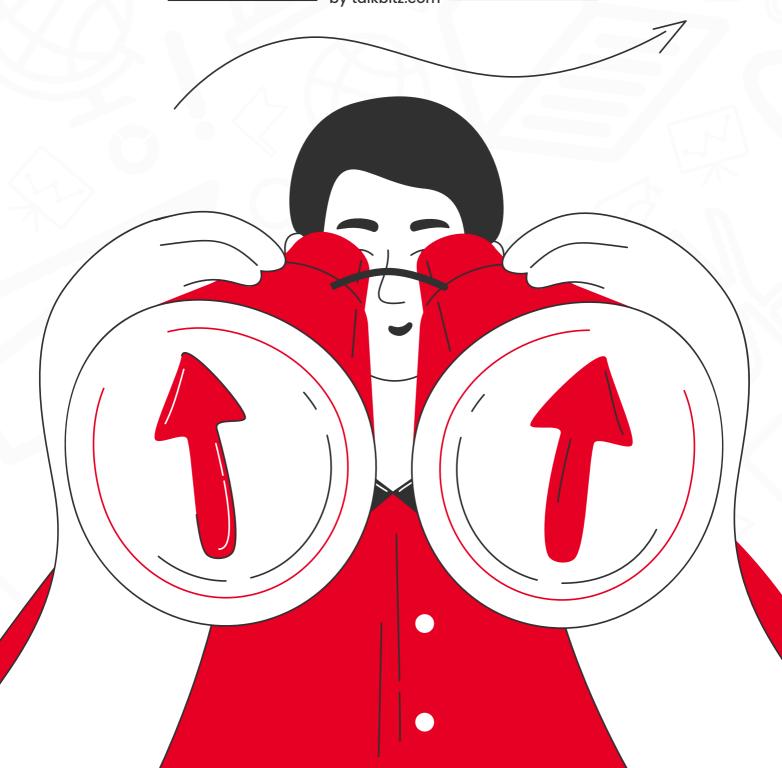
BLOGGING TOOLKIT

by talkbitz.com



A Word About This Blogging Toolkit

A blogger's biggest challenge is staying ahead of the curve.

More and more blog posts are being published each minute; this means that your competition is only increasing, and so are your readers.

To cut through the clutter and stay ahead of the curve, you need the best blogging tools available to help facilitate a productive writing process.

This is where the concept of "toolkits" comes into play and why they are amazingly valuable.

On the other hand, using the wrong set of tools can cost you a lot of money.

That's why I thought to recommend to you the best tools I personally used for the talkbitz.com blog.

Best, Minosh Wijayarathne

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We partner with well-known companies that offer products and services that help you achieve your goals!

If you purchase through our partner links, we will receive a small commission at no additional cost to you.

In most cases, you will actually get a better value because I only recommend products or services that I personally used. Simply, no crap.

Thank you for your love & support!

Web Hosting

Web Hosting is a service that provides you a place to store your website files on the internet. It's simply a space on the web where you can save your site and thus keeping it online 24/7.

Simply put, when you clearly understand your requirements and the hosting provider's features and services, then you're good to go!

Where I host TalkBitz:



<u>Cloudways</u> is a Managed Cloud Hosting platform designed to make things simpler, without costing you a lot.

They offer flexible pricing plans that run on a "pay-as-you-go" structure, making Cloudways an excellent choice. But you may need to understand certain technical things for a better experience.

Alternatives:

iii bluehost

<u>Bluehost</u> is a large web hosting service officially recommended by WordPress. They make it easy to get a budget-friendly WordPress website up and running and the easy-to-use interface is ideal for beginners.



<u>Hostinger</u> is one of the best hosting providers out there and they offer shared hosting, WordPress hosting, and cloud hosting services at cheap prices.



HostGator is a popular hosting provider that offers easy and affordable hosting plans for businesses and personal projects. They also come up with 1-click WordPress Installs.

Performance

According to statistics, 47% of consumers expect a site to load in 2 seconds or less and 40% of users abandon sites that take longer than 3 seconds to load!

Below are my favorite tools to power up your WordPress blog:



Cloudflare is a service, a <u>content delivery network</u> (CDN), that helps you improve your site speed and protect your site from malicious activities.

This requires a little technical effort. For beginners, I recommend you <u>work with a developer</u> to get this thing done.

By default, Cloudflare is also enabled on some web hosting providers like <u>Bluehost</u>. Contact your hosting provider for more information.

WordPress Caching Plugin:



WP Rocket is a powerful WordPress caching plugin popular among most bloggers (including me).

You can use it to improve the speed of your WordPress site. It will also help you bring better SEO rankings and more conversions.

This plugin is a paid plugin but comes in handy for you to improve every aspect of your WordPress sites with Page Caching, Cache Preloading, File and Media Optimization, eCommerce Optimization, and lots more.

All these come with a simple plugin interface, so you'll never get overwhelmed when setting up the plugin.

Reading: 10 Best WordPress Plugins for a Powerful Blog

Security

You probably have a firewall, spam filter, and virus protection on your computer. But do you have the same level of website security on your WordPress website?

There are some simple things you can do to avoid a disaster.

Below are my favorite security plugins for WordPress:

Wordfence - An endpoint firewall and malware scanner for your website. It helps protect you against attacks, malicious networks, and any human or robot activity that indicates suspicion on your website.

You can get started with the free version and the paid version comes with some advanced features.

Alternatives:

- Sucuri
- Jetpack
- All In One WP Security
- iThemes Security

SEO & Marketing

Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is the process of improving your website, blog, or content marketing so it ranks higher on search engines.

Choosing the right tools helps to increase your brand's visibility and boost your authority across the internet.

WordPress SEO Plugins:



<u>Yoast</u> is one of the best WordPress SEO plugins available – both for beginners and experienced SEOs. It helps you make sure your site meets the highest technical SEO standards to rank better and higher.



Rank Math WordPress plugin comes with a pack of features and tools to ensure your website is optimized with SEO best practices in mind. This is a great alternative to Yoast SEO and offers additional features for free. And this is the one I'm using for talkbitz.com.

Keyword Research Tools:



<u>SEMrush</u> is my favorite SEO toolkit. It allows you to perform keyword research, and various other tools that will improve your website traffic, conversion rate, and organic traffic growth.

Reading: <u>5 Best Keyword Research Tools for SEO</u>

I highly recommend that you read this guide on <u>How</u> to <u>Write Content for SEO</u> before you use these tools.

Email Marketing Tools:

<u>ConvertKit</u> - A powerful email marketing platform used to nurture and convert subscribers. It's easy to use, affordable, and loved by bloggers, podcasters and authors.

Reading: The Best Convertkit Alternatives

Themes & Styling

The most popular premium themes include a wide range of useful features that will upgrade your simple WordPress blog from a standard blog to a powerful blog.

The best part is you can use most of them with zero coding skills.

GeneratePress

GeneratePress is a great choice for anyone looking for a fast, lightweight WordPress theme. It's easy to use and comes with all the features you need to create a professional website.

The best thing is it's compatible with all popular WordPress page builder plugins like <u>Elementor</u>.

I previously used the Astra theme but moved to this one because of its usability.

Reading: <u>5 Best WordPress Themes for Blogs</u>

Social Media

Social media shouldn't be ignored by anyone with a blog. The most successful bloggers use social media as part of their blogging strategy.

<u>Canva</u> is an online graphic design tool popular among those who love to create graphics effortlessly.

With Canva Pro, you'll get access to millions of stock photos, graphics, and various types of premium templates. And with the ability to schedule your social media posts, you can make sure that your content is always fresh and relevant.

I'm a <u>Canva PRO</u> user and it makes it easy to create Pinterest pins and schedule them ahead of time.

<u>Tailwind</u> is a great scheduler built especially for Pinterest marketing, popular among 700,000+ bloggers. It allows you to create pins for Pinterest and schedule them.

It also provides you with a great way to connect bloggers and influencers via Tailwind communities.

Analytics

If you're running a blog, it's really important to know what your readers are looking for. This is where analytics comes into play.

Analytics is an interesting thing in that it will show you what pages your site traffic is interested in, how many people are visiting your site, where they come from, and what brings them to your site. That'll help you plan your next content effectively.



MonsterInsights is the best Google Analytics plugin for WordPress, popular among over 3,000,000+ website owners.

With MonsterInsights, you can easily connect your WordPress site to Google Analytics in just a few steps and see your website analytics report right inside your WordPress dashboard.

Additional Resources

Thank you for looking through our blogging toolkit, and we hope you found it to be helpful.

Don't forget to follow TalkBitz on Pinterest!

You may also like the following resources on TalkBitz:

- How to Start a Blog
- <u>Top Web Hosting Services for Bloggers</u>
- Best Monthly Web Hosting Plans
- Create a Blog Logo
- WordPress Guide
- <u>Best Keyword Research Tools</u>
- How to Write Your First Blog Post
- Pinterest for Bloggers
- Best Content Writing Tools
- Best Content Planning Tools
- Make Money Blogging
- Must-Have Affiliate Marketing Tools
- WordPress Maintenance Services







BLOGGING!



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