

Which Membership Plugin To Pick For Your WP Membership Site

Your starting point, make sure you read [this section too](#).

First off, Hello, and thank you for downloading our Membership Plugins guide. Let me also congratulate you on this bold step. Thinking of starting a membership website is a very good place to be at. Online learning, aka e-learning, is booming. There are learning-oriented, membership sites popping up all over the place, from online courses on Yale to online courses for welders, woodworkers, electricians and so on. It's a growing industry, and it's never too late to start.

Being where you are, I bet you've already heard a ton of fluff-filled "I made a gazillion bucks in the first month" type of stories from self-proclaimed success gurus on the internet. Maybe you've spent some cash on "programs" that promised you to show you "the inside secrets of making it online" only to realize it's another affiliate program where you learn how to sell the very course you bought. Something stinks on MLM.

No worries, we've all been there. These MLM monstrosities are everywhere. It seems to be the mandatory course everybody takes at least a few times: Online Biz Bullshit 101. And I don't mean this as a swear word or anything. As Dr. Harry Frankfurt from Princeton University defines this word in his small book "On Bullshit": bullshit is everywhere, and by bullshit, I mean when you hear a selected series of truths and semi-truths, all piled together to make a point, which is usually part of the bullshitter's agenda. The goal of a bullshitter therefore, is to use random information to build a house-of-cards argument aimed at a single goal: to get you to part with your cash. And many legitimate online businesses actually started as flea-market bullshitters. This is not such a bullshit-loaded document.

I'm hoping that now, that you are reading this document, you will take the road less traveled, a road clear of bullshit, and a road that does lead to success. The first step is this very one you're doing now: reading this document. Wanting to build your own membership website starts with some market research, some positioning, some content creation, and of course, some hands-on technical work in creating your own membership site.

The membership site, or your very own e-learning platform, is where it all happens. This is the place where your clients will log in to learn whatever it is you'll be teaching. This is also the place where you'll be sending your traffic to get new clients, and in some cases your e-learning website will also be a public forum for all your members to exchange ideas and experiences in the niche that you'll be covering.

So in order to start building your membership site, you need to know what WordPress membership plugins out there are good enough for the type of membership site you want to build. This document is a walk-through of several of the best plugins that are powering membership sites large and small.

Ground Zero: Things you need to know before we even get to the Membership Plugins

We're assuming here that since you're interested in what membership plugin to use, you already own a domain and you already have a website that's up and running quite nicely. We assume that you also have in place your membership strategy all lined up, and all you need is the technical bit of adding the membership on top of your existing site. But if you don't have a site, and you don't have the membership strategy... no worries. Just focus on the issue at hand and know that we have all those issues covered.

The Membership Planner



Before you even begin to look at membership plugins and start building your membership site, you need to spend some time working out some basic things like who your site is for, what structure it will have and what features you need.

We've put together a basic questionnaire that will help you to easily plan your membership site and to clearly see the big picture. Now click on the image link below and use our form to complete your membership planner.

[WMF Academy Membership Planner](https://webmaxformance.com/academy/topic/membership-planner/)

Or visit this LINK if you can't click on the button:

<https://webmaxformance.com/academy/topic/membership-planner/>

The Technical Issues

Don't worry if you don't know anything about web design or WordPress in general at this point. Your basic understanding of **copy/paste** is good enough as we've boiled down the web development process to simple point and click action steps that anyone can follow:

- **Buy hosting & domain** and how to **install WordPress**
- Choose a solid **WordPress theme**
- **Build landing pages** with page builders
- Create a complete **membership site** with WordPress
- **Secure** your membership site
- **Speed up** your site
- **Automate your marketing** and get new members
- And tons of other tips and tricks in the **Advanced** and **Resources** sections

Picking The “Best” Membership Plugin

I regularly have conversations about this single question “what’s the best membership plugin” and it seems that there’ll never be enough blog posts and debates over the issue.

The reason for this is that people start at the wrong end of their membership build. You don’t really start at the end, which is, picking the plugin. You start with planning the membership site you’d want to build. You first lay out what sort of a membership model you’ll use, what payment processor you will use, what is your marketing automation platform of choice, and so on.

After this initial membership site planning session, you should have a clear description of your membership site that can be summarized in a single sentence like: My membership site will have 3 drip-fed nested membership levels, Bronze, Silver and Gold levels where Gold members see everything, Silver members see the Silver and Bronze sections, and Bronze members only get to see the Bronze section. I will use ActiveCampaign as my marketing automation platform and will take recurring payments with Stripe. Bang! That’s it. This is enough info to get you equipped to pick “the best” plugin. So you go after a plugin that checks these boxes:

- Drip feed content to new members
- Integration with Stripe payment processor
- Integration with ActiveCampaign marketing automation platform
- Nested or parent-child membership levels

You don’t need all the bells and whistles because the more features a plugin has, the harder it will be for you to build and manage your membership site. What you need here is a zen approach to building your site. Take what you need and don’t run after features. Simplicity is the key to reliable success here. Everybody can make a membership site with a complex plugin. The guru-ness here is to create a membership site that does the job you want it to do without any overhead.

That’s why you need this To Do list before you go to compare plugin features. You can’t pick a tool for the job unless you know exactly what the job is.

This means that in reality there is no all-encompassing “best” membership plugin. It all depends on what you expect from your membership site.

In general, here’s a very short list of checkboxes your membership plugin should check in order to be close enough to what you need:

1. Create The Core Membership Pages

Each membership plugin has different core membership pages. Core pages are:

- Register/Order Page (this is where you send your traffic from the landing page)
- Thank You Page (this is where members land after a successful registration)
- Login Page (self-explanatory, this is the page where members log in)

- My Account (not mandatory, but you may want to have a My Account page for users to set their profile details)
- My Subscriptions etc...

Some membership plugins automatically create these pages for you, but some expect you to follow their documentation and carefully create and connect up all these pages manually.

2. Protect The Lessons

Next you need to create your different products or membership levels. Those membership levels need to protect particular pages/lessons. The idea is when a user tries to access a specific protected content, they will be asked to log in before they'd be able to see that premium content. Some plugins allow you to very quickly lock multiple pages, and some will expect you to go to each page/post individually and lock it to a specific membership level. So knowing how your membership site will be structured can help you pick the right plugin for the job and you'd be saving tons of time before you even launch your site.

3. Make the Drip Feed

If you are new to the Membership sites ecosystem, you'll be probably wondering what in the world is drip feed, so let me try and answer this very quickly. A drip feed campaign is when you have lets say 100 articles pre-written, and you want User 1 that signs up on Day 1 to start receiving one article each 5 days. You can't have these articles saved as Drafts and then Publish each of them on a daily basis because you can have User 2 sign up for your membership on Day 10. So she'll also need to get started with Article 1 even though User 1 is already at Article 10. The system that allows each new user to see the sequence of articles independently of where other users are, is the drip feed mechanism. This is a great feature to have as people will feel that they are seeing new content each day/week, despite the fact that you already have that entire list of articles pre-written and published on the site.

Other than keeping a sense of regular/fresh content, drip campaigns help you protect your digital assets. You don't want your members to copy or download all of your website in one month and to cancel their subscription or to ask for a refund. You need to schedule your content for the next month, two, three... after the initial subscription of your member.

4. Integrate the payment system

Some membership plugins have an easy integration with different payment systems, but some require a lot of configuration (APIs, tokens, secret keys etc.) Also, not all payment methods are supported. So you need to take a look how each membership plugin integrates your preferred payment system.

Now it's time for a quick overview of our favorite membership plugins...

Zaxaa Member – “The Best” Membership Plugin For Serious Online Businesses

My team and I have spent hundreds of hours in building and testing membership sites with different membership and integration requirements. All this hands-on research and work adds up to six figures worth of experience. For our membership site that you are currently using we picked the Zaxaa platform, which in turn has its own Zaxaa Membership plugin for Wordpress.

The Zaxaa plugin is an excellent platform for selling your product online. It's robust, secure and loaded with advanced features for building a professional membership site.

Zaxaa provides many marketing tools including its own payment processor that integrates with services like **PayPal**, **Authorize.net**, **Stripe**, and **2checkout** and even has a “Manual Payments” feature too. It allows you to manage your customers and process payments without any stress at all.

***A geek sidetrack:** One very important feature that sets Zaxaa apart from all other WP membership plugins is that Zaxaa creates a separate table within the WP Database where it stores the users. This makes wp membership sites very easy to integrate with other membership sites. Say you decide sometime to offer a membership deal for your clients that will allow them to have access to every single membership deal/offer you ever launched. With Zaxaa, you can quickly integrate all these independent membership sites and your user will be able to use a single login info to log into all these sites. From a developer's perspective Zaxaa is very flexible and friendly to work with. I'm aware that at the very early stage you don't even want to think of other membership sites and linking them all up together... but it's good to know this info about Zaxaa because it future-proofs your business like no other plugin we've tested sofar.*

Zaxaa has many premium features:

- **One Time Offers (OTO)**, these are great for maximizing profit at the end of a funnel
- **1-Click Upsells**, this is useful to make it easy for those who just bought something to buy yet another offer you pitch to them, with a single click.
- **Trials**, they're great to allow leads a time-limited access to your Members area for free
- **Installments**, great for high-ticket offers when people can't/won't pay up full price up front
- **Unlimited levels/products** so you can grow your business as much as you want... not that you'd need tons of complexity for that, but if for whatever reason you want to make things complex, Zaxaa allows you to do so

- **Dime Sales**, great for getting impulsive buyers to buy an item before its price goes up any time a new visitor lands on the page or after X seconds/minutes
- **Drip Feed**, great for protecting your digital assets and for creating the impression of always-fresh-content, which is very important for membership sites
- **Teaser Content/Partial Protect**, excellent for granting access to a small portion of a premium article with a killer-converting “Please Sign Up to continue reading” pitch
- **Instant Affiliate Commissions**, one of the few plugins have affiliate marketing built in
- **Discount Coupons**, expiring coupons are great for scaling up sales and doing promotions
- **custom autoresponders integrations** and many more.

Here’s a very quick run-down to how you can set up the membership mechanism with Zaxaa.

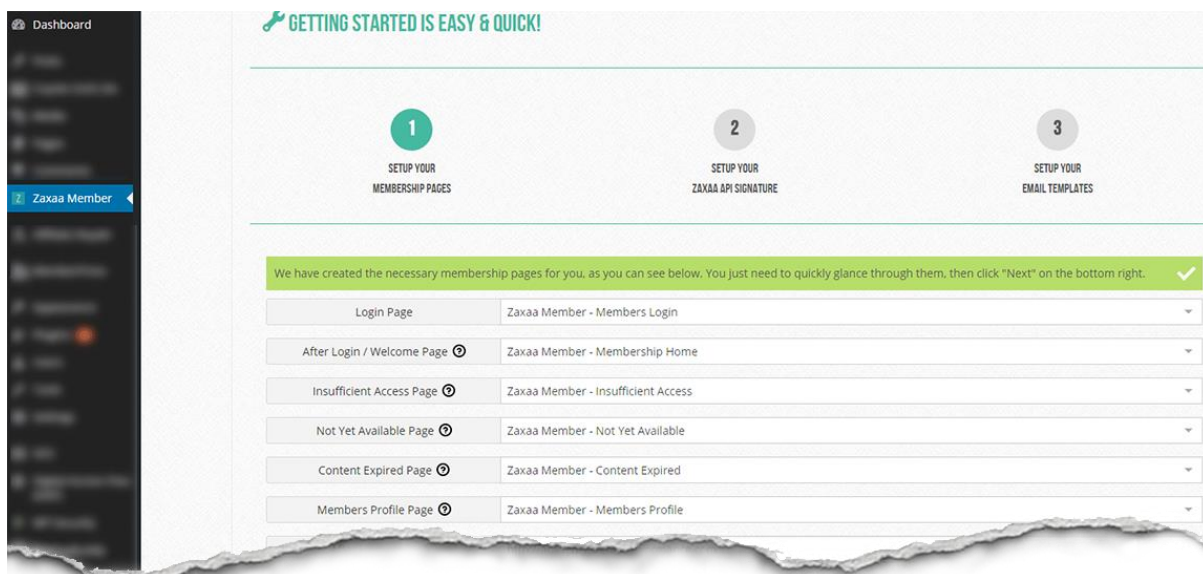
The screenshot shows the Zaxaa registration interface. On the left, a list of benefits includes: 3% per sale (no monthly fees), unlimited products (including OTOs/upsells/downsells), unlimited sales funnels, unlimited affiliate programs, unlimited customers & affiliates, recurring and one-time payments, and PayPal Adaptive payments. The registration form on the right includes fields for 'Insert Email Address...', 'Insert New Password...', and 'Re-Type Password...'. A security code '53JHH7' is displayed above a 'Confirm security code...' field. A green 'Register' button is located to the right of the security code field. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'I have read and agree to the terms and conditions'.

After your successful free trial registration, you will instantly get access to your Zaxaa Dashboard. From there, by navigating to **Settings -> Tools -> Zaxaa Member** you can download the latest version of the free Zaxaa plugin.

The screenshot shows the 'Zaxaa Member' section of a website. It features a heading 'Zaxaa Member' followed by a description: 'Zaxaa Member is a WordPress membership site plugin that we provide to you at no additional cost. With this, you can create membership sites to protect your members area, pages, content, files, and drip-feed them however you want.' Below the description is a link: 'You can view Zaxaa Member tutorial here.' At the bottom, there is a green button labeled 'Download Zaxaa Member Here'.

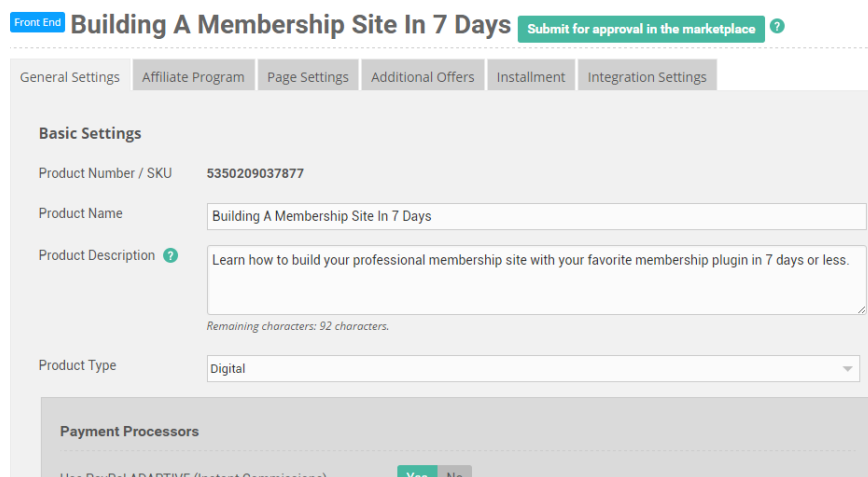
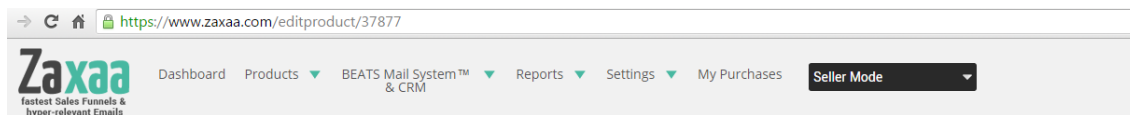
After downloading the plugin, now you are ready to install it to your WordPress site, just like any other third party plugin (**Plugins -> Add New -> Upload Plugin**)

Before creating your membership products/levels, in **the Zaxaa Member** section from your WP Admin, you need to complete the first 3 basic steps. The process is wizard-like and everything is self-explanatory.



When you are creating your product or membership level, first you need to add it through the **Zaxaa Dashboard**. Navigate to **Products -> Add -> New Front End**.

On the **General Settings** tab, you need to put the essential information for your product that will appear on the checkout page. All steps here are very easy to follow.



We've created our product in the Zaxaa Dashboard, and now it's time to connect it with our WordPress product.

1. Navigate to your **WordPress Dashboard -> Zaxaa Member -> Products -> Add New**.
2. Add the **product/level name** such as *Academy WebMaxFormance*.

3. Select the pre-existing **download page** or let Zaxaa create a new one for you.
4. The **Product Number/ SKU** is located at the top of our product configuration in the Zaxaa Dashboard tab.
5. For the price number, this usually will be 1 (If you are NOT using Multiple Pricing)
6. **Save the product.**

The screenshot shows the Zaxaa Member dashboard interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Dashboard, Products, Access, Members, Zaxaa Member (selected), Reports, and Config. The main content area is titled '+ Add Product / Membership Level'. It features a form with the following fields and options:

- Product / Level Name:** Academy WebMaxFormance
- Download Page:** Members Area (with a dropdown arrow), OR '+ Create one for me' and 'Edit' buttons.
- Product Number / SKU:** [Empty field]
- Price Number:** 1 (with a dropdown arrow)
- ZPN URL:** You need to save this product to get this URL
- Thank You / Delivery URL:** You need to save this product to get this URL

A 'Save Product' button is located at the bottom left of the form area.

7. From the **Products** tab in your Zaxaa Member section, click on the created product below and find the **ZPN URL**. Copy it.
8. Go to your open tab in Zaxaa Dashboard (or **Products -> Manage**) and at the bottom find **Script Integration**. Choose YES and paste the ZPN URL link there. Test it.
9. Return to your WordPress Zaxaa Member Plugin on Products section and find the **Thank You/Delivery URL**. Copy it.
10. Go to your open tab in Zaxaa Dashboard (or **Products -> Manage**) and open the **Integration Settings**. In the field bellow, paste the copied **Thank You Page URL**.

The screenshot displays the 'Integration Settings' tab within the Zaxaa Member dashboard. The page title is 'Building A Membership Site In 7 Days' with a 'Submit for approval in the marketplace' button. The settings are organized into tabs: General Settings, Affiliate Program, Page Settings, Additional Offers, Installment, and Integration Settings (selected).

The Integration Settings section contains the following fields:

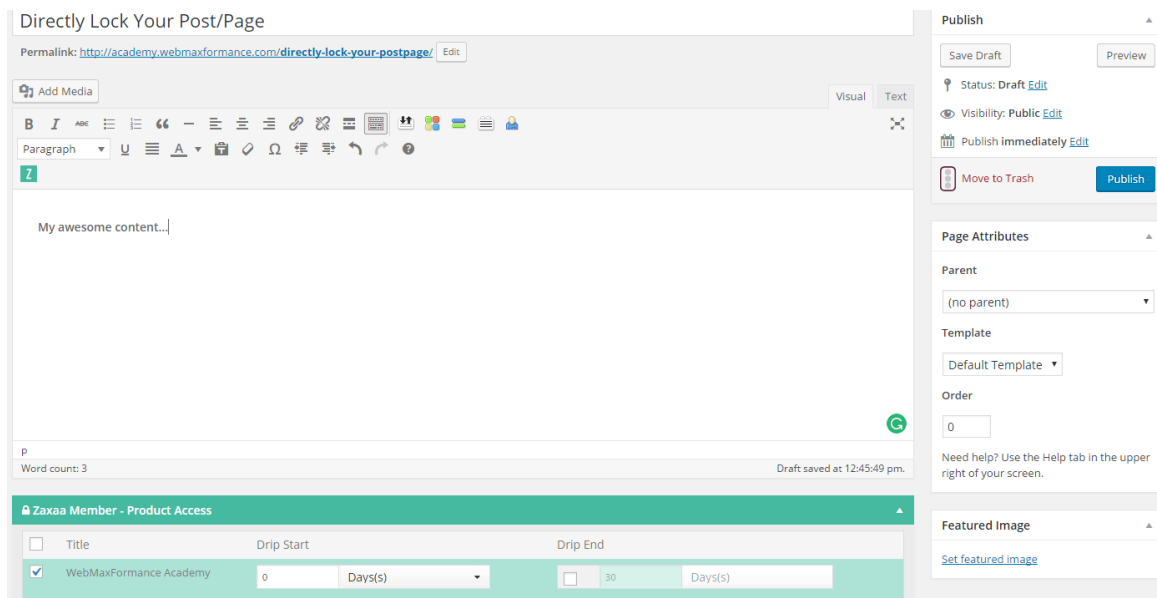
- Sales Page URL:** http://imateski.zaxaa.com/s/5350209037877 (with a 'View' button)
- Order Button:** Click here
- Thank You / Product Access Page URL:** https://imateski.zaxaa.com/t/5350209037877/1 (with a 'View' button)
- Affiliate Page URL:** https://imateski.zaxaa.com/a/5350209037877 (with a 'View' button)

At the bottom of the settings area, there are two buttons: 'Save Changes' and 'Submit for approval in the marketplace'.

CONGRATULATIONS! You have successfully connected your product with Zaxaa Marketplace, and now you are ready for selling it. The next step will be to lock your lessons/premium content with Zaxaa Member.

One way for protecting your post/pages is by directly selecting the checkbox from the **Zaxaa Member – Product Access** box when you are creating new post or page. So, create new post or page, put your preferred content there and just tick the checkbox with the desired membership level/product. Now the whole post or page will be protected from unauthorized access.

From here you can also choose to schedule this post/page – Drip feed. By putting a number of days in the **Drip Start** field, your subscriber will see this post/page after X days from the start of their membership subscription. So you create the content once, and for each individual subscriber you create the sensation that there’s a new lesson on your site every few days. Drip feeding is a great way to ensure a Retention Strategy that will keep people paying their monthly fee as you’re providing new and valuable content all the time.



As you can see from this very short intro, Zaxaa Member is a powerful yet easy to configure membership plugin. It has everything you’d want really, and you’d be hardpressed to find a feature that is really useful for a membership site that Zaxaa doesn’t have. If you do have such a feature, you can always contact the Zaxaa team and request this feature and they’ll work on it.

The one caveat here is that Zaxaa creates a separate database table for the members/subscribers, so if you want to use a different plugin on your site that would rely on the members registrations and grant them special access rights (eg. Grant Level 1 members the ability to edit content for whatever reason), Zaxaa may not be the ideal plugin for you. There’s always a workaround for any challenge though, and that’s what makes Zaxaa so cool.

Digital Access Pass – More Than a Standard Membership Plugin

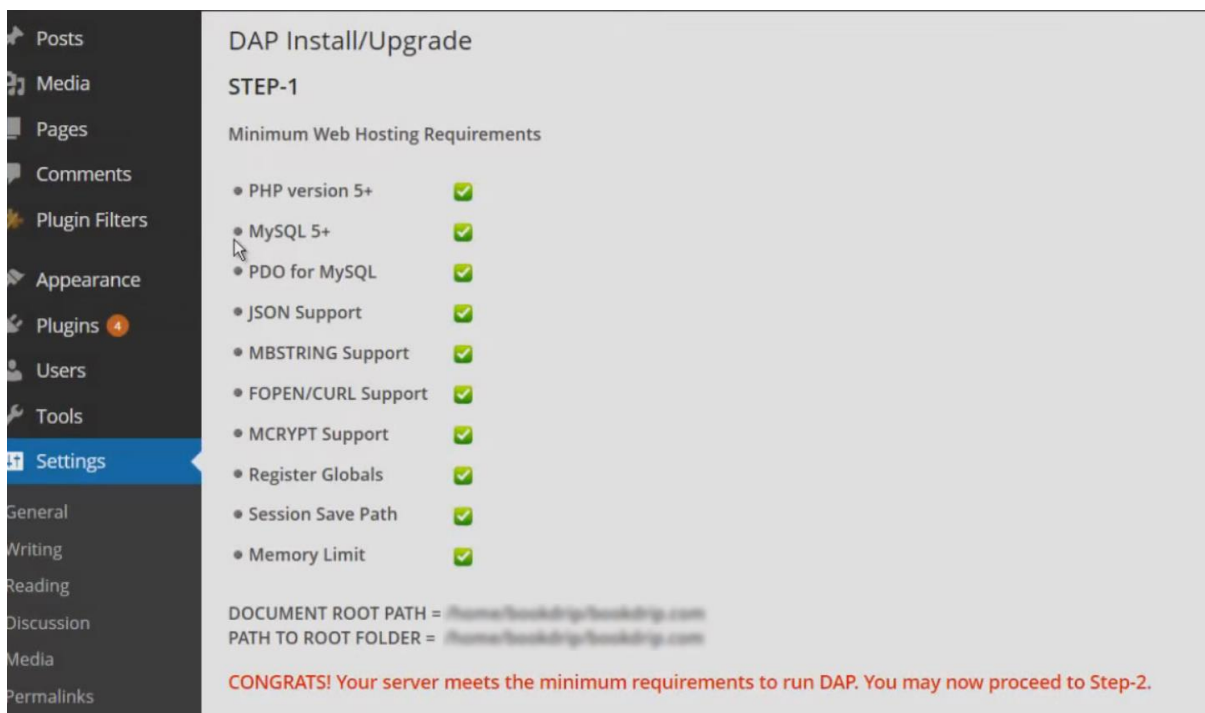
When we talk about popular membership plugins for WordPress, DAP has a prominent place among web owners. It allows you to convert your ordinary WordPress blog into a powerful membership site by selling access to your digital products.

Digital Access Pass has a lot of features that we like:

- unlimited products/levels,
- free & paid trials,
- 1-click upsells,
- downsells & cross-sells,
- OTOs,
- email autoresponders and broadcasting,
- teaser content ("Sneak Peek"),
- drip feed etc.

DAP Installation

The actual installation of Digital Access Pass can be a little bit different than other WordPress plugins. There are 2 methods, but installing DAP through their **DAP Easy Installer plugin** (new method) will make your life easier. You just need to upload the DAP Easy Installer plugin from **Plugins -> Add New -> Upload Plugin** and follow the procedure.



DAP Install/Upgrade

STEP-1

Minimum Web Hosting Requirements

- PHP version 5+ ✓
- MySQL 5+ ✓
- PDO for MySQL ✓
- JSON Support ✓
- MBSTRING Support ✓
- FOPEN/CURL Support ✓
- MCRYPT Support ✓
- Register Globals ✓
- Session Save Path ✓
- Memory Limit ✓

DOCUMENT ROOT PATH = /home/foobling/foobling.com
PATH TO ROOT FOLDER = /home/foobling/foobling.com

CONGRATS! Your server meets the minimum requirements to run DAP. You may now proceed to Step-2.

Creating Your First Product In Digital Access Pass

Just like any other great membership plugin, DAP also allows you to create any kind of product you want (subscription-based or one-time product).

Open your Digital Access Pass Dashboard and navigate to **Products -> Manage**. (As a side-note, if you're a bit picky about user interfaces, DAP won't be your favorite at all. It's got a very dated Dashboard and from a design perspective it is quite neglected... but still, it does everything you'd want it to do with the handful of functionality divided tabs).

Products/Levels > Manage

The screenshot shows the 'Products/Levels > Manage' interface. At the top, there are several tabs: General, Pricing, Notifications, ContentResponder, AutoResponder, Cancellation & Expiration, Generate Buy Buttons, and Generate Signup Form. The 'General' tab is selected. On the right, there is a dropdown menu showing 'Example One-time Product'. The main form is divided into two columns. The left column has a 'Select Product:' section with a list of products: 'Example Subscription Product' and 'Example One-time Product'. Below this list are buttons for 'Create New Product', 'Save As New', and 'Delete Product'. The right column contains a table of fields for the product configuration:

Product Id	2
Product Name	Example One-time Product
Description <small>(max 127 characters)</small>	This is a dummy product for one-time-purchase [non-subscription]
Sales Page URL ?	http://bobiacademy.webmaxformance.com
Error Page URL ?	/dap/product-error.php
Post-Login URL ?	
Product Image URL ?	
Allow Free Signup? ?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Is this a Credit Store Product? ? <small>What is a Credit Store Master Product? ? What is a Credit Store Child Product? ?</small>	Regular DAP Product (No Credits)
Product Status	Active

Save Product

From here you can setup your first product in Digital Access Pass. The options are somewhat self-explanatory but many will find it daunting to go through all those fields in order to configure a single product.

In the **ContentResponder** tab (see image below), you can choose which pages will be protected as premium content for the product you're creating.

Note: If you are protecting a parent page here, its child pages WON'T be protected with DAP. You need to protect manually the child pages one by one.

If you want to protect a whole category, then you need to put the URL of the category in the **Protect a URL** field.

From here you can also set the content scheduling – **Drip feed** where your protected pages will be shown to your subscribers after specific time period.

Products/Levels > Manage

SUCCESS! Product has been saved successfully.

Edit	Drip Day	URL of Protected Content
	1	/performance
	1	/security
	1	/members-area

DAP is compatible with several payment processors and shopping carts: Stripe, Authorize.net, Google Checkout, Digiresearch, e-Junkie, Paypal Website Payments Pro, JVZoo, Plimus, WorldPay, Zaxaa, Paypal Standard, DealGuardian, ClickBank, 2Checkout.com, WSO Pro (Warrior Plus).

Maintained shopping carts: 1SiteAutomation.com, InfusionSoft, Premium Web Cart and, WP eStore.

DAP is honestly one of the best membership plugins on the market because it is packed with almost everything you need for successful membership site. This membership plugin is one of our favorite plugins for membership creating, along with **Zaxaa Member**.

When it comes to the price, we must admit that it is little expensive, but it is packed with a lot of premium of features, so if you are building a serious online business, we think that it's worth the price.

WishList – Membership Plugin With Limitless Possibilities

WishList is one of the grand-dads of the premium membership plugins. In fact, one of our first membership sites that we've built for a client was using WishList. Because of its seniority on the market, the plugin provides a lot of features that can help you build even the most complex membership site and integrate with many different services.

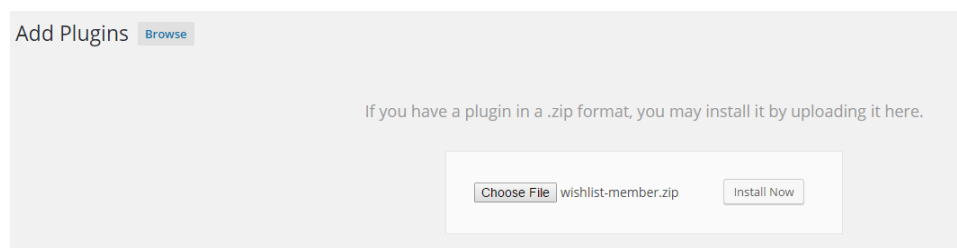
What we like about WishList is that it supports many payment methods. You won't find so many integrations probably at any other membership plugin. But not just payment integrations. There are tons of autoresponder, and webinar integrations too. We highly recommend buying WishList if you want to integrate your complete sales funnel with WishList.

The other WishList features such as: sneak peek (teaser content), flexible member levels, partial content protection, drip feed (sequential content delivery) ... make this plugin one of the top 5 membership plugins for several years now.

WishList Member Installation

WishList is a premium WordPress plugin (with a cost of \$197 or \$297) and can be installed like any other third party plugin. After you bought your license you will get access to the plugin for download. Download the latest version of the WishList Member plugin and upload it.

Go to **Plugins -> Add New -> Upload Plugin**



Creating The Membership Levels In WishList Member

After the installation, you'll see a small notification asking you to create your first membership level. Click on that link and move to the levels creation.

The next screen is the **Setup Wizard**. By using the **Wizard**, you will easily create your products/levels and the core pages for your membership site.

Settings » Setup Wizard

WishList Member Notice: No Membership Levels added yet. [Click here](#) to add a new membership level now.

Setup Wizard

Step 1 - Create Membership Levels

Membership Level

Basic

Add Another Membership Level

Next

When you are done click **Save This Setup** on the right.

Now your setup is complete and you've successfully created your membership levels.

Content Protection In WishList (Bulk)

From **WishList** -> **Content** area you can manage which post or page will be accessible by which membership level. Beside posts and pages, WishList can protect categories, files and folders. This means you can quickly lock entire sections on your site and assign member-level access to different categories.

Start by selecting the post or pages you want to be protected and under **Bulk Actions** you can: edit protection status, add levels, remove levels, edit pay per post status, manage pay per post users.

Let's say we want to protect 3 of our pages. First, we will select **Edit protection status** -> **Protected** and then we will add which membership level will access this pages by selecting **Add Levels** and writing the name of our membership level.

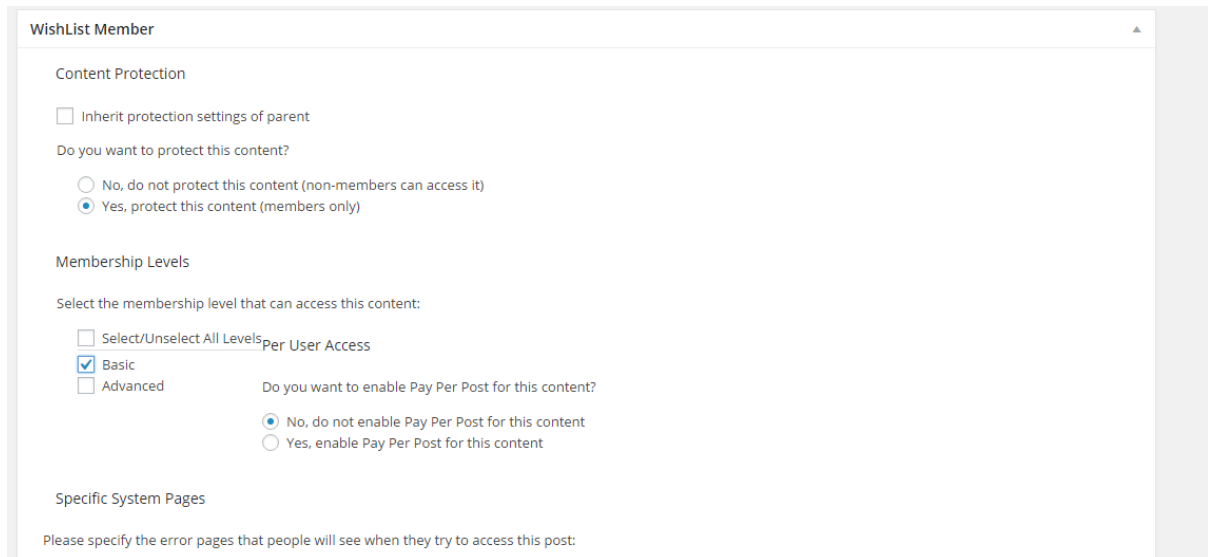
The screenshot shows the 'Manage Content » Pages' interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Dashboard, Settings, Members, Levels, Content, Sequential Upgrade, and Integration. Below these are sub-tabs: Posts, Pages, Categories, Attachments, and Folders. The 'Content' sub-tab is active, showing 'Content' and 'Comments' options. The main content area displays a table of protected pages. The table has columns for Name, Protection, Levels, Per User Access, Post Users, Parent, and Date. Three pages are listed, all with 'Protected' status and 'Disabled' per user access. The 'Add Levels' dropdown is set to 'Basic'.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Protection	Levels	Per User Access	Post Users	Parent	Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Security - Draft	Protected	—	Disabled	0		03/08/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performance	Protected	—	Disabled	0		02/16/16
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	— Wordfence	Protected	—	Disabled	0	Security	02/16/16

Content Protection In WishList (Individual)

You can protect your post or pages directly as you are creating them.

While creating a new post, below the WordPress editor you can find the WishList Member area for single post protection.



The screenshot shows the 'WishList Member' settings panel for content protection. It includes sections for 'Content Protection', 'Membership Levels', and 'Specific System Pages'. The 'Content Protection' section has a checkbox for 'Inherit protection settings of parent' and radio buttons for 'Do you want to protect this content?'. The 'Membership Levels' section has a checkbox for 'Select/Unselect All Levels' and radio buttons for 'Do you want to enable Pay Per Post for this content?'. The 'Specific System Pages' section has a text input field for error messages.

WishList Member

Content Protection

Inherit protection settings of parent

Do you want to protect this content?

No, do not protect this content (non-members can access it)

Yes, protect this content (members only)

Membership Levels

Select the membership level that can access this content:

Select/Unselect All Levels Per User Access

Basic

Advanced

Do you want to enable Pay Per Post for this content?

No, do not enable Pay Per Post for this content

Yes, enable Pay Per Post for this content

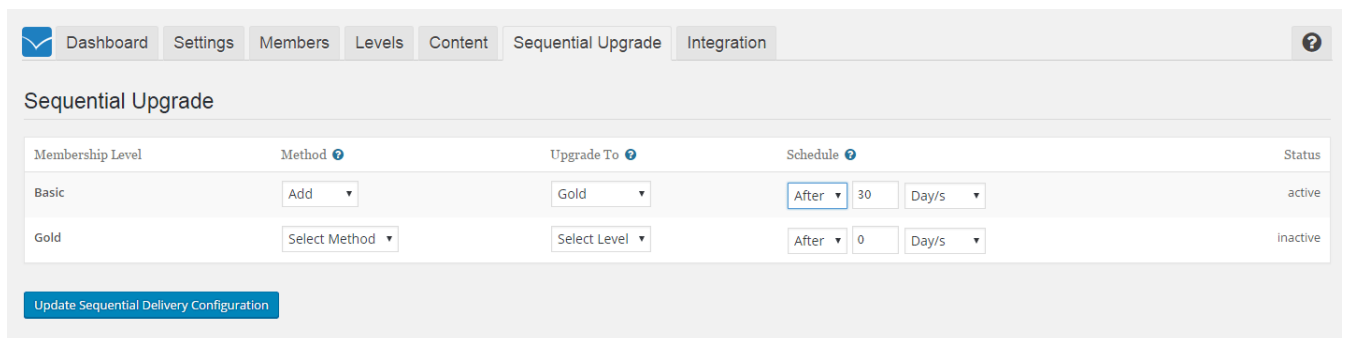
Specific System Pages

Please specify the error pages that people will see when they try to access this post:

Using Drip In WishList

Drip content (or as WishList calls it – Sequential Upgrade) is used to schedule your content to appear after some time from the subscription of your user. However, the Drip functionality has some limitations here.

If you want to drip some content (posts or pages), you need to create a new membership level and to protect that content (posts or pages) with this new membership level. Then, you'll need to go to **WishList Member -> Sequential Upgrade** and select from which level you will upgrade your subscribers to which new level after 30 days for example.



The screenshot shows the 'Sequential Upgrade' configuration interface. It features a navigation bar with tabs for 'Dashboard', 'Settings', 'Members', 'Levels', 'Content', 'Sequential Upgrade', and 'Integration'. Below the navigation bar is a table with columns for 'Membership Level', 'Method', 'Upgrade To', 'Schedule', and 'Status'. The table contains two rows: one for 'Basic' (active) and one for 'Gold' (inactive). A button labeled 'Update Sequential Delivery Configuration' is located at the bottom left.

Membership Level	Method	Upgrade To	Schedule	Status
Basic	Add	Gold	After 30 Day/s	active
Gold	Select Method	Select Level	After 0 Day/s	inactive

Update Sequential Delivery Configuration

WishList Integrations

WishList is popular because of its many integrations with dozens of services.

Go to **Integration -> Shopping Cart**. Here are all payment methods that WishList Member supports: 1ShoppingCart, 2Checkout, Authorize.Net, ClickBank, Cydec, eWAY, Infusionsoft, JVZoo, PayPal, Premium Web Cart, Recurly, RedOakCart, SamCart, Stripe, UltraCart, Generic.

And here's the list of all the possible **autoresponder integrations**: ActiveCampaign, arpReach, AutoResponse Plus, Aweber, AWeber API, Constant Contact, GetResponse, GetResponse API, iContact, Infusionsoft, Interspire Email Marketer, Mad Mimi, MailChimp, Maropost, Ontraport, Generic.

The possibilities with WishList are almost limitless. Because of its seniority among the WordPress membership plugins, it can be integrated with virtually every other popular platform. So if you have many different systems for payment, autoresponder or webinar, WishList probably will be your best solution.

But on the other hand, the flip side of this versatility is that most of the times your site will be bloated with extra code that it doesn't really need. This is one of the unavoidable shortcomings of large plugins: they're too big for your good.

Paid Membership Pro – Free Light Weight Plugin For Basic Membership Site Creation

There are a lot of membership plugins on the market, but each one of them has its own story. The Paid Memberships Pro story is that you get a lot of features you find in premium plugins... but here, you get all that for free! And FREE is always good, right?

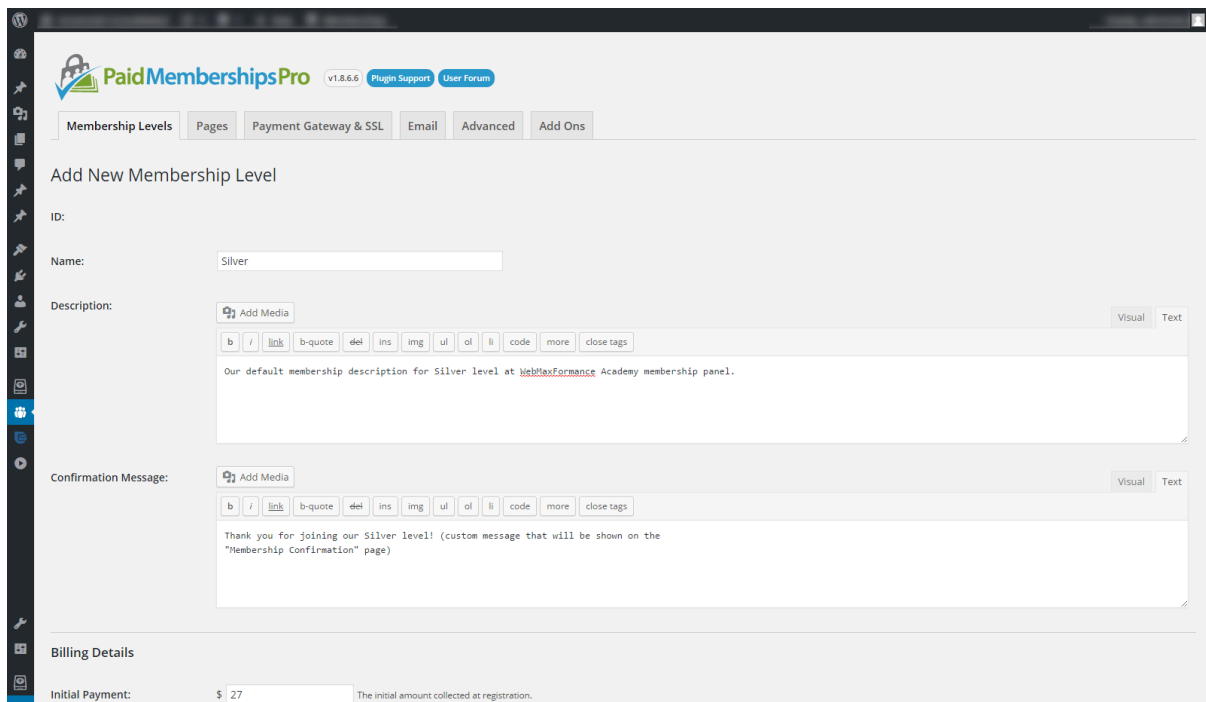
The plugin can be installed from the WordPress plugins repository by going to **Plugins -> Add New -> Search for Paid Membership Pro.**

PM Pro Configuration

The configuration of Paid Membership Pro is pretty easy and straightforward. We managed to do all the setup in less than 20 minutes because every option is self-explanatory and can be done easily by clicking only a few buttons.

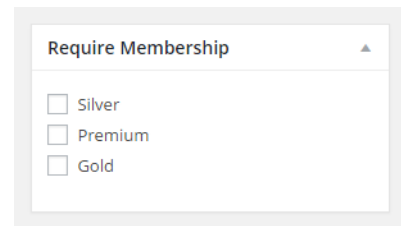
Starting with creating the levels (which are unlimited by the way) up until the payment and email advanced configurations, we noticed that there is no technical knowledge required whatsoever.

But first thing first. Let's start with the creation of the **membership levels.**



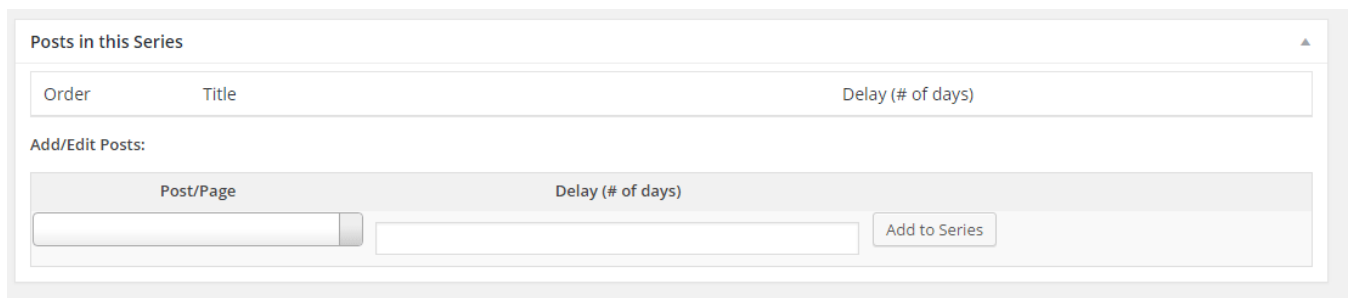
Just follow the steps in the Membership Level tab and you can easily configure all of your membership levels.

To protect or restrict your content with the defined membership levels, you need just to open your post or page that needs to be protected and select the corresponding level from the right sidebar.



Content Dripping

Paid Memberships Pro offers a great premium add-on that allows you to create a delay in accessing your content. It simply lets you define how many days from the time your users start their membership, the content will be delayed. Dripping content is critical in maintaining membership site, and they support it.



Supported payment gateways in Paid Membership Pro are: PayPal, Stripe, Authorize.Net, BrainTree, 2Checkout, CyberSource.

For your email management PM Pro allows you can integrate with MailChimp, AWeber, or InfusionSoft, which will classify members into lists according to their membership level.

Other major integrations include: bbPress integration, WooCommerce add-on for PM Pro, WP Bouncer (Allowing one device to be logged into WordPress for each user).

Paid Memberships Pro is a flexible, user and developer-friendly solution for creating a membership site using WordPress. The beauty is that there are a lot of features (mostly free) that can speed up the process of building your membership website seamlessly within minutes with no specific technical knowledge required. So this is a great plugin for everyone who wants to build a basic membership site for free without spending a dime.

However, if you want to add some functionality like *Drip-Feed Content* add-on you will need to spend a lot of money (\$297.00/year) to get access to all add-ons first and then to get your one add-on. You can't buy for example just the *Drip-Feed Content* add-on separately.

Conclusion

Here you saw a shoppers shortlist for the best of the best of Wordpress membership plugins. Whatever plugin you choose, you've done a great choice and you're set for a flexible and robust membership platform for years to come.

This being said, there is best, and the best of the best sort. We've settled for Zaxaa because of all the flexibility it offers, but most importantly because of two key features:

1. Zaxaa creates its own users table, completely independent from all the Wordpress users. This means that you keep your members list in a separate table and managing it is dead easy. The added value is that you can easily use your existing Zaxaa members list onto other websites. Other plugins will have a hard time to allow you to separate wordpress standard users from members that access your site only on the frontend.
2. Zaxaa splits functionality and integration. The functionality is handled by the Zaxaa server and you integrate products with a lightweight plugin on your site. So you get to use only the features you need on your site with zero overhead code. This is extremely important as even milliseconds of website loading time can affect your bottom line. Big bulky plugins will slow down your site and this affects how your site ranks. With Zaxaa, you avoid the slowdown while keeping the robustness. Kind of like having your cake and eating it at the same time.

Our choice and suggestion obviously is Zaxaa. We've reached this conclusion as website owners and as website developers. While the flexibility and scalability is more or less the same as with any of the other plugins we mentioned, when it comes to having a site that runs elegantly and super-fast, Zaxaa is the clear winner by a mile.

BUT, this is not all. We've just scratched the surface on starting your membership website.

We just provided you a basic overview of few of our membership plugins. Our research databases include so much more that we can possibly outline here.

And that's where our WMF Academy comes in!

First and foremost, in our Academy course we've done the complete leg-work for you. Before launching the Academy, we spend 14 months of full-time work, for testing the membership plugins, figuring out their pros and cons and putting them to work on a website that is protected with all the anti-hacker settings and all the speed settings.

Next, we compiled our researches into comprehensive step-by-step tutorials consisting of a lot of details, screenshots and up-to-the point videos with the most important actions steps for configuring and not a single sentence of fluff.

We had in mind that our users may not have any previous knowledge of creating membership site, or any site for that matter, so we started from the beginning and gradually guiding you to the very end.

Here's a list of the membership plugins we have covered in-depth, with several of them coming soon:

Membership Creation Lessons






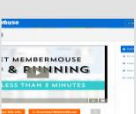



	<p>Zaxaa Member</p> <p>Zaxaa is a perfect platform for selling your product simple because its robustness, security and advanced features for building a professional membership site like ours. Zaxaa provides many marketing tools including its own payment processor that integrates with many payment services. It allows you to manage your customers and process payments without any stress.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>																								
	<p>Digital Access Pass</p> <p>Digital Access Pass is a premium WordPress membership plugin for content, video lessons, audio files, ebooks and more by the desired product you are offering with great ease.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>																								
 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Our Levels</th> <th>Basic \$37</th> <th>Premium \$37</th> <th>Gold \$97</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10 users</td> <td>10 users</td> <td>10 users</td> <td>10 users</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 GB storage</td> <td>1 GB storage</td> <td>1 GB storage</td> <td>1 GB storage</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 downloads</td> <td>100 downloads</td> <td>100 downloads</td> <td>100 downloads</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 users</td> <td>100 users</td> <td>100 users</td> <td>100 users</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sign Up</td> <td>Sign Up</td> <td>Sign Up</td> <td>Sign Up</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Our Levels	Basic \$37	Premium \$37	Gold \$97	10 users	10 users	10 users	10 users	1 GB storage	1 GB storage	1 GB storage	1 GB storage	100 downloads	100 downloads	100 downloads	100 downloads	100 users	100 users	100 users	100 users	Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up	<p>MemberPress</p> <p>MemberPress is a premium WordPress plugin for constructing a powerful membership site with a lot of advanced features. The plugin provides a wide variety of features from restricting access to the entire site, restricting only certain parts of the content, and what we personally like: restricting file downloads.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>
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Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up	Sign Up																						
	<p>Paid Memberships Pro</p> <p>Paid Memberships Pro is one of the most lightly weighted plugins for creating a membership site. The free version of this plugin actually has all the necessary features that average web owner will want for his basic membership panel.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>																								
	<p>Restrict Content Pro</p> <p>Restrict Content Pro is a membership plugin for premium content subscriptions allowing you to charge people for viewing premium content, which helps you to build great WordPress membership site. RCP is allowing you to create unlimited membership levels, manage members, provides discount codes, track payments and many more.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>																								
	<p>MemberMouse</p> <p>MemberMouse is one of the most flexible membership plugins for 2016, capable of integrating with any WordPress site. It comes with a wide range of flexible billing options, content restriction, restriction logins, content dripping, and of course, a great option for memberships levels. MemberMouse also offers a robust platform that is abundant in features. The plugin was designed with business people in mind and makes it extremely easy and efficient for you to run and operate your online business successfully.</p> <p>Access Lesson</p>																								
	<p>WishList Member</p> <p style="color: red; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-15deg);">Coming Soon</p>																								
	<p>Memberium</p> <p style="color: red; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-15deg);">Coming Soon</p>																								
	<p>aMember Pro</p> <p style="color: red; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-15deg);">Coming Soon</p>																								

Figure 1. Sneak Peak of our lessons for different membership plugins

Whatever plugin you choose; we will guide you through its configuration from A to Z.

We've gave our best to provide a comprehensive lesson to configure your chosen membership plugin, even better than the plugin's official documentation.

For each membership plugin you will find how to easily:

- Create The Core Membership Pages
- Protect The Lessons
- Make the Drip Feed
- Integrate the payment system
- And many many more...

And now the moment you've been waiting for... The "EASY WAY" solution that we've talked about previously...

**WMF Academy Membership Business Models –
Completely Revealed FOR FREE:**

<https://webmaxformance.com/academy>