Building Web Apps with WordPress: WordPress as an Application Framework

By Brian Messenlehner, Jason Coleman

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WordPress is much more than a blogging platform. As this practical guide clearly demonstrates, you can use WordPress to build web apps of any type—not mere content sites, but full-blown apps for specific tasks. If you have PHP experience with a smattering of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, you'll learn how to use WordPress plugins and themes to develop fast, scalable, and secure web apps, native mobile apps, web services, and even a network of multiple WordPress sites.

The authors use examples from their recently released SchoolPress app to explain concepts and techniques throughout the book. All code examples are available on GitHub.

- Compare WordPress with traditional app development frameworks
- Use themes for views, and plugins for backend functionality
- Get suggestions for choosing WordPress plugins—or build your own
- Manage user accounts and roles, and access user data
- Build asynchronous behaviors in your app with jQuery
- Develop native apps for iOS and Android, using wrappers
- Incorporate PHP libraries, external APIs, and web service plugins
- Collect payments through ecommerce and membership plugins
- Use techniques to speed up and scale your WordPress app

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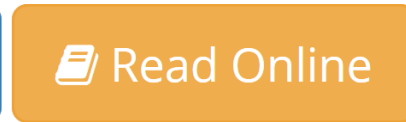
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Editorial Review

About the Author

Brian Messenlehner comes from a background of building custom web applications for the US Marine Corps, and he is the co-founder of WebDevStudios.com, a WordPress-only development shop. Brian and the team at WDS have built several non-traditional websites and mobile applications using WordPress as a framework. Find him on Twitter: @bmess

Jason Coleman has been pushing WordPress to its limits for years and has helped launch several startups using WordPress as an application framework. Jason now leads development for Paid Memberships Pro, a membership-focused ecommerce plugin that powers many software as a service companies. Find Jason on Twitter: @jason_coleman

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