Digital Strategies for Musicians May 2 - 4, 2018 | Brandon University

#### Connecting to your Audience

Tips on designing your digital presence

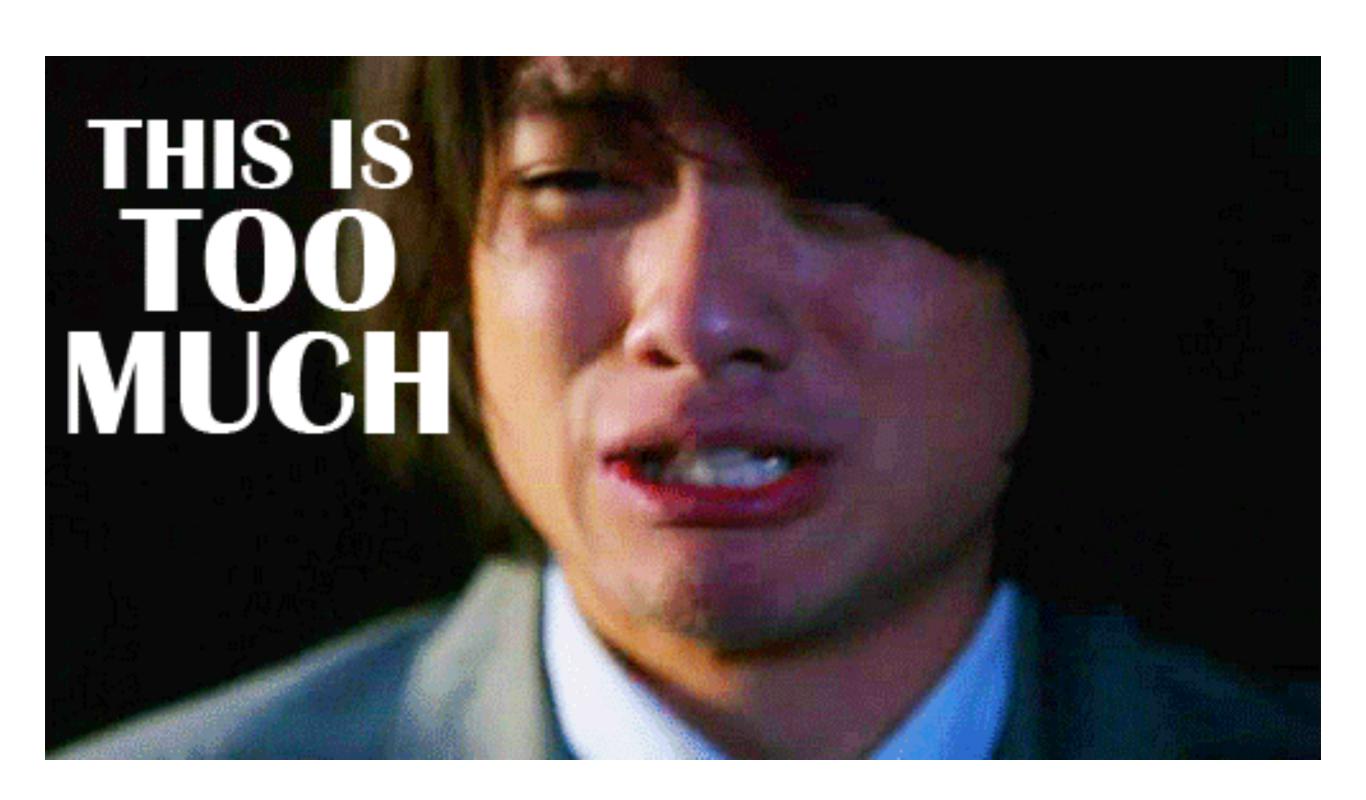
#### Connecting to your Audience

The Problem: Understanding Why

**The Medium:** Capabilities for Different Tools

**Solutions:** Tools Available

\*Tips: What Can I Do Now



#### The Problem:

**Understanding Why** 





The brave world of new gTLDs

Global Internet access and use

Canada's Internet

Internet use in Canada

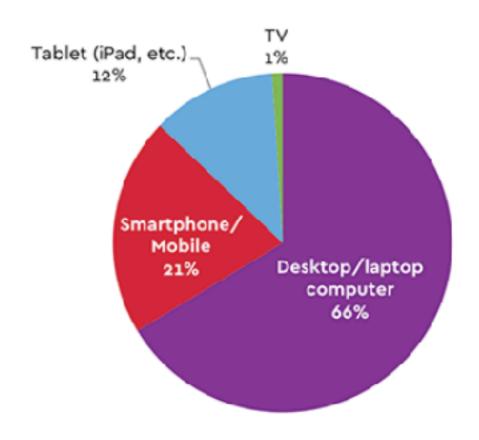
Cybersecurity and Internet technology

Download the PDF

CIRA Internet Factbook Archives

#### Device used most often to access the Internet

The majority of Canadians still use a desktop or laptop computer to access the Internet (67%), but those between 18 and 34 are less likely to do so (54%). 41 per cent of Canadian Internet users between 18 and 34 report using a mobile phone to access the Internet most often.

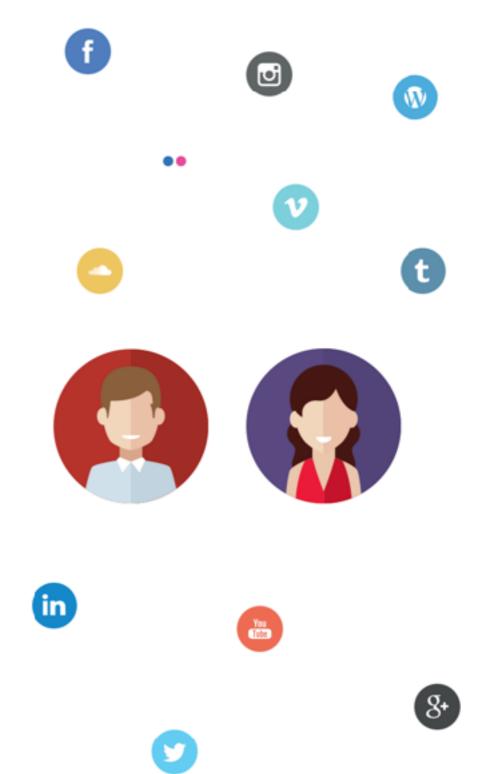


Source: CRA tracking research 2016

Device			Age			
	All respondents	18-34	35-54	55+		
Desktop/laptop computer	67%	54%	67%	76%		
Smartphone/Mobile	21%	41%	21%	6%		
Tablet (iPad, etc.)	12%	5%	11%	17%		
TV	1%	1%	1%	-		

# Creating a Digital Presence

- \*People to find you
- Validates the work you do
- Increases credibility
- \*Helps you connect





## Who are you? Who are you trying to reach?

- \*Be real! Do not fake!
- \*Who is your ideal listener?
- \*Create Website
- Select Social Media Platforms
- Continue Adding Content

#### The Medium:

**Capabilities for Different Tools** 



#### Website Platform

Selecting the Platform

## 53% - Use no tool to manage website47% Uses some type of content management system

# \	WEBSITES USING	MARKET SHARE %	ACTIVE SITES	# OF WEBSITES IN MILLION
1	WordPress	59.9 %	26,701,222	239,139
2	Joomla	6.6 %	2,009,717	13,48
3	Drupal	4.6 %	964,820	23,33
4 1	(i) Magento	2.4 %	372,915	12,09
5	Blogger	1.9 %	758,571	15,77
6	Shopify	1.8 %	605,506	11,58
7 (	Bitrix	1.5 %	200,210	3,92
8	У ТУРОЗ	1.5 %	582,629	3,56
9 (	Squarespace	1.5 %	1,390,307	9,79
0	PrestaShop	1.3 %	262,342	2,09

#### What Should I Use?

- \*What is your Budget?
- \*Who will be making the changes?
- \*What services do you want to have?
  - \*Sell online?
  - Just share information
  - **\*Blog**
  - \*Etc...

# SQUARESPACE





- \*All-in-one hosted website platform
- Design, Functionality,Hosting, and CustomerSupport
- One solution with lots of capabilities



WEBSITES

**ONLINE STORES** 

#### PERSONAL

12

Per month billed annually or \$16 month to month.

A beautiful, simple website.

- Unlimited Pages, Galleries, and Blogs with Unlimited Bandwidth and Storage, and 2 Contributors
- → Mobile Optimized Website.
- Website Metrics
- Free Custom Domain\*
   with annual purchase
- SSL Security Included

#### BUSINESS

\* 18

Per month billed annually or \$26 month to month.

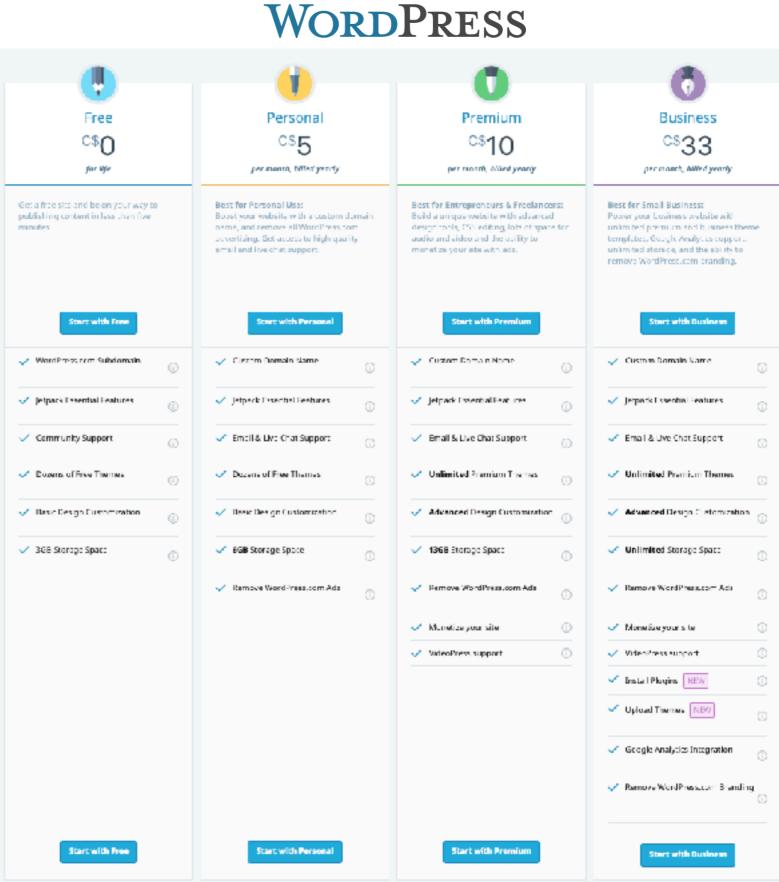
Perfect for businesses of all sizes.

- Unlimited Pages, Galleries, and Blogs with Unlimited Bandwidth and Storage, and Unlimited Contributors
- Mobile Optimized Website
- Advanced Website Metrics
- Free Custom Domain\* with annual purchase
- SSL Security Included
- 24/7 Customer Support
- ✓ Professional email from Google\*
- ✓ \$100 Google AdWords Credit
- ✓ Promotional Pop Ups
- → Fully Integrated E-Commerce
- ✓ Sell Unlimited Products & Accept Donations
- 3% Transaction Fee
- ✓ Mobile Information Bar
- Complete Customization Through CSS and JavaScript
- Premium Blocks and Integrations
- ✓ Announcement Bar



#### Advantages

- \*All-in-one hosted website platform
- Design, Functionality,Hosting, and CustomerSupport
- One solution with lots of capabilities







#### Disadvantages

- Limited amount of customization
- \*Cannot add extra functionality easily
- Domain included only in yearly plan

#### Disadvantages

- \*Understanding the language used
- \*Too many options
- **\*Slow to load**
- **\*Support Forums**

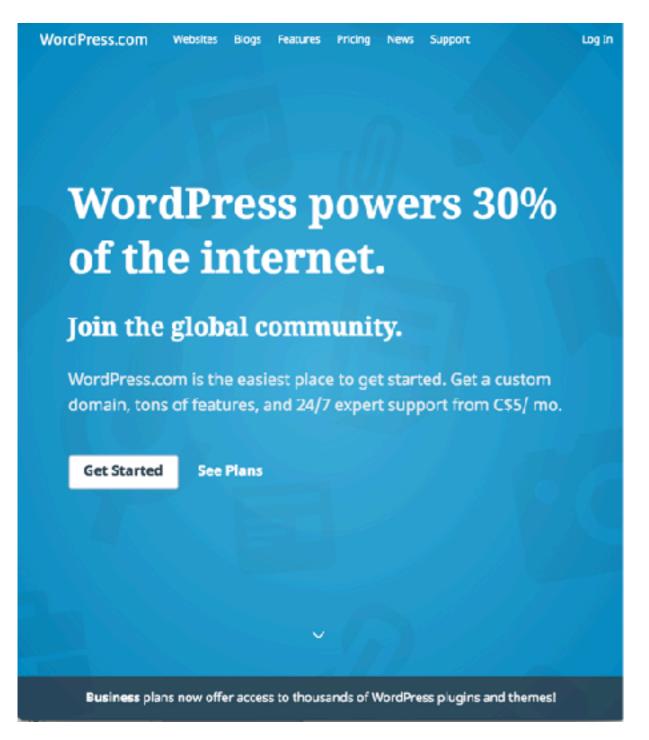
#### Solutions:

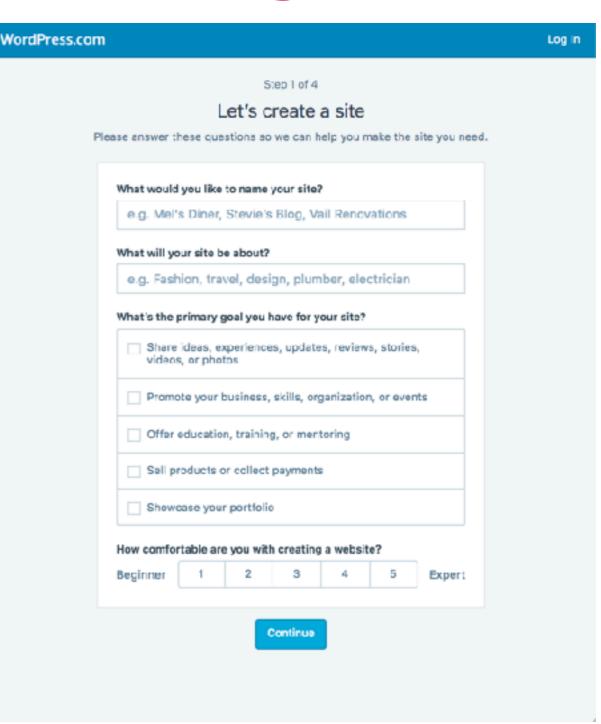
**Tools Available** 

#### If You Are Using WordPress.com

- \*Domain
- \*Theme Mobile Compatible
- Optimize your Pictures + Video
- \*Apply Unique Titles, keywords, description for each page
  - \*Website, Youtube, Soundcloud
  - Google Adwords Keyword Generator

# Get Started & Classify the Website for Search Engines





#### Wordpress.com Plans

#### Versatile plans and pricing



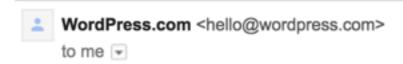
COMPARE PLANS

Discover what your website can do with more power

**Get Started** 

Each plan has different capabilities, start with free and upgrade from there, based on the needs you will have

## Confirm your Registration



11:23 AM (13 minutes ago) 🥎





Welcome to WordPress.com, the most dynamic community of bloggers, website creators, and intrepid readers on the web. You're all set to begin crafting the site of your dreams and sharing your voice on the web. Take a peek at our <u>new user guides</u> for tips on getting started.

Log in with your Google account to find amazing content from publishers around the world.

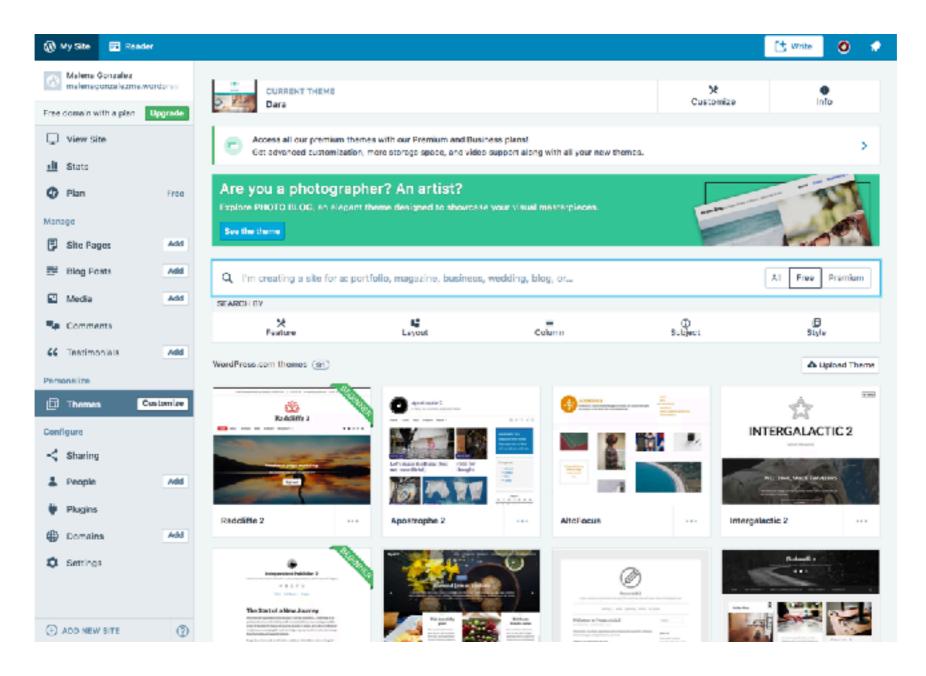
Log in to WordPress.com

Sign in with your personal email, google, but make sure you remember and check this regularly

#### **Domains & Themes**

- URL Domain Must be unique and related to you
- WordPress Themes
  - Free a lot of people may have this theme and your website could look the same as other ones
  - \*Purchased it will offer unique personalization tools to make it look different.

#### Select the Theme (the look)



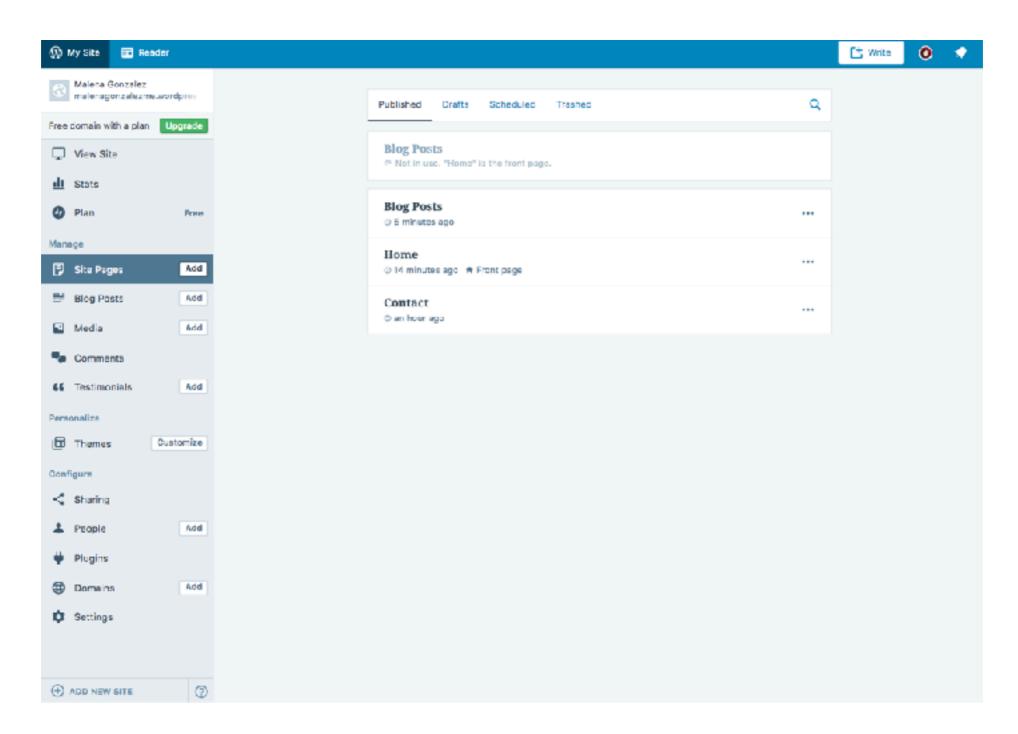
Customize your theme further with your own logo, colours, fonts, styles. Feel comfortable first, then come back to customization.

#### Site Pages vs Blog Posts

- \*Site Pages are the main pages of your site that will never change
- Name it being unique and descriptive for search engine optimization
- Main Navigation Links

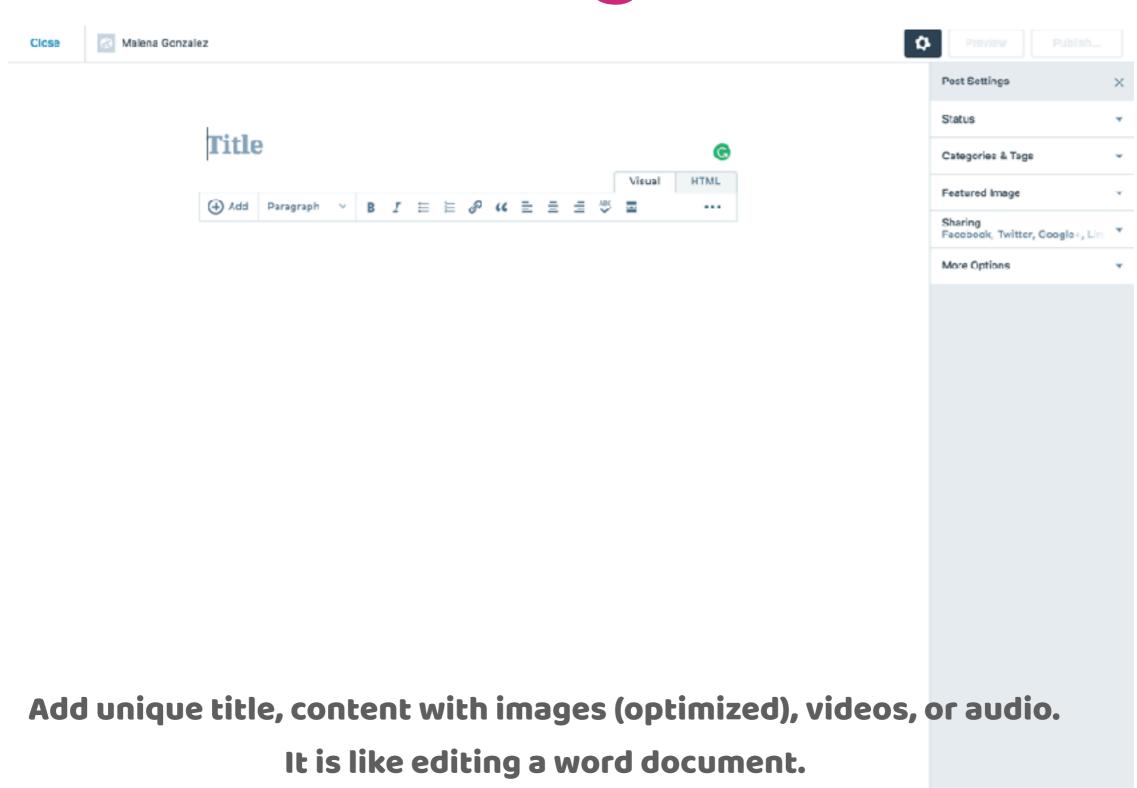
- \*Blog posts are regular entries you would like to add to your website
- \*These can help you generate traffic, as the content changes constantly
- Part of the Main Navigation

## Site Pages vs Blog Posts

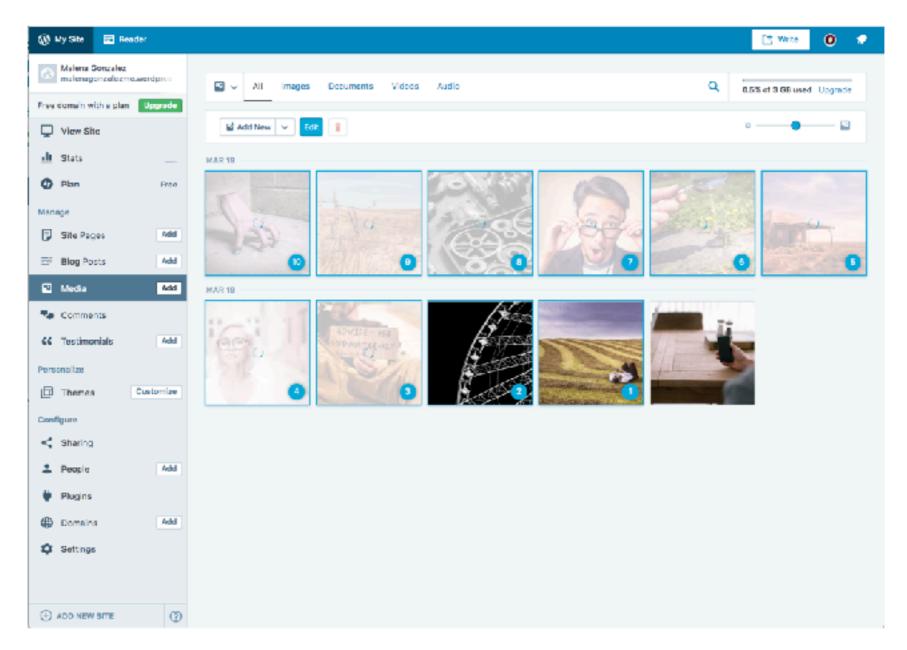


You can edit them the same way

#### How to Edit Pages or Posts?



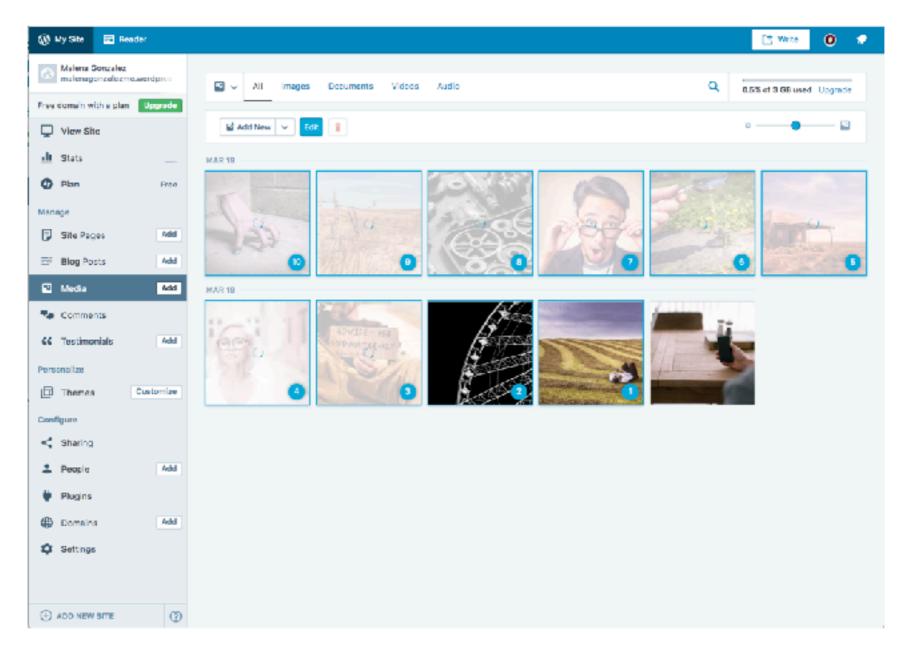
## **Uploading Media**



Upload your images, video or audio by dragging and dropping.

I will recommend uploading video in YouTube, audio in Soundcloud.

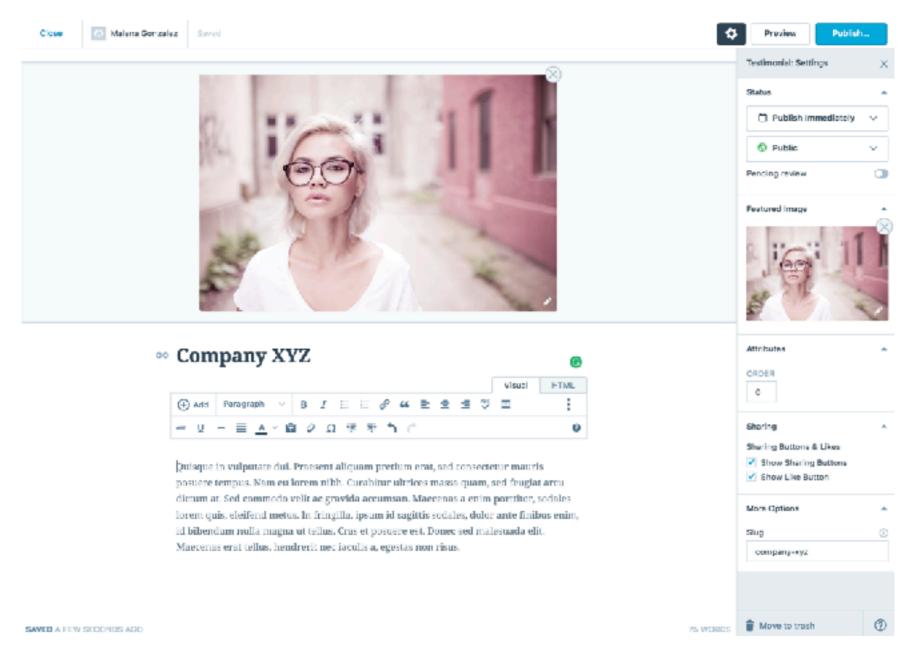
## **Uploading Media**



Upload your images, video or audio by dragging and dropping.

I will recommend uploading video in YouTube, audio in Soundcloud.

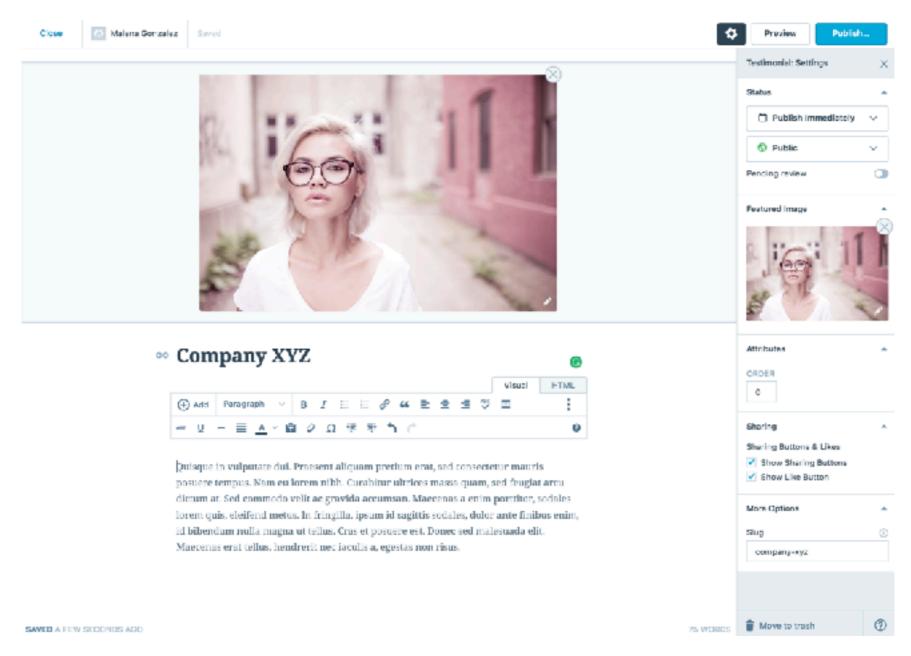
#### How to Edit Pages or Posts?



Add a featured image - which will be the banner for that page.

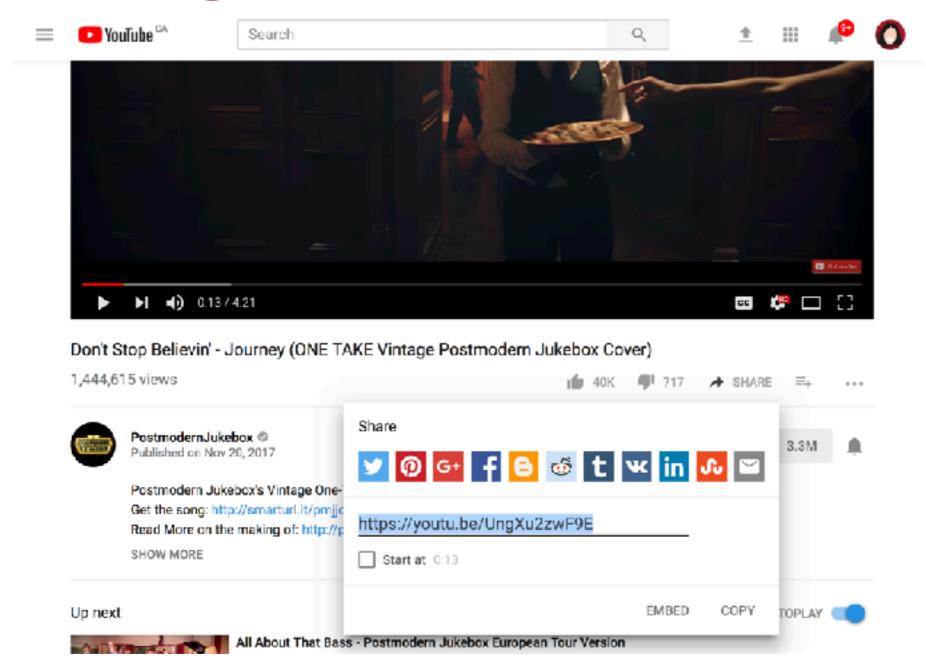
Publish your page when you are ready!

#### How to Edit Pages or Posts?

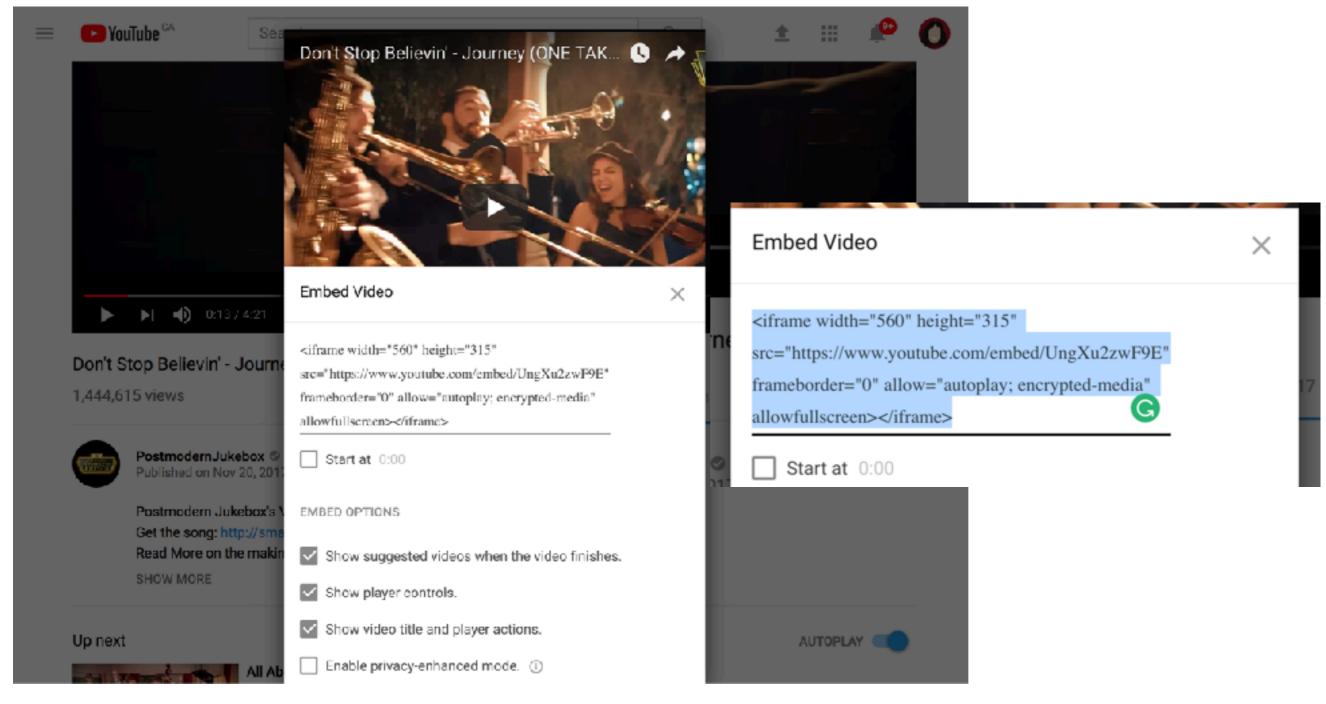


Add a featured image - which will be the banner for that page.

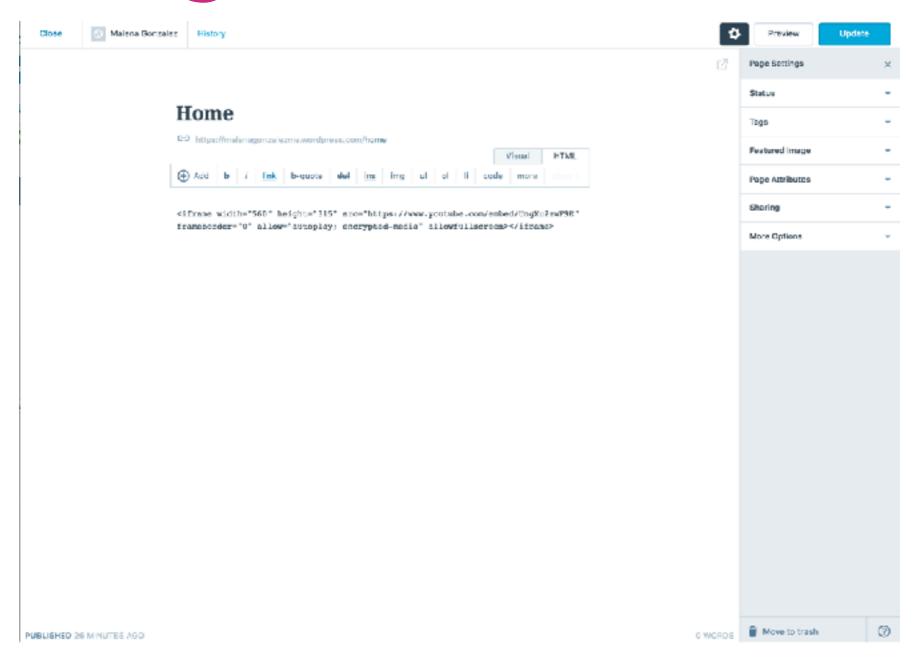
Publish your page when you are ready!



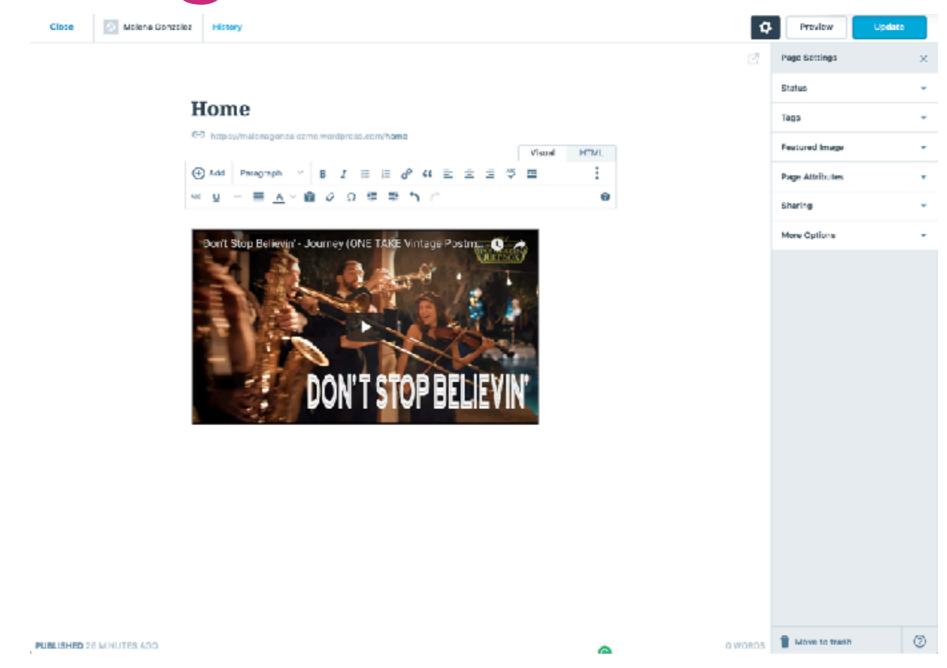
Select the video you would like to embed and click share and then EMBED



Copy the <iframe> code you see in the window

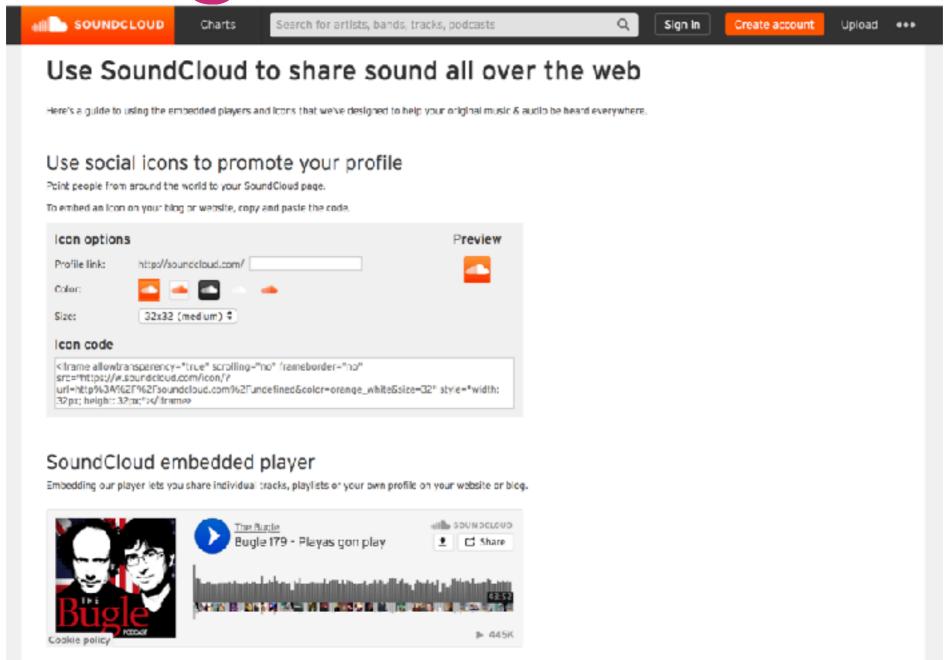


Go back to the page or post you would like to embed the video, click on the HTML tab and paste the code you just copied.



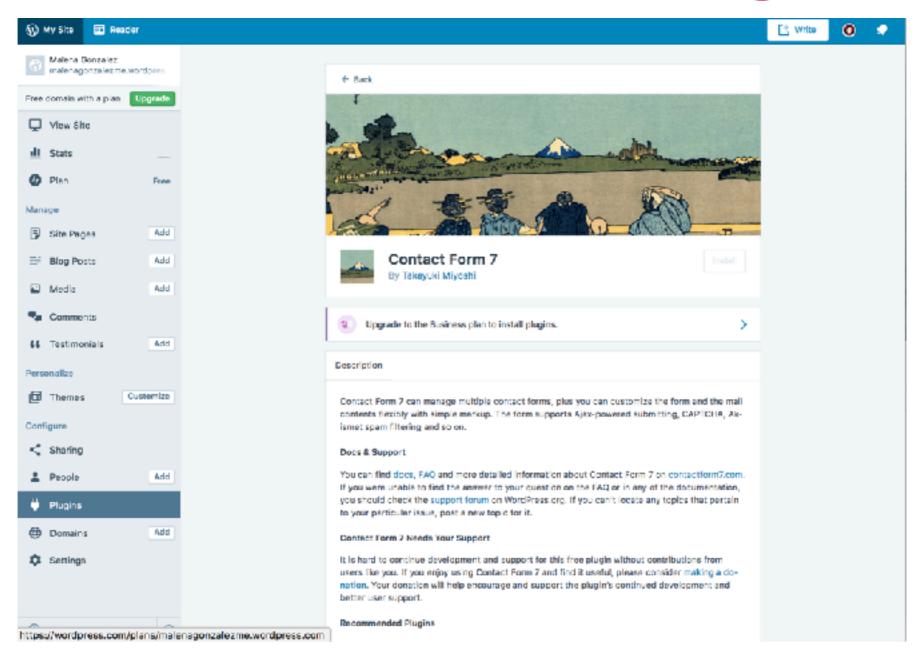
You can click back to the VISUAL tab and you should be able to see your video. You can click on the video and align it to the center, left or right

#### Adding Sound to the Website



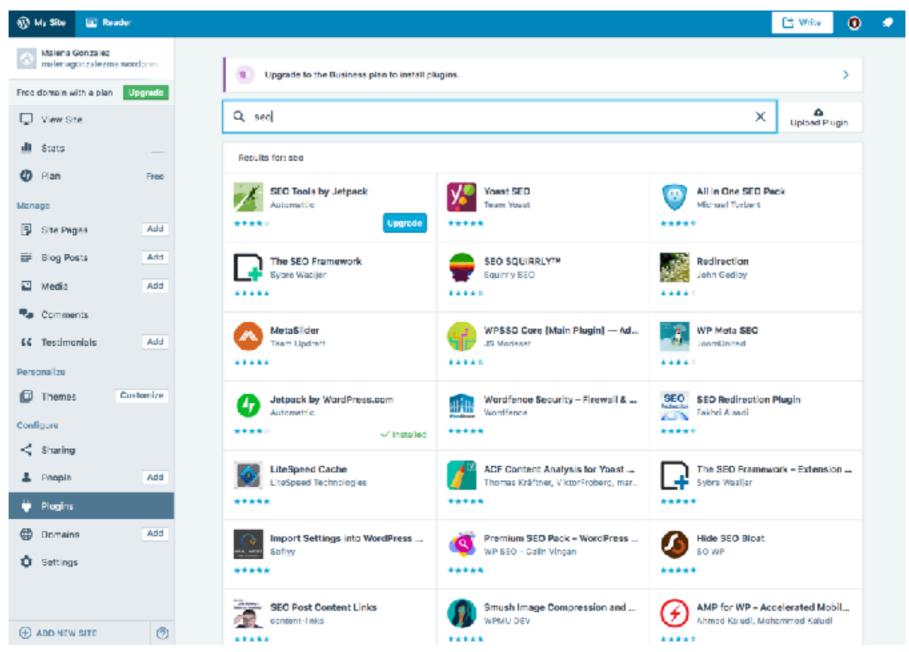
The same as the video, but go to SoundCloud, select the music and click on embed. Paste the sound on the page you would like to have this.

## Wordpress.com Plugins



Based on the plan you selected, several plugins are available, other ones you will need to upgrade your plan to have access.

## Wordpress.com Plugins



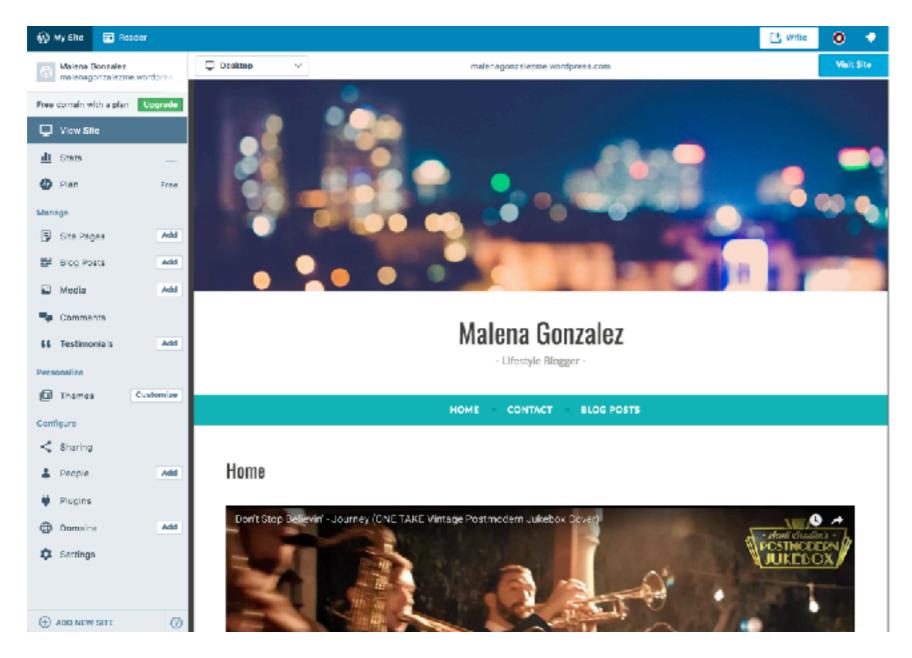
Search for the functionality you would like to have

## Plugins that I will Recommend

- Contact Form 7
- Visual Form
- \*All in One SEO
  - Pack
- \*Elementor Page Builder
- **\*VIMEO** embeder

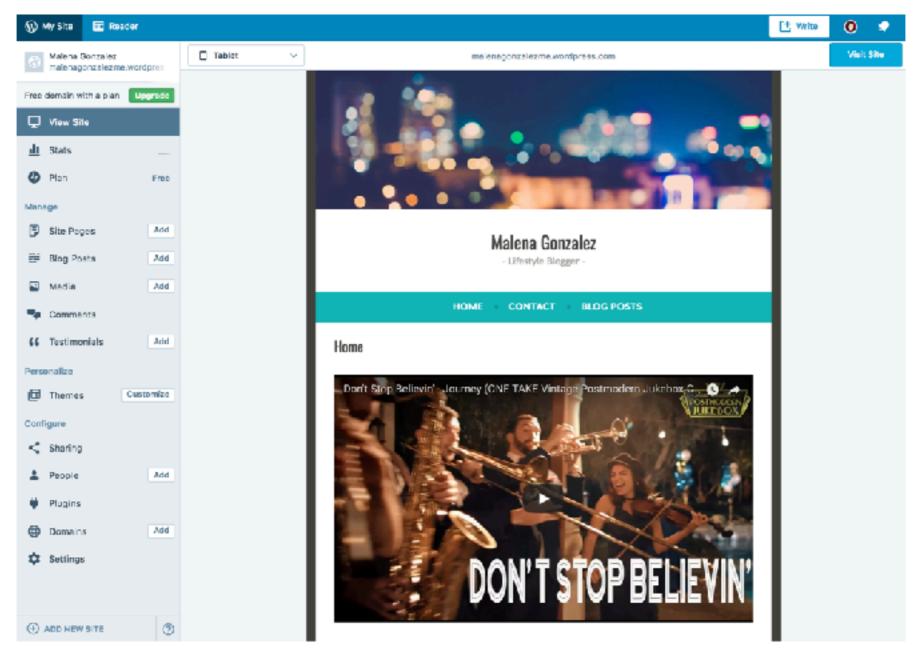
- SoundCloud is Gold
- SoundPress Plugin
- Prevent Content
  - Theft
- Sitemap Plugin
- **\*Shortcuts Ultimate**

# View your Website



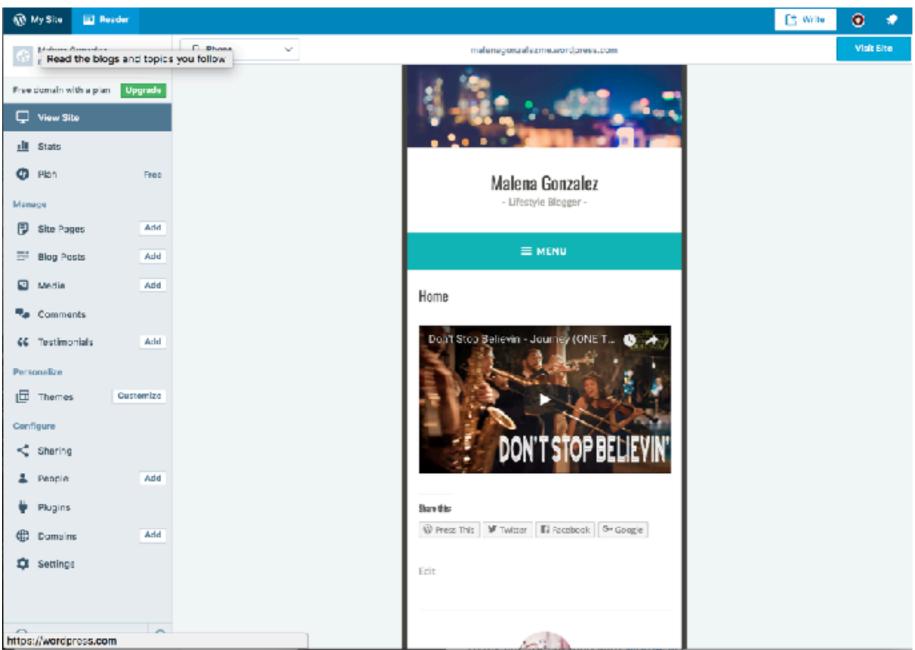
Test your website in Desktop, Tablet, and Mobile.

# View your Website



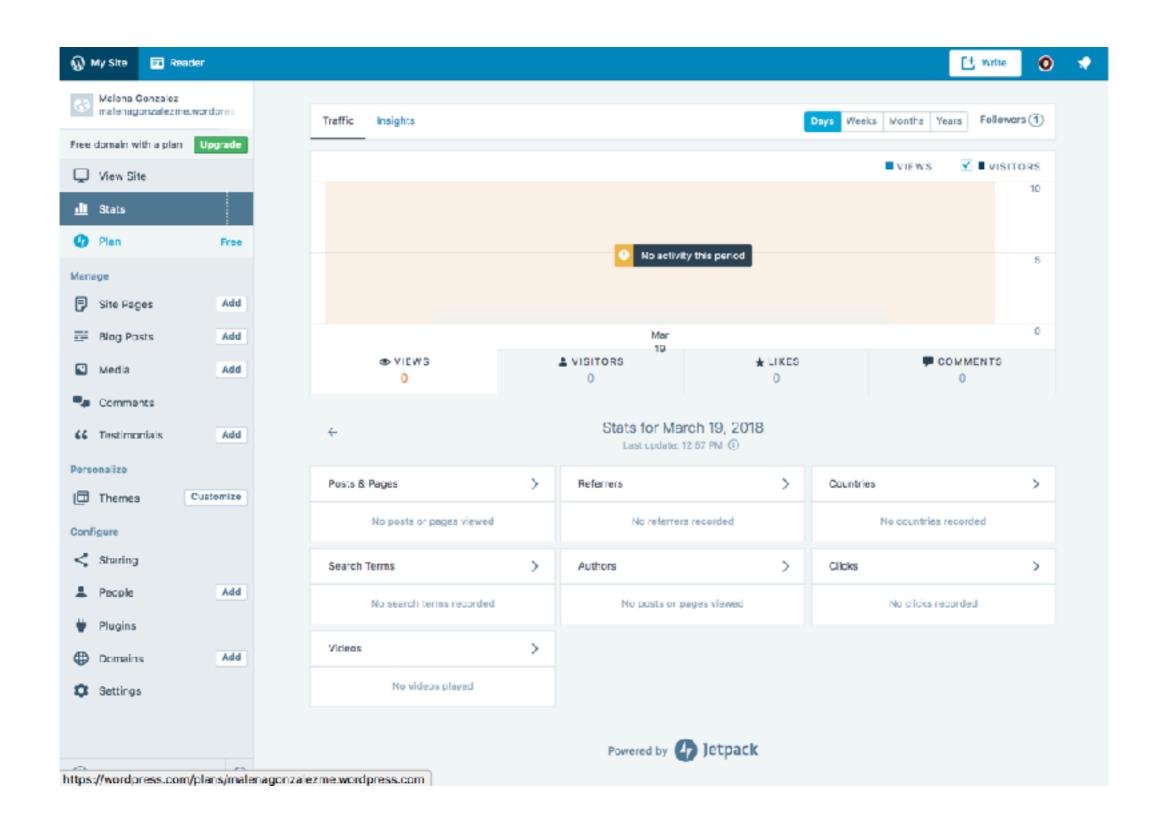
Test your website in Desktop, Tablet, and Mobile.

# View your Website



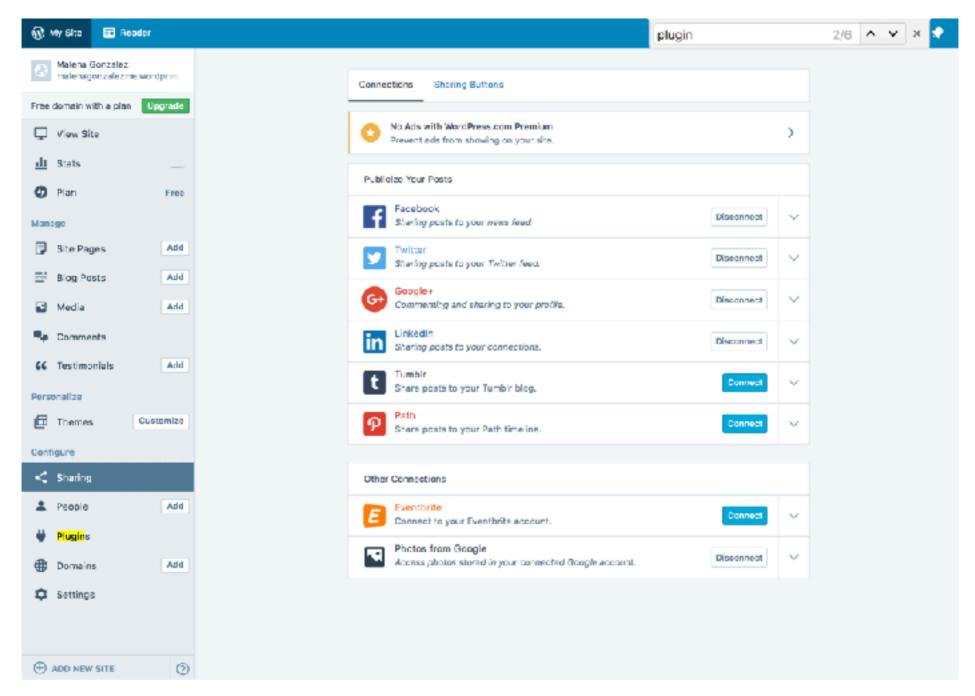
Test your website in Desktop, Tablet, and Mobile.

#### Review the Website Stats



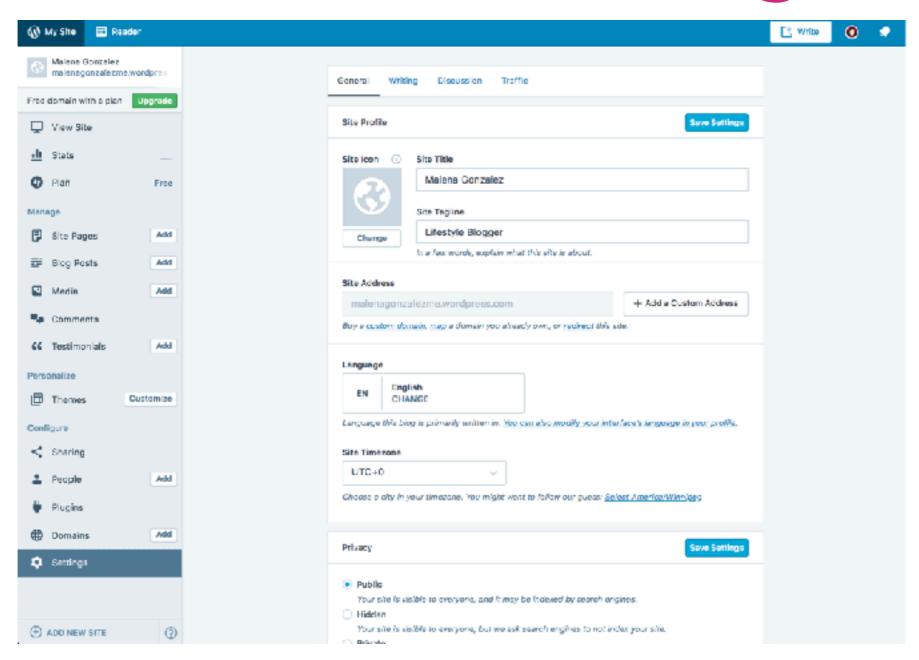


#### Social Media



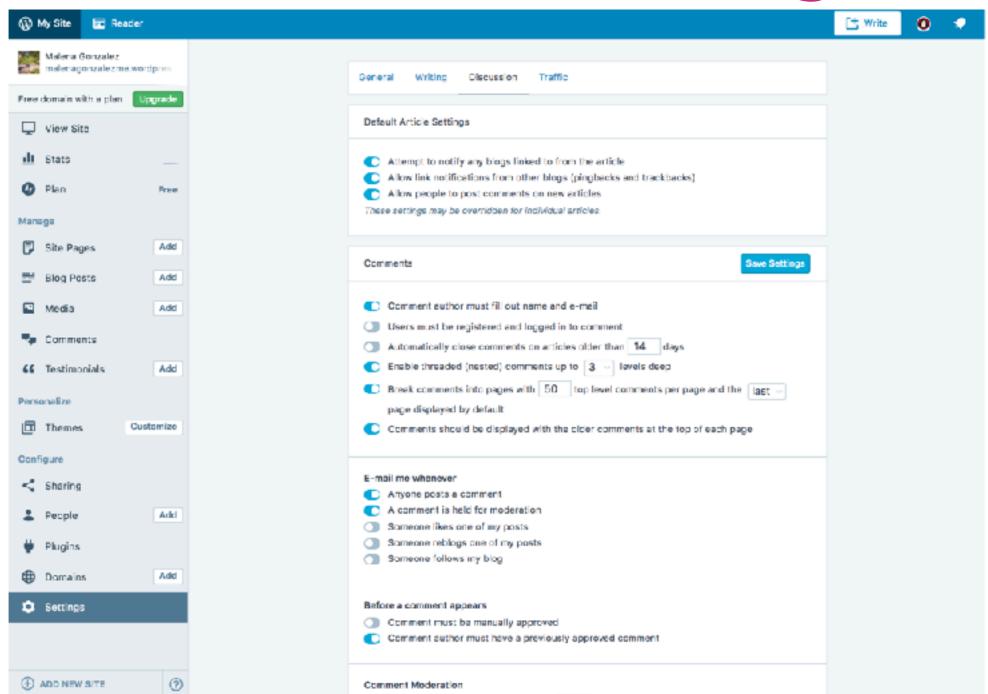
Plug the different channels you are currently using via the Sharing section. Only pick the social media that you use the most.

#### Personalize Settings



Add a unique site icon, change the site tagline and make your site public.

### Personalize Settings



Comments - If you are not checking your site, disable comments, you don't want to have unwanted comments, or approve them before publishing them.

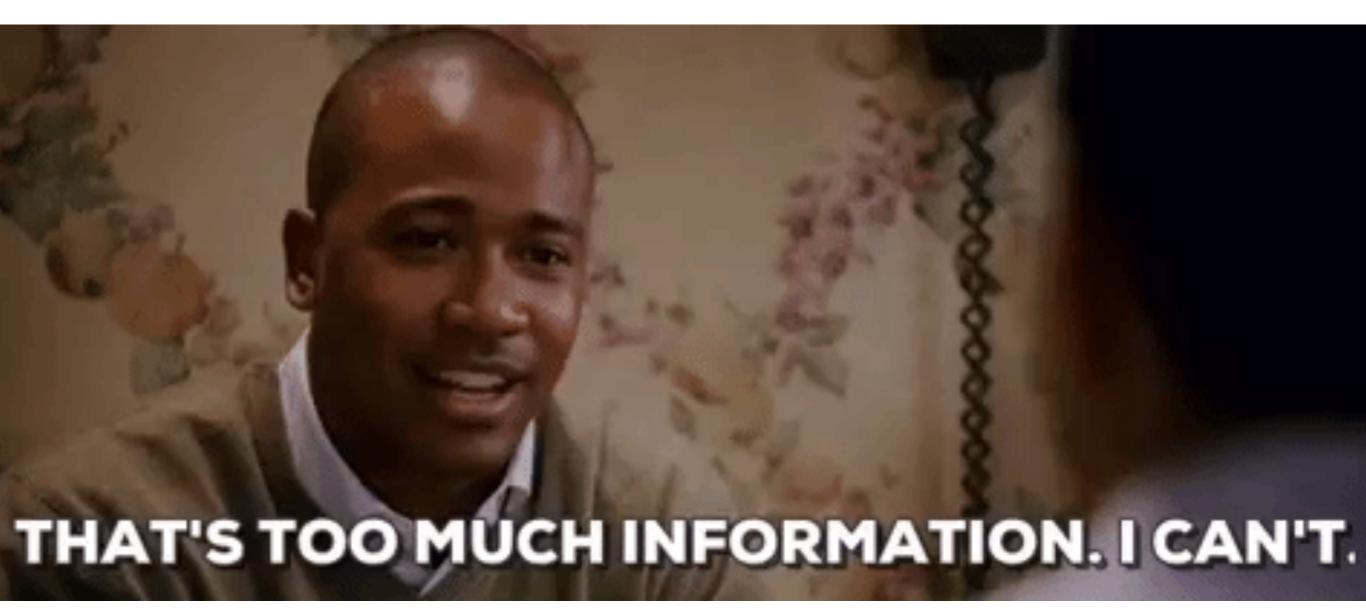
- \*Once you publish your website, share it in your social media networks.
- \*Anytime you post a blog, share it again.
- \*Craft a unique message for each social media channel, do not use the same message across.
- \*Come back regularly and keep checking your website.

#### \*Homepage:

- \*Use a "call to action" on the main top area of your page
  - \*What do you want the user to do when they get here?
  - \*This should be at the very top of your website.
  - \*Don't make the user wonder what your website is about.

- \*Do not use LARGE images, resize them using a third party tool. (1000px width at the most)
  - \*JPG for pictures
  - \*PNG for transparent background
  - \*GIF for 8 16 colour images

- Use a nice profile picture, so people can identify you and connect with you
  Using a professional photo works for the best.
  - It is also based on your demographics
- \*Photos clean, unique, do not use stock photos! Everyone does this! Be unique!



#### Relax and start little by little!

- \*Start with spending 15 min / day updating your website, or getting more comfortable.
- \*Reply to your comments or messages in social media.
- \*Try to reach out to other people in the community and link from your website to their sites - this can help you in searches!



Digital Strategies for Musicians May 2 - 4, 2018 | Brandon University

#### Thank You!

Check the Wordpress Customization Video <a href="https://youtu.be/4DCnli6j5Qs">https://youtu.be/4DCnli6j5Qs</a>



Malena Gonzalez @MalenaGzzS