# Media Library

The Media Library is where you can find all the files that you've uploaded. In WordPress 4.0 and above there are two different types of views you can select from when viewing your media library. You can click the List View icon () to display your images in a list, similar to how they've been displayed in previous versions of WordPress, or you can click the Grid View icon () to view your images in the new Grid layout.

The Grid View will display a grid of thumbnail images for each of your media files. The Grid View employs infinite scrolling, rather than displaying your images over multiple pages. To view more images, simply scroll to the bottom of the page and more thumbnails are automatically loaded.



The List View will display your images similar to how they've been displayed in previous versions of WordPress, in a list over multiple pages.



Both views show the most recently uploaded files first. There are also dropdown lists that allow you to filter the list of files that are currently being displayed, along with a search field to help search for files.

Within the List View, the list of files contains a small thumbnail version of the image or file, the file name and the type of file (JPG, MP3, etc.), the name of the Author who uploaded the file, the Page or Post which the image was uploaded to, the number of comments and the date the file was uploaded.

When hovering your cursor over each row in the List View, a few links will appear beneath the file name.

• Edit – Allows you to edit the file properties such as Title, Alt Text, Caption and Description. You can also perform some basic image manipulation

- Delete Permanently Deletes the file permanently from the Media Library
- View Will take you to the display page for that file

### Viewing a File in the Media Library

The Grid View will display a grid of thumbnail images for each of your media files. Depending on the file type, you'll either see a thumbnail image for that particular file or an icon representation.

After clicking on a thumbnail within the Grid View, a pop-up window will display the properties for that particular file. If the file is an image, you'll also see a larger version of that image. For supported audio and video files (M4a, MP4, OGG, WebM, FLV, WMV, MP3, WAV and WMA) you'll see the appropriate media player. For other file types such as PDF's or Word Documents, there is a link to view the attachment page which has a link to the actual file.



Within the List View, hover the cursor over one of the rows and click the *View* link. If the file is an image, you'll see a larger version of that image. For supported audio and video files (M4a, MP4, OGG, WebM, FLV, WMV, MP3, WAV and WMA) you'll see the appropriate media player. For other file types such as PDF's or Word Documents, you'll see the attachment page which has a link to the actual file.



## Adding a File to the Media Library

To add a new file to the Media Library, click on the *Add New* link in the left-hand navigation menu or the *Add New* button at the top of the page.

If you click the *Add New* button when you're viewing the Media Library in the *List View*, or click the *Add New* link in the menu, simply drag your images from wherever they are on your computer, into the area marked *Drop files here*. Your file(s) will be automatically uploaded.

Once your images or files are uploaded, they're listed below the file uploader. If you'd like to edit the file properties, click the *Edit* link next to the file.

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If you click the *Add New* button when you're viewing the Media Library in the *Grid View*, you can drag your images from wherever they are on your computer, to anywhere on the screen. Your file(s) will be automatically uploaded.

Once your images or files are uploaded, they're displayed below the file uploader, with the rest of your media.



When uploading files, you can also click the *Select Files* button and then select the files that you'd like to upload, using the dialog window that is displayed.

# **Editing the File Properties**

If you're viewing your files using the *Grid View*, simply click on one of your media files and you'll be presented with a pop-up window that displays the relevant properties for that particular file.

After updating each field your changes will be automatically saved. You can use the arrow buttons at the top of the pop-up window to navigate to the previous or next image. Click the 'x' in the top-right of the pop-up window to return to the media Grid View.



To edit the properties of an existing file when using the *List View* within the Media Library, hover the cursor over the particular row that contains the file you wish to edit and click the *Edit* link. Alternatively, you can also click the file title or the thumbnail image. Clicking the *Edit* link next to the file after it's just been uploaded, will also allow you to edit its properties.

After clicking *Edit*, the relevant properties for that particular media file are displayed, including the title, URL, filename, file type and in the case of an image, the file dimensions. When editing the file properties, the *Alternative Text* field will only be displayed for images.



- **Title** Although the field isn't labelled, the *Title* is the field at the very top of the page (when editing the image from the *List View*). The Title is displayed as a tooltip when the mouse cursor hovers over the image in the browser
- **Caption** is displayed underneath the image as a short description. How this displays will be dependent on the WordPress theme in use at the time. You can also include basic HTML in your captions

- Alternative Text This field is only displayed for image files. The Alternative Text is displayed when the browser can't render the image. It's also used by screen readers for visually impaired users
- Description This content is displayed on the file's attachment page
- **Metadata Artist** This field is only displayed for audio files. It allows you to specify the recording artist
- **Metadata Album** This field is only displayed for audio files. It allows you to specify the album to which the audio file belongs to

Once the file properties are updated click the *Update* button to save your changes.

#### Editing an Image

WordPress has a basic image editing tool that allows you to perform some simple manipulation with your uploaded images. You're able to rotate and flip your images as well as scale them and crop them to different sizes.

When editing the file properties of an image (as opposed to other file types like documents or PDFs), click the *Edit Image* button that appears just below the image to show the image editing tools.

If you click the *Edit Image* button whilst using the *Grid View*, the image editing tools will appear in the pop-up window.



If you click the *Edit Image* button whilst using the *List View*, your page will look slightly different to the above *Grid View*. As well as the image editing tools, you'll also see the properties of the file such as the file size and dimensions. You can also still update the *Caption*, *Alternative Text* and *Description*.



No matter what view you're using, just above the image you'll find the following image editing buttons:



**Crop** – Click on the image and drag the selection box to the size that you'd like the image cropped. Click the Crop button to crop the image to the new size



**Rotate counter-clockwise** – Rotate the image 90° counterclockwise



To scale your image to a new size, simply enter the *width* or *height* dimensions in the appropriate field and click the *Scale* button. For best results, scaling should be done before performing any other operations like cropping, flipping or rotating the image. It's important to note that images can only be scaled down, not up.

After entering one scale value, the other value will change automatically so as to keep the image in proportion. The original image dimensions are displayed just above the input fields, for your reference.

There are several ways to crop your image. The easiest is to simply click on the image and drag the selection box to the appropriate size. If you'd like your image cropped to a specific ratio, enter the values in the *Aspect Ratio* input fields (e.g. 1:1 (square), 4:3, 16:9 etc.). You can then hold down the *shift key* and drag one of the edges of your selection to enlarge or reduce the size, while keeping this aspect ratio locked. If there is already a selection made, specifying the aspect ratio will automatically change the selection to match it.

Whenever the selection box is adjusted, the dimensions are displayed in the *Selection* input fields. You can also manually enter the dimensions of the selection box (in pixels) by entering values into these two fields. Once your selection box is adjusted, simply click the *Crop* button just above the image to crop the image to this new size.

By selecting one of the options in the *Thumbnail Settings* panel, you have the option to apply your changes to *All image sizes*, just the *Thumbnail* image or *All sizes except Thumbnail*.

Click the *Save* button to save your changes.

Click the Update button to return to the main Media Library page.

If you'd like to revert back to your original image, click the *Edit Image* button again to return to the image editor. A new *Restore Original Image* link is displayed just below the *Scale Image* link. Click the *Restore Original Image* link and then click the *Restore image* button to discard your changes and restore your original image.



# Deleting a File from the Media Library

To delete a file from the Media Library when using the *Grid View*, first click an image to view the File Properties, then click on the *Delete Permanently* link that appears in the pop-up window.

To delete a file from the Media Library when using the *List View*, click on the *Delete Permanently* link that appears beneath the file name when hovering your cursor over each row.

After you click the *Delete Permanently* link in either view, you'll be prompted with a confirmation message.

Click the *OK* button to delete the file or click the *Cancel* button to return to the Media Library.