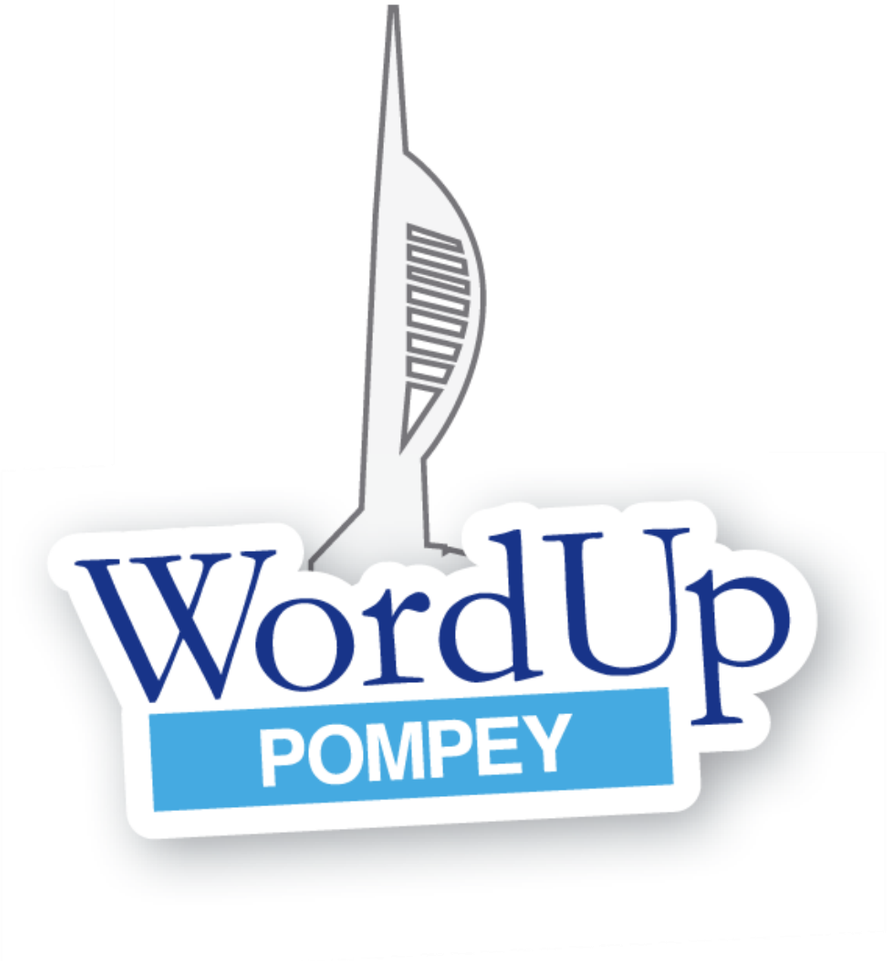


Welcome to WordUp Pompey!
18th January 2023

@wppompey

#WPPompey
#OnlineWPMeetup

UK Slack: #meetup-portsmouth

https://www.wp-pompey.org.uk/

/about-wordpress-meetups/code-of-conduct/

Agenda

19:00 - Connect to Zoom.
19:10 - Organiser's introduction
19:15 - Battle of the caches
20:00 - Q & A
20:15 - Wrap-up
20:30 - Close – can we stick to 1.5 hours?

Sponsors

Venue sponsor

redIT
@reditcouk

Scott McKeown says

I'll offer a 25% discount on Web Hosting or Virtual Servers to WordUp Pompey! members entering ‘wordup’ at checkout

(that's for life by the way, not once)

Pizza / refreshment sponsor

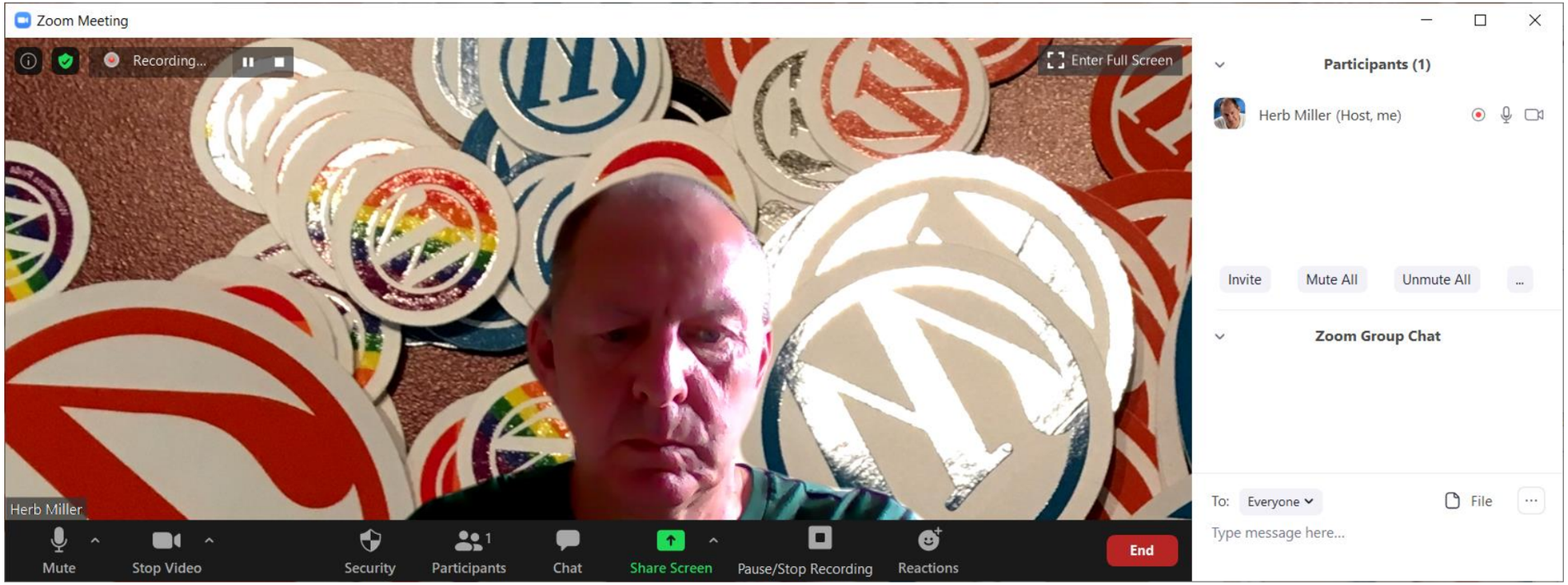
34SP
@34sp

Manchester, UK based website hosting.

Free 3 month trial of WordPress hosting.
Use code: WPPOMPEY

Zoom being recorded

If you do not want to appear in the recording you may turn off your video.
The meeting settings should *Hide non-video participants*.
Also consider muting your microphone and changing your name.



Note: Meetings which have been recorded are published, after some editing /cropping, on YouTube in the wppompey channel…
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNyGdMrd6sFkWjsSenxd8Hg

Battle of the caches

ET FUGA VERTERUNT ANGLI

and the English have turned in flight

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayeux_Tapestry_tituli

Battle of the caches

What you may learn

1. What is caching?
2. Benefits of caching
3. Issues of caching
4. What are the top 10 plugins?
5. How do they compare functionally?
6. How do they compare for real?
7. What's the WP-admin?
8. Some examples of caching
    - SiteGround Optimizer
    - WP Super Cache
    - W3 Total Cache
    - LiteSpeed Cache
    - WP Fastest Cache
    - Paid solutions
9. Conclusion
10. Where can I read more?

Answers to this month's questions

Which caching plugin(s), if any, do you use and why?

SiteGround Optimizer	4
WP Rocket	3
Hummingbird Pro	1
JCH Optimize	1
Strattic	1
Redis	1
WP Fastest Cache	1
Nitropack	1
None	3
No reply	5

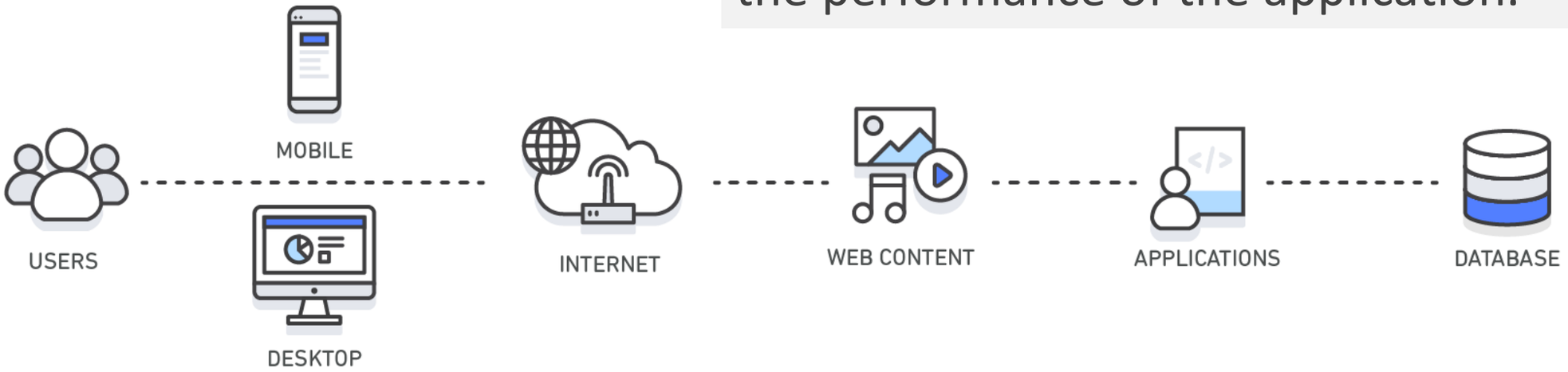
Too many! Pretty sure that I could uninstall some of the older ones and not notice their going!

How can we evaluate the performance of the different cache options in order to select the one most suited for my site?

I am interested in choosing a cache plugin

What is caching?

progressive enhancement that improves the performance of the application.



A cache stores data so that future requests for that data can be served faster; the data stored in a cache might be the result of an earlier computation or a copy of data stored elsewhere.

A *cache hit* occurs when the requested data can be found in a cache, while a *cache miss* occurs when it cannot.

Cache hits are served by reading data from the cache, which is faster than recomputing a result or reading from a slower data store; thus, the more requests that can be served from the cache, the faster the system performs.

- Run time cache: $wp_query
- Object cache: Memcached, APC, Redis
- Page cache: Varnish, Nginx
- Fragment caching: ?

Everything stops for tea?

Preload	-	fill the kettle, make a whole pot
Cache invalidation	-	empty the pot when too strong / cold
Compress output	-	sugar bowl and milk jug
Combine & minify	-	just a few cubes or dash of milk
Browser cache	-	self service milk, sugar etc
Logged in / REST API	-	fresh cuppa each time

- Run time cache: Kettle
- Object cache: tea, sugar, milk
- Page cache: the mug(s) of tea
- Fragment caching: the pot of tea

Benefits of caching

- Performance
- Reduced database cost
- Reduced backend load
- Predictable performance
- Eliminate database hotspots

57% of visitors will leave your site if it takes longer than three seconds to load

Issues of caching

- Cost
- Complexity
- Extra work
- Unnecessary overhead
- Security

What are the top 10 plugins?

POSITION	PLUGIN	TOTAL DOWNLOADS	ACTIVE	STAR RATING	TESTED UP TO
16	SiteGround Optimizer	54430391	1000000	4.3	6.1.1
19	WP Super Cache	45302206	2000000	4.3	6.1.1
27	LiteSpeed Cache	39589819	3000000	4.8	6.1.1
28	W3 Total Cache	39095025	1000000	4.4	6.1.1
31	WP Fastest Cache	37373208	1000000	4.9	6.1.1
46	WP-Optimize – Clean Compress Cache	27241081	1000000	4.8	6.1.1
181	Redis Object Cache	5138270	100000	4.7	6.1.1
282	Hummingbird	3246451	100000	4.8	6.1.1
392	Cache Enabler	2162968	100000	4.4	6.1.1
486	Proxy Cache Purge	1667972	60000	4.4	6.0.3

https://top-10-wp-plugins.com/2022/12/14/cache-plugins/

How do they compare functionally?

FUNCTIONALITY	SITEGROUND OPTIMIZER	WP SUPER CACHE	W3 TOTAL CACHE	LITESPEED CACHE	WP FASTEST CACHE
Dynamic	Y	?	.	Y	.
File based	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Memcache	SG	.	Y	Y	Y
Logged in	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Clearing granularity	?	Y	Y	Y	Y
Exclude	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Preload	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hooks/APIs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Heartbeat	Y	N	N	Y	N
CSS	Y	.	Y	Y	£
JS	Y	.	Y	Y	£
HTML	Y	.	Y	Y	£

https://top-10-wp-plugins.com/2022/12/14/cache-plugins/

How do they compare for real?

Core Web Vital figures– Page Speed Insights

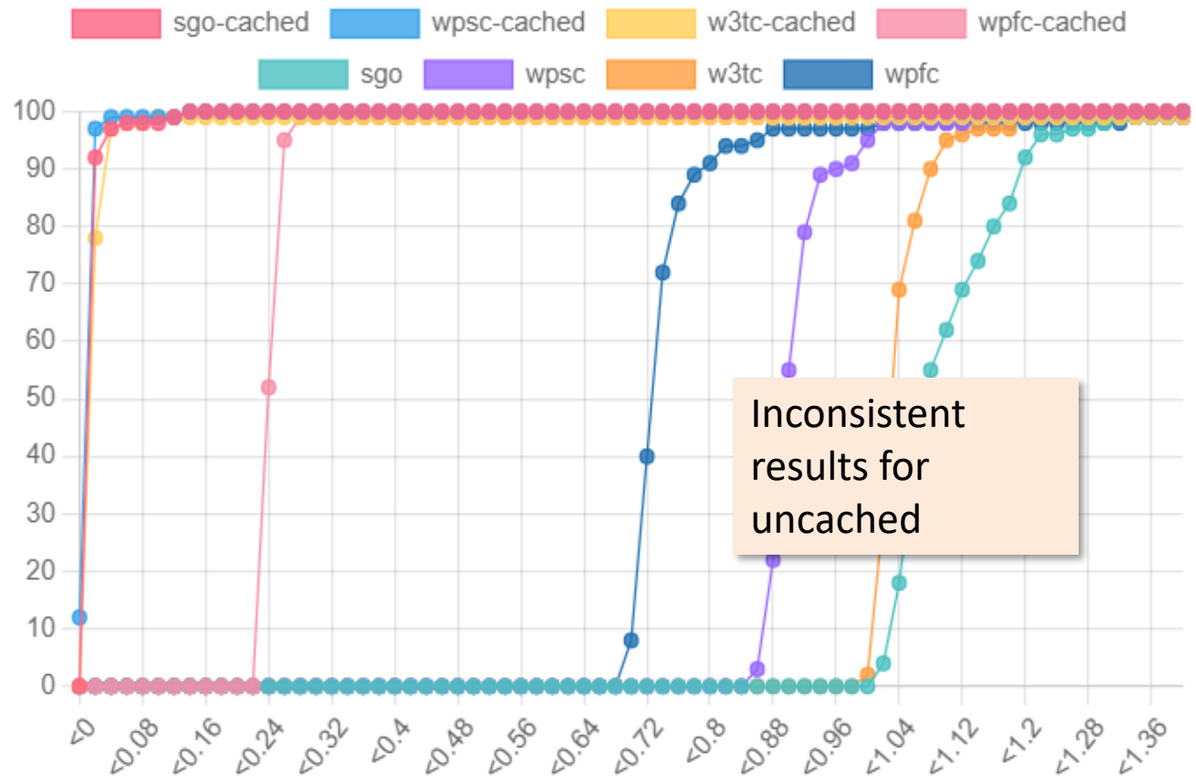
Before					After					Caching plugin
58	84	91	92	91	85	97	100	100	100	SiteGround Optimizer s.b/sgo
65	85	91	91	91	81	97	99	100	99	WP Super Cache s.b/wpsc
69	89	95	95	95	78	97	99	100	100	W3 Total Cache s.b/w3tc
57	86	91	91	91	90	94	91	95	91	WP Fastest Cache s.b/wpfc

https://s.b/sgo/battle-of-the-caches/

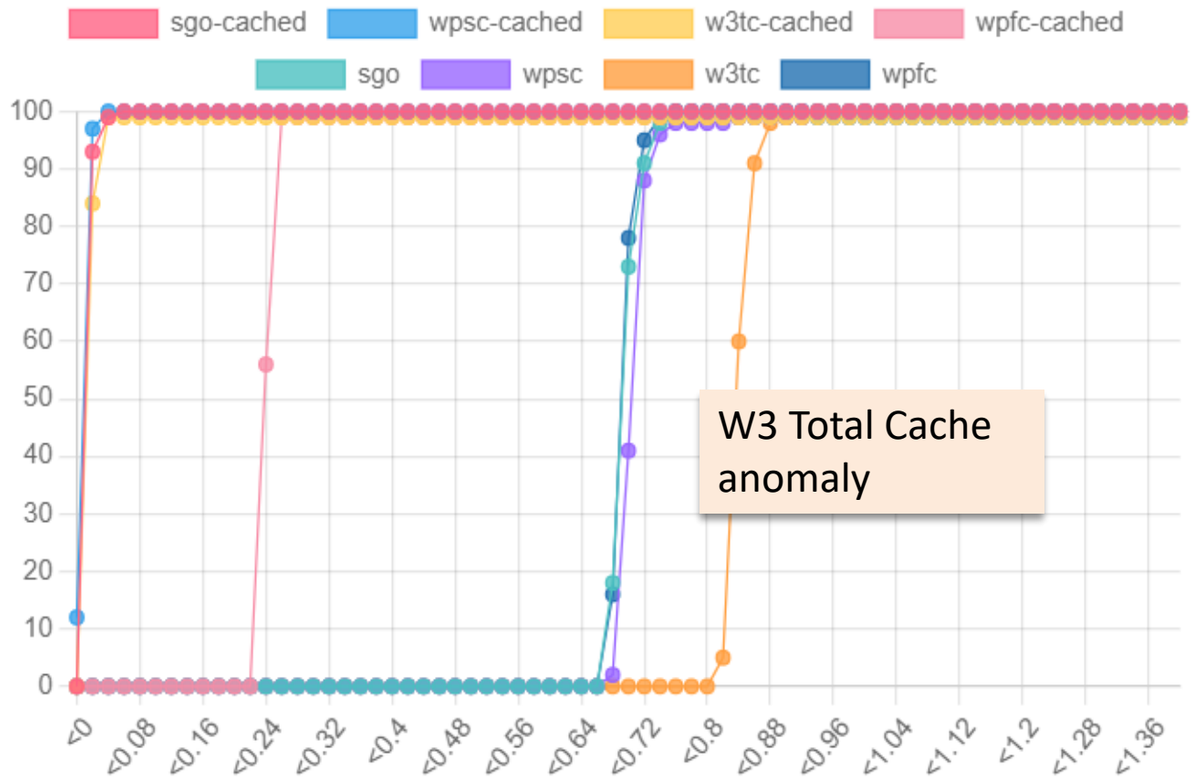
How do they compare for real?

Client response for cached content vs uncached

8th Jan



10th Jan

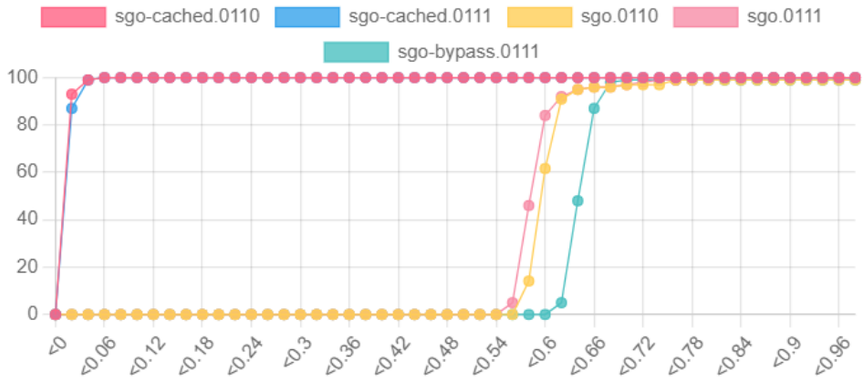


https://s.b/sgo/battle-of-the-caches/

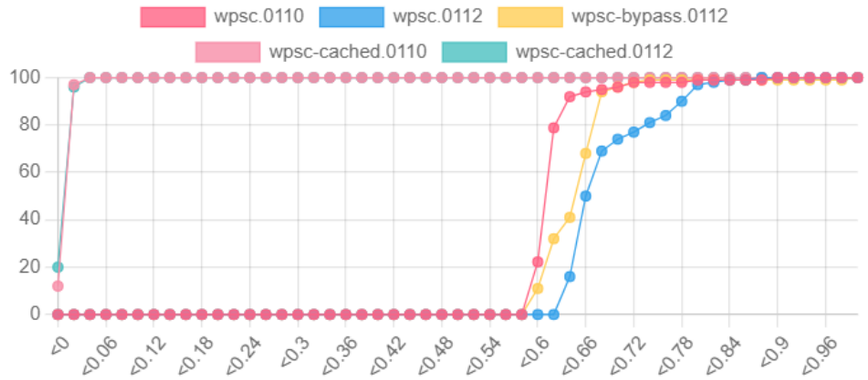
How do they compare for real?

Client responses for: uncached, cache bypass, cached

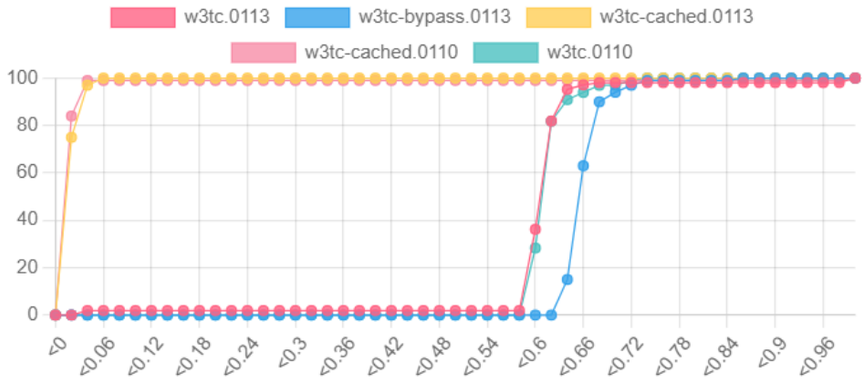
Siteground Optimizer



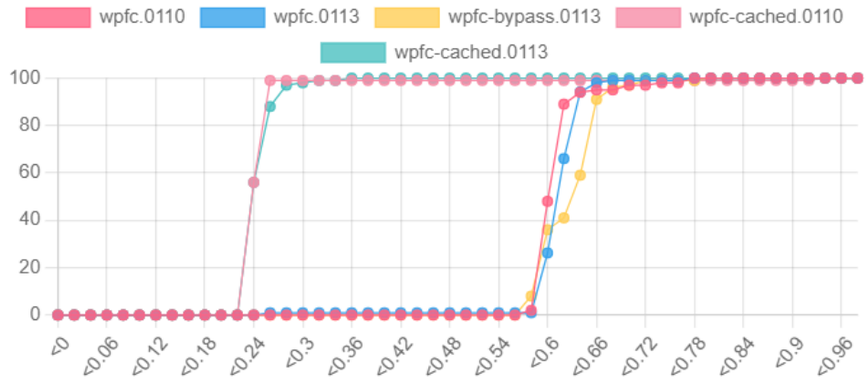
WP Super Cache



W3 Total Cache

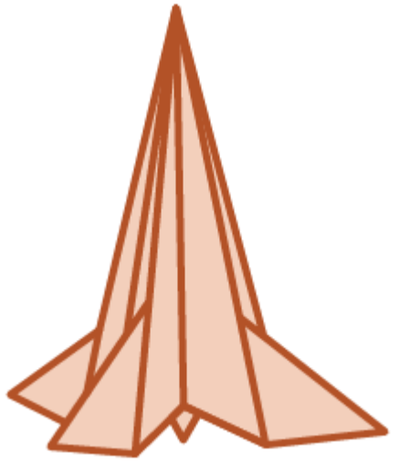


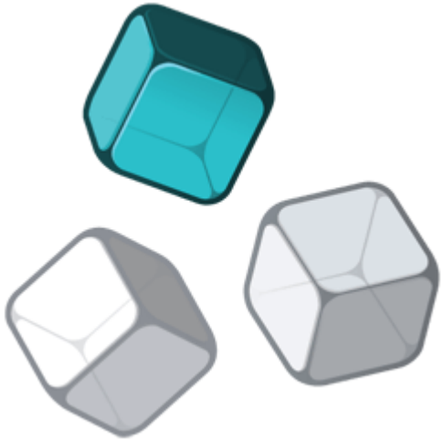
WP Fastest Cache



https://s.b/sgo/battle-of-the-caches/

What's the WP-admin?

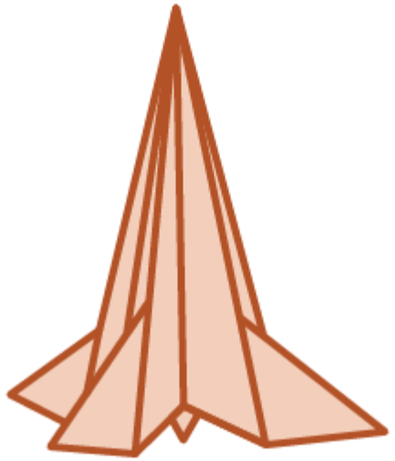




Some examples of caching

Plugin	Site	Local
SiteGround Optimizer	https://bobbingwide.com/wp-secrets	https://cwiccer.com https://s.b/sgo/
WP Super Cache	https://rowlandscastlewebdesign.co.uk	https://s.b/wpsc/
W3 Total Cache	https://wp-secrets.co.uk	https://s.b/w3tc/
LiteSpeed Cache	https://rowlandscastlewebdesign.com	https://s.b/lsc/
WP Fastest Cache	https://bobbingwide.co.uk/	https://s.b/wpfc/

SiteGround Optimizer



https://bobbingwide.com/wp-secrets
https://s.b/sgo/

advanced-cache.php
object-cache.php

SiteGround Optimizer returns information in the HTTP headers.

- HIT - the cached page has been returned
- MISS - this page should have been cached but wasn't
- BYPASS - the page is not cacheable for one or more of a variety of reasons. Eg marked as not cacheable.

Filter: sgo_exclude_urls_from_cache

WP Super Cache

<!-- Cached page generated by WP-Super-Cache on

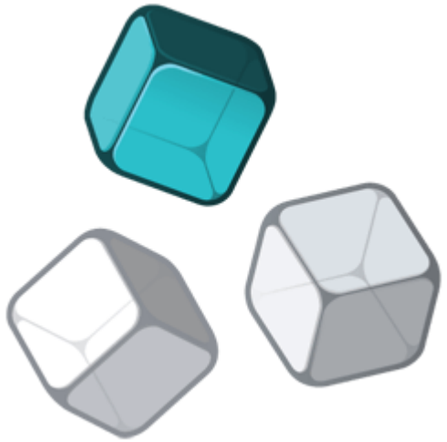
Caching granularity

- DONOTCACHEPAGE constant
- wpsc_is_caching_user_disabled()
- Conditional tag options
- Rejected URL strings

https://rowlandscastlewebdesign.co.uk
https://s.b/wpsc/

advanced-cache.php

W3 Total Cache



<!-- Performance optimized by W3 Total Cache.
Learn more: https://www.boldgrid.com/w3-total-cache/
Object Caching 0/0 objects using disk

Page Caching using disk
Page Caching using disk (Requested method is POST)
Page Caching using disk (Requested URI is rejected

Served from: s.b @ 2022-12-31 17:56:37 by W3 Total Cache -->

https://wp-secrets.co.uk
https://s.b/w3tc

- Filter: w3tc_can_cache
- Performance > Page Cache > Advanced > Never cache the following pages

advanced-cache.php
object-cache.php

Extremely complicated admin.

Pro version $99 / year

LiteSpeed Cache

LSCache caching functions on this page are currently unavailable!
To use the caching functions you must have a LiteSpeed web server or be using QUIC.cloud CDN.

Didn’t make any difference in my local environment.

https://rowlandscastlewebdesign.com
https://s.b/lsc

~~advanced-cache.php -~~ NO

WP Fastest Cache

<!-- WP Fastest Cache file was created in 0.70242285728455 seconds, on 07-01-23 10:03:04 -->
<!– via php →

https://rowlandscastlewebdesign.com
https://s.b/wpfc/

~~advanced-cache.php~~ - NO

Premium version $49.99

Paid solutions

Strattic by Elementor
https://www.strattic.com/

Static and headless WordPress hosting. In one click.
From $32.50 / mo

WP Rocket
https://wp-rocket.me/

The future of Headless WordPress
From £24 /month. First 4 months free.

Hosting companies' caching solutions:

- SiteGround Optimizer
- WP Engine
- IONOS
- Bluehost
- Etc – you tell me

Conclusion

Question. Which caching solution is right for me?

Answer. It depends on…

- Hosting
- Functional requirements
- Expected number of visitors to content
- The size and complexity of your site
- Plugins and themes
- Personal preference

Conclusions … for me

SiteGround Optimizer

- I **have** to use it

WP Super Cache

- I would use the Expert Cache Delivery method
- Problems in Windows subdirectory install

W3 Total Cache

- Too complicated
- Bloated

LiteSpeed Cache

- Requires LiteSpeed

WP Fastest Cache

- It’s not; always uses PHP to serve cached content

Where can I read more?

- https://wordpress.org/support/article/optimization-caching/
- https://wordpress.org/support/article/optimization/
- https://wordpress.org/plugins/search/cache/
- https://www.tollmanz.com/core-caching-concepts-in-wordpress/
- https://www.wpbeginner.com/plugins/best-wordpress-caching-plugins/
- https://blog.hubspot.com/website/best-wordpress-cache-plugins-to-speed-up-a-site

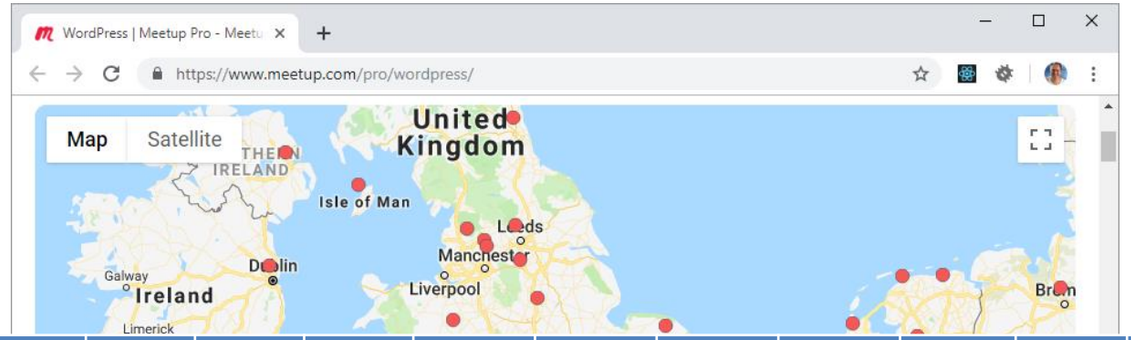
WordPress Global Community Sponsorship

A big thanks to our Global Community Sponsors:

- Jetpack
- WooCommerce
- Bluehost
- Weglot
- Nexcess
- WordPress.com

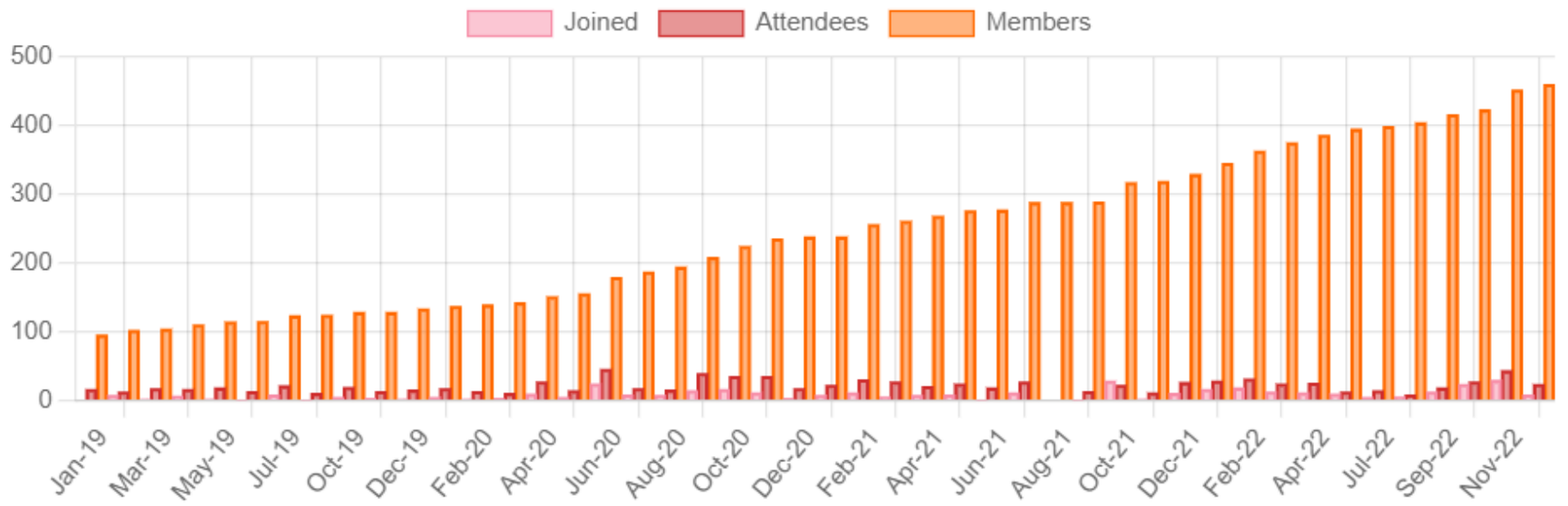
https://central.wordcamp.org/global-community-sponsors/

460 meetup members



Key	Jan 23	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Jul	Jun	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan 22	Nov	Sep	Jul	May	Mar	Jan 21	Jul	Jan 20
Countries	113	113	113	112	112	112	112	111	111	111	111	111	111	109	109	109	109	113	108
Groups	780	778	772	766	764	769	769	762	760	758	757	757	755	750	748	746	745	857	818
Members	504549	502002	499970	497676	494303	491669	489256	484813	481908	482017	479658	474124	469961	466725	462860	458338	453109	456627	424517
Portsmouth	460	452	452	423	416	399	395	386	375	363	345	319	289	288	276	261	245	187	137
Brighton	644	643	641	642	639	636	637	637	638	638	638	640	642	642	643	643	643	648	613
Bournemouth	552	551	553	555	555	558	560	561	562	562	563	564	564	563	562	561	560	558	536
Exeter	301	300	301	301	303	304	305	303	302	299	293	281	283	283	281	282	283	278	278
Bristol	1023	1026	1026	1026	1030	1032	1033	1035	1038	1040	1042	1042	1046	1046	1048	1053	1057	1063	1024
Tunbridge Wells	471	471	471	469	469	472	472	471	470	469	470	469	466	461	455	454	446	431	393

Meetup stats since 2019



https://www.wp-pompey.org.uk/wordpress-portsmouth-meetup/meetup-stats/

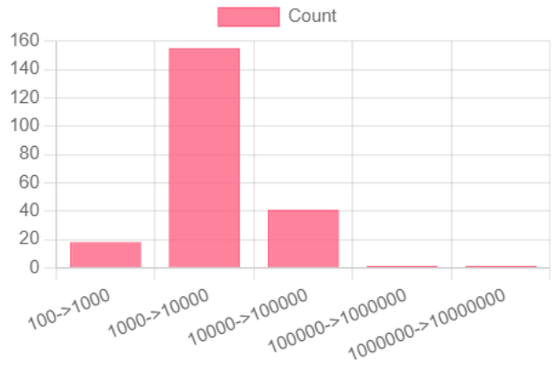
WordPress plans – 2023

15 Nov 2022	WordPress 6.1.1	
Dec	State of the Word 2022	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VeigCZuxnfY
7 Feb	WordPress 6.2 beta 1	
17-19 Feb	WordCamp Asia Bangkok	
28 Mar	WordPress 6.2	
27 May	WordPress turns 20.	https://wp20.wordpress.net/
8-10 June	WordCamp Europe Athens	https://europe.wordcamp.org/2023/
22-23 August	2023 Community Summit	https://communitysummit.wordcamp.org/2023/

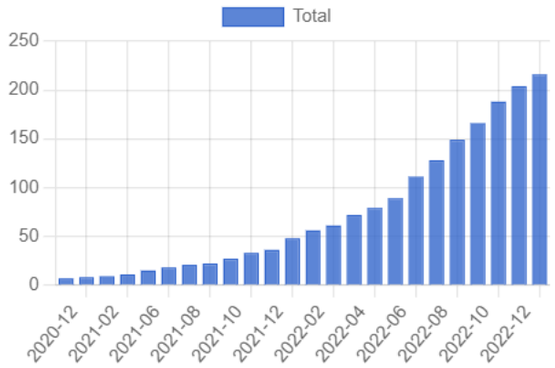
https://central.wordcamp.org/schedule/
https://make.wordpress.org/core/tag/6-2/

Full Site Editing themes

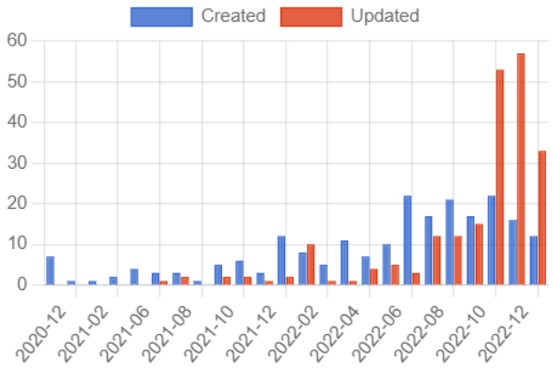
Grouped by total downloads



FSE theme count



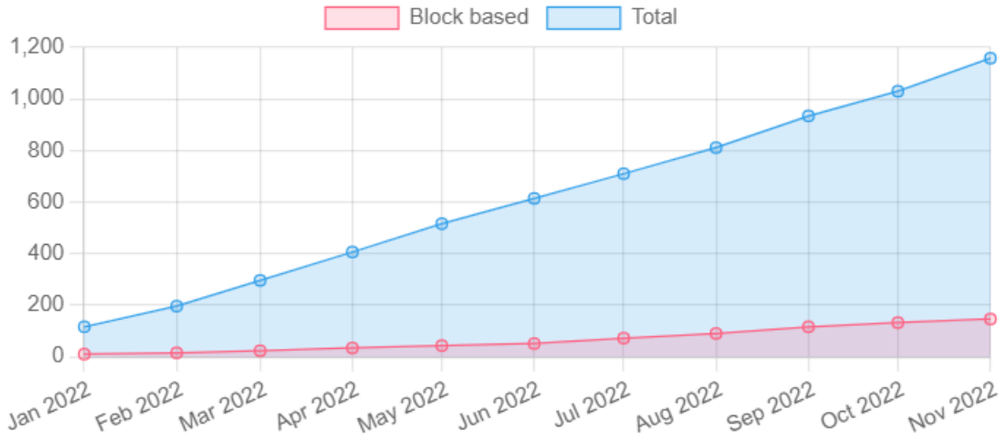
Last updated / created



https://blocks.wp-a2z.org/2023/01/18/fse-theme-statistics-18th-january-2023/

Target: **500** block themes in the WordPress theme repository by end 2022

FSE themes: **216**
Style variations: **573**



https://wordpress.org/themes/tags/full-site-editing/

wppompey plans - 2022

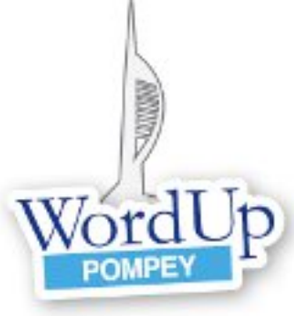
Date	Agenda	Notes
19 Jan 2022	What's in WordPress 5.9	#OnlineWPMeetup
16 Feb 2022	Performance – Measuring and improving your Core Web Vitals.	#OnlineWPMeetup
16 Mar 2022	Spring Clinic – Problem Solving	#OnlineWPMeetup
20 Apr 2022	Lightning Talks - Deeper dive into Analytics and other topics	#OnlineWPMeetup
18 May 2022	NO MEETING	
15 Jun 2022	Yoast's Premium SEO plugins	#OnlineWPMeetup
20 Jul 2022	Mobile WordPress with Drew Westcott	#OnlineWPMeetup
17 Aug 2022	Social Meetup in Old Portsmouth	#OnlineWPMeetup
21 Sep 2022	Accessibility of the block editor – Graham Armfield	#OnlineWPMeetup
19 Oct 2022	Local development environments	#OnlineWPMeetup
16 Nov 2022	Headless CMS 101 + blazingly fast front ends	#OnlineWPMeetup
21 Dec 2022	Caching – battle of the caches - POSTPONED	#OnlineWPMeetup

wppompey plans - 2023

Date	Agenda	Notes
18 Jan 2023	Battle of the caches	#OnlineWPMeetup
15 Feb 2023	New Year's Resolution Clinic	#OnlineWPMeetup
15 Mar 2023	TBC	#OnlineWPMeetup
19 Apr 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
17 May 2023		
21 Jun 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
19 Jul 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
16 Aug 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
20 Sep 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
18 Oct 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
15 Nov 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup
21 Dec 2023		#OnlineWPMeetup

Some WordPress trivia

See also : https://displaywp.com/



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Thanks again to our venue sponsor @reditcouk
… since January 2018

red IT

And to our pizza / refreshment sponsor @34SP
… since December 2018

34SP.com