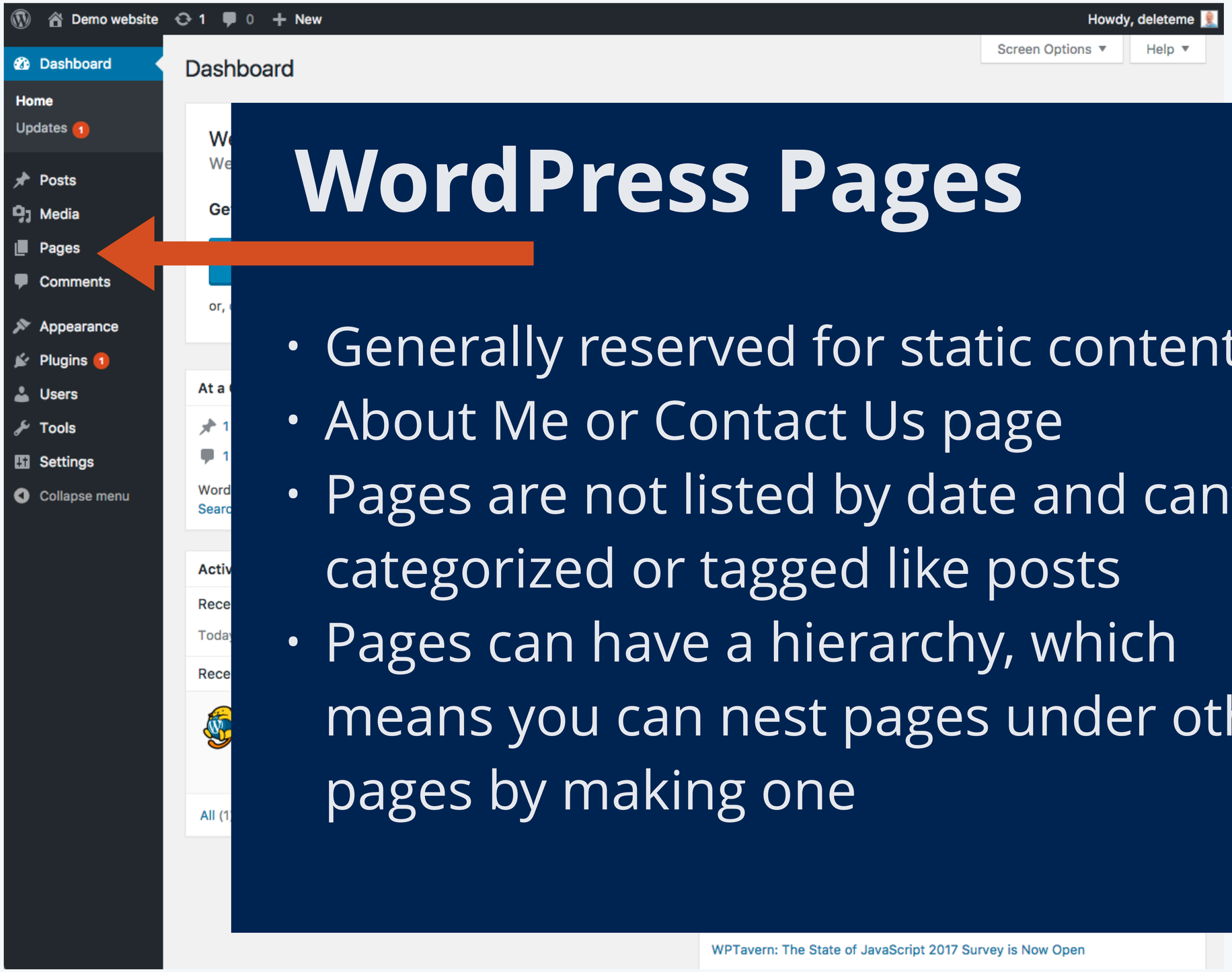
New
Howdy, deleteme
Dashboard
Home
Updates 1
Posts
Media
Pages
Comments
Appearance
Plugins 1
Users
Tools
Settings
Collapse menu
Dashboard
Screen Options
Help
WordPress Posts
Posts are listed in reverse chronological order and can be
Posts can be tagged, categorized and even archived
RSS feed
News portion of your site
Dynamic content, always changing
WPTavern: The State of JavaScript 2017 Survey is Now Open


Demo website
1
0
New
Howdy, deleteme
Dashboard
Home
Updates 1
Posts
Media
Pages
Comments
Appearance
Plugins 1
Users
Tools
Settings
Collapse menu
Dashboard
Screen Options
Help
WordPress Pages
Generally reserved for static content
About Me or Contact Us page
Pages are not listed by date and can't be categorized or tagged like posts
Pages can have a hierarchy, which means you can nest pages under other pages by making one
WPTavern: The State of JavaScript 2017 Survey is Now Open

BONUS CHAPTER!

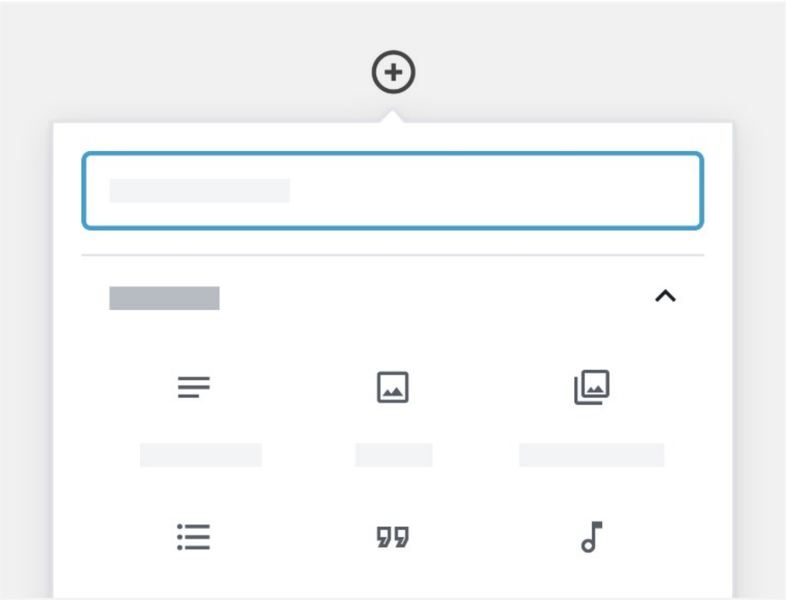
Gutenberg!?

What is Gutenberg?

A new, modern publishing experience is coming soon.

Dismiss

Take your words, media, and layout in new directions with Gutenberg, the WordPress editor we're currently building.



Test the new editor today.

You can take Gutenberg for a spin (and share your feedback, if you'd like) before we officially release it, by installing it as a plugin. You can help by testing, filing bugs, or contributing on the GitHub repository.

Install Gutenberg

Learn more about Gutenberg

Not quite ready?

The new editor will be enabled by default in the next major release of WordPress. If you're not sure how compatible your current themes and plugins are, we've got you covered. Install the Classic Editor plugin to keep using the current editor until you're ready to make the switch.

Install the Classic Editor

What is Gutenberg?

Gutenberg is the new editor interface coming in WordPress 5.0 (soon-ish?)

Will replace the current page/post editor

Block based (sort of like a page builder)

Will continue to evolve past WordPress 5.0 https://testgutenberg.com

Getting Ready

Test Test and MORE TEST

Especially if you have a page builder them that has not been updated

Test on a staging server - https://wordpress.org/plugins/wp-staging/

QUESTIONS?