



Co-funded by
the European Union

Web Design in WordPress

Plugins in WordPress

Filip Marković

Faculty of Technical Sciences - University of Mitrovica (UPKM)



UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA
Faculty of Electrical Engineering



University of Pristina
Kosovska Mitrovica



The Role of a Theme in WordPress

- **Plugins (Add-ons) represent the core of WordPress flexibility.**
- They are small software components that extend the functionality of the core system.
- By using plugins, WordPress transforms from a simple CMS into a complex tool for e-commerce, education, design, or analytics.
- Each plugin is a part of the modular architecture — the system grows by adding functional blocks without altering the core.



Theoretical Framework for Theme Selection

- Plugins are located in the **/wp-content/plugins/** directory.
- Each plugin contains a main PHP file that connects to the **WordPress API**, enabling integration with existing database structures and the interface.
- Installation does not modify the system core, which keeps WordPress stable and secure.
- This mechanism reflects the principle of **decentralised modularity** — a key concept in modern software design.



Downloading and Installing the Theme

- Through **Dashboard → Plugins → Add New**, users can access a library of over **60,000 plugins**.
- Search can be performed by **name, function, or author**.
- Installation is done by clicking **Install Now**, and activation by selecting **Activate**.
- WordPress automatically downloads and installs the plugin into the appropriate directory.
- In a pedagogical context, this serves as an example of **user-friendly design** — complex actions are presented through a simple and intuitive interface.



WordPress Dashboard: Add Plugins section.

Left sidebar menu: Dashboard, Posts, Media, Pages, Kubio, Comments, Appearance, **Plugins**, Installed Plugins, Add Plugin, Plugin File Editor, Users, Tools, Settings, Collapse Menu.

Top navigation: Moj prvi sajt, 0, + New, Howdy, filip, Help.


Add Plugins

Upload Plugin

Featured Popular Recommended Favorites

Search Plugins Keyword ▾

Plugins extend and expand the functionality of WordPress. You may install plugins in the [WordPress Plugin Directory](#) right from here, or upload a plugin in .zip format by clicking the button at the top of this page.



Akismet Anti-spam: Spam Protection

The best anti-spam protection to block spam comments and spam in a contact form. The most trusted antispam solution for WordPress and WooCommerce.


By Automattic

★★★★★ (1,153) 6+ Million Active Installations

Last Updated: 3 months ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

Activate More Details



Jetpack – WP Security, Backup, Speed, & Growth

Improve your WP security with powerful one-click tools like backup, WAF, and malware scan. Includes free tools like stats, CDN and social sharing.


By Automattic

★★★★★ (2,345) 4+ Million Active Installations

Last Updated: 1 week ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

Install Now More Details



Health Check & Troubleshooting

Health Check identifies common problems, and helps you troubleshoot plugin and theme conflicts.


By WordPress.org

★★★★★ (179) 300,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 1 year ago

Untested with your version of WordPress

Install Now More Details



Gutenberg

The Gutenberg plugin adds editing, customization, and site building to WordPress. Use it to test beta features before their official release.


By Matias Ventura

★★★☆☆ (3,844) 300,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 days ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

Install Now More Details



Performance Lab

Performance plugin from the WordPress Performance Team, which is a collection of standalone performance features.


By WordPress Performance Team

★★★★★ (55) 200,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 months ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

Install Now More Details



bbPress

bbPress is forum software for WordPress.

By John James Jacoby

★★★★★ (347) 100,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 4 months ago

✓ Compatible with your version of WordPress

Install Now More Details

Appearance of the Add Plugins Section

Manual Installation of Plugins

- Alternatively, a plugin can be installed manually:
- Download the ZIP file from **wordpress.org/plugins**.
- In the Dashboard, click **Upload Plugin**.
- Select the file and click **Install Now**.
- Then click **Activate**.
- Manual installation is useful when using a plugin from a local drive, educational repositories, or when uploading a custom-built plugin.



The screenshot displays the WordPress dashboard's 'Add Plugins' section. On the left is a dark sidebar with navigation links: Dashboard, Posts, Media, Pages, Kubio, Comments, Appearance, **Plugins**, Installed Plugins, Add Plugin, Plugin File Editor, Users, Tools, Settings, and Collapse Menu. The main content area is titled 'Add Plugins' and includes an 'Upload Plugin' button. Below this, a message states: 'If you have a plugin in a .zip format, you may install or update it by uploading it here.' A file upload box contains a 'Choose File' button (selected), the filename 'kubio dobar plugin.zip', and an 'Install Now' button. Below the upload section are tabs for 'Featured', 'Popular', 'Recommended', and 'Favorites'. A search bar labeled 'Search Plugins' and a 'Keyword' dropdown are on the right. A descriptive paragraph explains that plugins extend WordPress functionality and can be installed from the 'WordPress Plugin Directory' or uploaded. Below this, three featured plugins are shown in cards:

- Akismet Anti-spam: Spam Protection** (By Automattic): 'The best anti-spam protection to block spam comments and spam in a contact form. The most trusted antispam solution for WordPress and WooCommerce.' It has 4.5 stars (1,153 reviews), 6+ million active installations, and was last updated 3 months ago. It is compatible with the current version of WordPress. Buttons for 'Activate' and 'More Details' are present.
- Jetpack – WP Security, Backup, Speed, & Growth** (By Automattic): 'Improve your WP security with powerful one-click tools like backup, WAF, and malware scan. Includes free tools like stats, CDN and social sharing.' It has 4.5 stars (2,345 reviews), 4+ million active installations, and was last updated 1 week ago. It is compatible with the current version of WordPress. Buttons for 'Install Now' and 'More Details' are present.
- Health Check & Troubleshooting** (By WordPress.org): 'Health Check identifies common problems, and helps you troubleshoot plugin and theme conflicts.' It has 4.5 stars (179 reviews), 300,000+ active installations, and was last updated 1 year ago. It has not been tested with the current version of WordPress. Buttons for 'Install Now' and 'More Details' are present.

At the bottom, three more plugins are partially visible: Gutenberg, Performance Lab, and bbPress, each with an 'Install Now' button.

Appearance of the Manual Plugin Upload Section

Active and Inactive Plugins

- Through **Plugins** → **Installed Plugins**, the list of all plugins can be viewed.
- Active plugins are marked with a blue bar, while inactive ones can be reactivated or permanently deleted.
- WordPress allows selective activation — only the necessary plugins should be enabled to optimise performance.
- Fewer active components result in a more stable system.



Moj prvi sajt

0

New

Dashboard

Posts

Media

Pages

Kubio

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Installed Plugins

Add Plugin

Plugin File Editor

Users

Tools

Settings

Collapse Menu

Plugins

Add Plugin

All (3) | Active (1) | Inactive (2) | Auto-updates Disabled (3)

Search installed plugins

Bulk actions

Apply

☐

Plugin

Description

Automatic Updates

☐

Akismet Anti-spam: Spam Protection

Activate | Delete

Used by millions, Akismet is quite possibly the best way in the world to **protect your blog from spam**. Akismet Anti-spam keeps your site protected even while you sleep. To get started: activate the Akismet plugin and then go to your Akismet Settings page to set up your API key.

Version 5.5 | By Automatic - Anti-spam Team | View details

Enable auto-updates

☐

Hello Dolly

Activate | Delete

This is not just a plugin, it symbolizes the hope and enthusiasm of an entire generation summed up in two words sung most famously by Louis Armstrong: Hello, Dolly. When activated you will randomly see a lyric from Hello, Dolly in the upper right of your admin screen on every page.

Version 1.7.2 | By Matt Mullenweg | View details

Enable auto-updates

☐

Kubio

Deactivate

Using the power of AI, Kubio gives you a head start by generating a first draft of your website, which you can further customize to your liking.

Version 2.6.5 (build: 449) | By ExtendThemes | View details

Enable auto-updates

☐

Plugin

Description

Automatic Updates

Bulk actions

Apply

3 items

Howdy, Filip

Screen Options

Help

Thank you for creating with [WordPress](#).

Version 6.8.3

Appearance of the Active and Inactive Plugins Section

Installing Kubio Page Builder

- **Kubio Page Builder** is a tool for visual page creation without the need for coding.
- To install it:
 - Open **Plugins** → **Add New**.
 - In the search bar, type “**Kubio**”.
 - Click **Install Now**, then **Activate**.
- Kubio automatically integrates into the **Gutenberg editor** and adds new blocks.
- Themes such as **Mistify** are fully compatible with Kubio, enabling interactive page design.



Moj prvi sajt

0

New

Dashboard

Posts

Media

Pages

Kubio

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Installed Plugins

Add Plugin

Plugin File Editor

Users

Tools

Settings

Collapse Menu

Plugins

Add Plugin

All (3) | Active (1) | Inactive (2) | Auto-updates Disabled (3)

Search installed plugins

Bulk actions

Apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	Plugin	Description	Automatic Updates
<input type="checkbox"/>	<div>Akismet Anti-spam: Spam Protection</div> <div>Activate Delete</div>	Used by millions, Akismet is quite possibly the best way in the world to protect your blog from spam . Akismet Anti-spam keeps your site protected even while you sleep. To get started: activate the Akismet plugin and then go to your Akismet Settings page to set up your API key. Version 5.5 By Automatic - Anti-spam Team View details	Enable auto-updates
<input type="checkbox"/>	<div>Hello Dolly</div> <div>Activate Delete</div>	This is not just a plugin, it symbolizes the hope and enthusiasm of an entire generation summed up in two words sung most famously by Louis Armstrong: Hello, Dolly. When activated you will randomly see a lyric from Hello, Dolly in the upper right of your admin screen on every page. Version 1.7.2 By Matt Mullenweg View details	Enable auto-updates
<input type="checkbox"/>	<div>Kubio</div> <div>Deactivate</div>	Using the power of AI, Kubio gives you a head start by generating a first draft of your website, which you can further customize to your liking. Version 2.6.5 (build: 449) By ExtendThemes View details	Enable auto-updates
<input type="checkbox"/>	Plugin	Description	Automatic Updates

Bulk actions

Apply

3 items

Screen Options

Help

Howdy, filip

Thank you for creating with [WordPress](#).

Version 6.8.3

Appearance of the Section for Changing the Site Name and Adding the Site Image

Installing Elementor

- **Elementor** is the most popular page builder, with over **five million active installations**.
- The installation process is identical:
 - **Plugins → Add New → “Elementor” → Install Now → Activate**
 - After activation, the **Edit with Elementor** option appears within each page.
- **Elementor** enables visual editing through a **drag-and-drop** system, allowing students to see directly the structure, style, and arrangement of elements.



Dashboard

Posts

Media

Pages

Kubio

Comments

Appearance

Plugins

Installed Plugins

Add Plugin

Plugin File Editor

Users

Tools

Settings

Collapse Menu

Add Plugins

Upload Plugin

Search Results

Featured

Popular

Recommended

Favorites

Search Plugins

kubio

Keyword

11 items

Kubio AI Page Builder

Active

More Details

Using the power of AI, Kubio gives you a head start by generating a first draft of your website, which you can further customize to your liking.

By Extend Themes

★★★★☆ (62)

100,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 1 month ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

Advance WordPress Search Plugin

Install Now

More Details

Responsive Search Plugin for WordPress and WooCommerce. Best Live Ajax Search Support Plugin. TH Advance Product Search plugin is a powerful AJAX base ...

By ThemeHunk

★★★★★ (3)

10,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 4 months ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

YayMail – WooCommerce Email Customizer

Install Now

More Details

Customize WooCommerce email templates with an advanced drag-and-drop email builder. Works great with 70+ WooCommerce Email Customizer Addons.

By YayCommerce

★★★★★ (274)

50,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 weeks ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

Responsive Contact Form Builder & Lead Generation Plugin

Install Now

More Details

Fast Drag & Drop Contact From Builder and Lead Generation Tool With Google One Tap Login. Supports Block Editor.

By ThemeHunk

★★★★☆ (5)

10,000+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 months ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

Personio Integration Light

Install Now

More Details

Import and display your positions from Personio directly on your website. Get full control over how they are displayed.

By laolaweb

★★★★★ (5)

200+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 2 months ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

YaySwatches – Variation Swatches for WooCommerce

Install Now

More Details

Got plenty of website traffic but struggling with low add-to-cart and conversion rates?

By YayCommerce

★★★★★ (9)

800+ Active Installations

Last Updated: 15 hours ago

Compatible with your version of WordPress

Appearance of the Section for Changing the Site Name and Adding the Site Image

Difference Between Kubio and Elementor

- **Kubio** builds upon **Gutenberg**, while **Elementor** functions as an independent page-building system.
- **Kubio** follows the philosophy of WordPress blocks — making it ideal for educational use, as it preserves the CMS structure.
- **Elementor** offers a more advanced interface and allows for complex design creation without any coding.



Plugin Management

- Excessive use of plugins can slow down a website.
- It is recommended to regularly delete inactive plugins and update active ones.
- Updates fix errors and security vulnerabilities.
- After installation, each plugin should be tested with the current version of WordPress and the active theme.
- In a local environment (**XAMPP**), students can experiment safely without risk.
- Due to the modular nature of WordPress, conflicts between plugins are possible.
- This learning phase highlights the importance of **system analysis** — every change in one part affects the entire system.



Essential Plugins

- **Kubio Page Builder** – visual page editing.
- **Elementor** – advanced design and layout.
- **Yoast SEO** – content optimisation.
- **UpdraftPlus** – backup and security.
- **Wordfence Security** – website protection





Co-funded by
the European Union

Questions & Answers

"Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."

Network of centers for regional short study programs in the countries of the Western Balkans

Call: ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CBHE

Project number: 101128813



UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA
Faculty of Electrical Engineering



University of Pristina
Kosovska Mitrovica

