26 Things You Can Do With a Website

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It's a brand new year, and you've made a resolution – you're going to have a website.

But what do you put on it? Why on earth are you even getting a website? What does a website give you that your social media accounts can't?

A website can do a lot more than just sell stuff. In this article, here are 26 things you can do with a website.

1. Drop the e-commerce platform and run your own business on WooCommerce

2024 is the right year to get your own online store. Shopify and Etsy might be great to start out on, but with increasing restrictions, global outages and convoluted pricing, this is a great time to get **Managed WordPress packages** and install WooCommerce.

2. Write prototype software using AI and get developers to finish it

Vibe programming with Lovable or another LLM and want to show off your prototypes, you don't need to spend more money hosting it on their platform. You can use **Site Lite** on your hosting package, and set up your applications on your own site.

(We've been more detail on this coming soon – so watch this space!)

3. Start a brand new blog with a set schedule

Have you been the type of person to start a blog in the new year, and then forget to actually write it?

Luckily, there are options to keep you on a steady schedule. With WordPress, there's **Publish Press Planner**, and you don't need to set up an entirely separate organizational system just to keep your blog going. Add topics into your board, schedule them as needed, and if you go for the Pro option, you'll get an extra seven slots on your board.

4. Collect your family recipes and put them online for easy access

Aunty Marie is handing your chicken Marbella down longer biscuit recipe. Cousin Marcus keeps asking you about your pepper beef stir-fry. And you inherited Grandma's uncle Horace's collection of carefully cut out war time newspaper recipes.

Make it easy on everyone and set up a recipe site. It doesn't have to be a full recipe blog, where great length helps with search engine optimization, it can just be a searchable recipe collection for you and your family, with everything you need to make those big gatherings a bit more fantastic.

5. Show off your pets with their very own website

Who doesn't love pictures of pets? Whether it's your magnificent Maine Coon cat, the adorable snoop of a puppy you picked up at the shelter, or even a long-lost family tortoise, everyone wants to see more pictures of more animals enjoying their best lives.

You can use web gallery software such as **ZenPhoto**, one of the many gallery plugins available with WordPress, or just code them up with basic HTML. Introduce everyone to those special creatures in your life!

6. Review the latest products in your favourite hobby

When someone's just starting out in a hobby, or wants to know more about what they're buying, it can be really difficult to find expert reviews. Either it's people on large commercial sites talking about how the box was broken, or it's little bits of Reddit or just to get higher SEO for other affiliate links.

People want to know what's in the box, whether that's a fishing rod, knitting needles, fountain pen ink, gaming headset, or football boots. And everyone has their favourites. Share your list with the world about yours, and hope someone else makes the right decision.

From **building a bookshelf** to **crocheting a cuddly toy** to **fixing a washing machine** – if you know how to do it, you can show someone else how.

8. Write that novel you've always been meaning to

With online publishing here to stay, so many people are finding their inner novelist and creative writer inside them. Add, sure, you can go the tricky Amazon route, constantly trying to match the latest microtrends and hoping no one will return your book, or you can have your own website and sell your books there.

With WordPress, you can post updates, blog about writing, and sell through **Easy Digital Downloads**. Who knows? You might end up being the next big thing on BookTok!

9. Create a forum and build your community

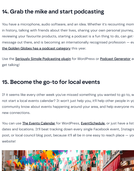
Are you a part of a hyperconnected community, where half of you are taking on Facebook, the other half occasionally messaged on BlueSky, being on Slack would remind you too much of work, and having Google Team meetings means scenarios always moving out because of scheduling issues?

It's time to bring back forums. Talk to your friends, talk about your favourite TV show, video game, band, or hobby, get new people interested, and just make it a place where everyone can join in the fun. There are plenty of forum options available as well, from **phpBB** to **bbPress** to **Discourse**, so you can set one up right away.

10. Keep track of nature around your neighbourhood

Are you taking part in the **Big Garden Birdwatch**? Or one hundred of **other wildlife surveys** along with serving all your data to wildlife charities, why not set up a website?

You can keep track of the weathered enjoying your local canal, the birds that come to your garden feeder, the butterflies you see along the hedgerow, or even the frog spawnings in the nearest pond. It'll not only help you keep track of everything you see, it'll also let your neighbours know about the amazing wildlife in your area.



11. Learn to code and document your journey

What better way to learn how to code than with your own website? Whether you're just picking up the basics of HTML, getting in deep with JavaScript frameworks, or building your first application with Go, being able to show other people your work (and where you're getting stuck) is a great way to keep learning and improve your skills.

Have you been thinking about **coding challenges**? A website is a great way to show off your winners.

12. Become the main source for a historical topic

Do you have a favourite historical topic that you want to spend hours talking about with everyone around you? Do you have a great grasp of the Roman Empire, the history of a particular drink, song, piece of furniture, or merely natural disaster?

Now's a great time. You need a website to share your take, to put up your research, collect local stories, post newspaper clippings, anything and everything that your favourite topic is great about.

After all, Wikipedia relies on other sites for its references, and all the large language models take their information from websites, so why not be the source of truth for your favourite topic?

13. Tell the epic tales of your RPG campaigns

If you've been building your own RPG campaigns with your crew, spending hours figuring rules, searching for current lunes, hacking into big corporations, or just spending time in the local vampire bar, there'll be another gaming group out there that's trying to do the same campaign and would be inspired by yours.

Provide regular recaps of your current game, post tips and tricks for running a game, or release your own full campaigns for other people to use. No matter what you do, someone will be interested in it.

Use the **Sensuous Simple Podcasting** plugin for WordPress or **Podcast Generator** and get talking!

15. Become the go-to for local events

If it seems like every other week you've missed something you wanted to go to, why not start a local events calendar? It wasn't just help you, it'll help other people in your community know about events happening around your area, and help everyone make new connections.

You can use **The Events Calendar** for WordPress, **EventCalendar**, or just have a list with dates and locations. Off-beat cracking down every Tuesday? Jazz night every Friday? Or pop, or local country blog post, because it'll all be in one easy to reach place – your website!

16. Make a novelty single page website

Get a domain, make a single page, and generate some simple content on your website. Whatever it's **It's Christmas Yet**, **Just Put A Line**, **How Many People Are In Space Right Now**, **Should I Take A Jacket**, or **Does I'm Everyone Or Just Me**, a single page website can be funny, inspiring, or needlessly useful.

You can code up a small application, put up your favourite gif, embed a sound, or tell a story. All you need is a domain, a page, and the urge to make the internet just a little bit weird again.

17. Build a brochure site for your business

Do you run a bricks and mortar business? Maybe it's a café, a barber shop, a florist, an antique shop, anything. You've been doing great on social media, and people in your community know about every business hour and special offer, and help everyone make reservations.

But what happens when you want to expand? Or you want to start a new business? Or you're just, because it's be great to have your own domain name and a place to point everyone to?

Put your opening hours on, add a menu, or 10 or with lovely pictures. A brochure site is the perfect way to get your business known on the web – not just by Facebook or your local newspaper, but by people who search for your type of business, and maybe even stumble across it by chance.

18. Log detailed data from around the house

Whether it's monitoring **the power usage going getting from your solar panels**, keeping track **of the temperature and humidity in your attic**, recording the **air quality of your home**, or just **keeping track of your cats**, there's a lot of stuff out there to log data, and a website is a great place to keep it all in one big dashboard.

19. Keep track of trends and build interfaces with APIs

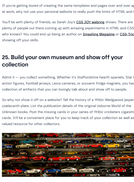
An API is a way for your site to communicate with other sites and pull data from them. There's uses for everything from **the weather**, to **transport data**, to **national offices**. There are **thousands of APIs free and available** for you to use on your website, and it only takes little bit of programming knowledge to pull that information and make a website filled with content.

Build a site showing **the sudden crunch in your area**, random art facts from **the Metropolitan Museum of Art**, or just serve up **the next bank holiday to the UK** – the possibilities are endless when it comes to using APIs.

20. Become a food critic overnight

Have you found the absolute best ramen? Want to rate all the dessert shops in the city centre? Still trying to figure out if stove-bound biscuits are better than brand name? Sharing them at the above you can buy Café de Monde coffee, Tabasco sauce, and the powder for your regular New Orleans charmed dinners?

Share a bite with the world! Just be for glossy weekend magazine magazines and Instagram influencers. Create a site with your content management system of choice, start writing reviews, and before you know it, you'll be helping everyone else enjoy the best food in the neighbourhood.



21. Make a place to host all your photos

You've seen people use Linktree, Hoodzilla, and similar other single pages sites that link to all their important details. But rather than having your address for third-party-whatever name, why not make a single page under `your-name.com`? `uk` `.com` `.net` `.io` any other **domain name extension** we have available.

By creating a site with all your links, you're not just safeguarding that domain name from squatters, you're also making it easy for people to find you no matter what platform they use.

22. Detail your video game adventures

Whether you're trying run such phenomenal Sims 4 challenges, building elaborate castles in Minecraft, keeping track of the latest releases in Fortnite, or speedrunning Super Mario Bros, you can show off your skills on your website.

Review games, set challenges, build and share mods, or just link to your Twitch stream – there's plenty of options available when you have your own site.

23. Keep the family updated year round

Are you remember the family Christmas letters people used to send? Where you found out that Cousin Emily had gotten all its in her report card, Aunt Margaret got a promotion, and Rex the prize-winning bull had been bought by a farm? Of course, your letter derailed how Bobby was first chair tuba in the school orchestra, you had just been a new pic on a ticket scanner, and Betty the hamster was covering the Christmas tree as the wheel in her cage.

You can still show off how much better you are than your relatives, or just share photos with the grandparents, on your family website. And what's great about having your own website is that you can **password protect your site**, making sure that no one else is seeing those photocopied pictures you're ready to announce Baby Bernard to the world.

24. Experiment with HTML and CSS

If you're getting bored of creating the same templates and pages over and over again at work, why not use your personal website to really push the limits of HTML and CSS?

Add a little parallax, or friends, or Sarah Drasner's **CSS-Tricks** videos. There are plenty of people out there coming up with amazing experiments in HTML and CSS, and who knows? You could end up being an author on **Smashing Magazine** or **CSS-Tricks**, showing off your skills.

25. Build your own museum and show off your collection

Artwork, gifs, so-called something. Whether it's Staffordshire hoarch spaniels, Star Wars action figures, football jerseys, Lance cameras, or souvenir fridge magnets, you have a collection of artifacts that you can lovingly talk about and show off to people.

So why not show it off on a website? Tell the history of a Wildor Mexicanpot Japanese cookware piece, or the production details of the original Volume Monitor of the Unknown Soldier. Post the missing cards in your series of Wildor cricketers cigarette cards. Off to a convention place to bring your fridge to show off your collection as well as a casual resource for other collectors.

26. Whatever else you can think of

And there's so much more you can do – if you can think of it, it could be a website! All you need is a **domain name**, a **hosting package**, and a bit of patience. And if you need help, **we're right here for you**.

So what are you building today? Tell us on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn**, **BlueSky** or **Mastodon**!

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About the author
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Jim Kate, and I'm one of the Senior Marketing Managers here at Krystal. I'm a transplanted Southern Californian who likes bad puns, culture, the Internet, and taking everyone's ears off about web hosting. Howdy!

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