

# HOW TO BUILD A DROPSHIPPING STORE WITH WORDPRESS

A Complete Guide on How to Setup Your Store with WordPress and Aliexpress



BY

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# ABOUT ME



online courses.

My name is Modupesalmat Badmus, I am a Digital marketer, a blogger and an Ecommerce expert

I work online full time for a living and I teach aspiring online millionaires how to make a living online. My aim is to help people start a profitable career online and make their financial dreams a reality through my various coaches and

This eBook is to show you how to build a professional looking ecommerce store with WordPress and Aliexpress and that can only be possible if only you digest this material thoroughly and make the best use of it. This tutorial is to guide you on how you can get your online store up and running in minutes using wordpress and woocommerce plugin. This is a step by step tutorial guide on how you can do it yourself. It is a beginner's guides to creating a website so don't worry even if you are not a tech savvy.

E-commerce/Dropshipping business is trending and thriving all over the world because the rate at which online shopping mall is increasing is alarming, so starting your own dropshipping business is the best decision ever. However, in starting a dropshipping business of your own, you will need a professional eCommerce website/Dropshipping Store.

The following step by step guide would help you in creating your dropshipping store from scratch;

## Step 1: Choose Your E-commerce Platform

It is important you make a decision on the platform you will like to use for building your website because there are various ecommerce platforms you can use in creating your ecommerce website. We have: <u>WordPress+WooCommerce</u>, Yo!Kart, Shopify, Magneto, BigCommerce etc.

You can use other platforms in building your ecommerce website. For example Shopify which is a fully hosted platform with their price starting from \$29/month. Shopify is one of the platforms that makes it easy for those individuals with little or no tech experience to build their websites. All you need to do is create an account and the Shopify wizard will put you through the entire process. With shopify, you can be sure of your website loading fast, safe payment gateways, hundreds of theme templates to customize your ecommerce website and give it the professional look you desire but do remember that when you use shopify in creating your eCommerce website, you might need to upgrade your plan as your business grows and that is why this tutorial is to guide you on how you can create an e-commerce website with WordPress + woocommerce for free.

Also, you might prefer to create your dropshipping store with the help of a plugin called <u>Alidropship plugin</u>. This plugin helps you build a professional looking store in minutes without writing a single line of code. This plugin comes with both the <u>wordpress version</u> and the woocommerce version and its cost one time payment of \$89 but if you hurry and purchase the plugin through my link, you will get a 35% off your purchase using the coupon code "NEWSEASON35" at checkout.

To setup your store with Alidropship plugin, I have prepared a free video tutorial on how to use the plugin in building your dropshipping store.

### Click here to watch the Video Tutorial

<u>WordPress+WooCommerce</u> is the most popular among all the platforms you can used in creating your eCommerce website and you can easily use it to create a regular business website or a blog as well. It is very user-friendly and over 40% of all e-commerce website is powered by WooCommerce. And the best part is that it is totally free so you need not bother about monthly charges.

Now, we're going to be building our e-commerce website for the rest of the tutorial with WordPress+WooCommerce.

### Step 2. Get a Domain Name & a Web hosting

In designing an ecommerce website, you will need to purchase a domain name and an hosting service. A domain name is the name

your e-store will bear on the internet while an hosting service is where your ecommerce website will be housed before people can be seeing it all over the world.

A domain name and hosting should be purchased from a reliable webhosting service with an ssl certificate which is very important for the security of your website. In purchasing a domain, my go get place is <u>bluehost</u> because their services are reliable, you get a free domain name with any of the plan you go for and I can guarantee 99% uptime for your website with their service. If you are on a low budget, you can go for <u>whogohost</u> or <u>smartweb</u>, their customer service is also superb and you also get a .com.ng extention for free but .com domain extention is the best for your dropshipping website.

## 3. Secure Your Dropshipping Website

Securing your dropshipping website is very essential to the success of your business. It makes your prospects to trust your store and also increases store conversion. It involves the purchased of an SSL (Secure Socket Layer) certificate for your ecommerce website. The SSL certificate is the standard security technology that establishes an encrypted link between a web server and a browser. The SSL certificate when install on your website helps in keeping sensitive data collected on your website safe and prevents hackers from having access to the credit card information used on your website.

**Note**: When you purchase your domain name and hosting service, you get the SSL cerficate for free from most hosting service providers but remember my recommendations to go for bluehost for more site functionality and reliabilities. With bluehost, you get a free domain name, free SSL certificate, 99.9% Uptime Guarantee, great customer support 24/7, Pre-installed WordPress & WooCommerce, it is also an established hosting company that is officially recommended by WordPress.org and moreso, with

bluehost you get 30 days money back guarantee. However, if you are on a low budget, I would recommend <u>whogohost</u> and smartweb. Their services are superb too. With <u>whogohost</u> and <u>smartweb</u>, you also get a free .com.ng domain and cheap hosting services, free ssl certificate and 24/7 support.

<u>Bluehost.com</u> is very much realiable and affordable. When you sign up with them, you get free domain name for a year. With <u>whogohost</u> and <u>smartweb.ng</u>, you get a .com.ng domain extension for free but with bluehost, you get a .com domain extention free for the first year and host plans starting at \$2.95/month. Moreso, they are officially recommended by WordPress.org.

So let' get started by visiting <u>www.bluehost.com</u>



- Click on get started button
- Choose your hosting plan- Basic, Plus, Choice plus and Pro plan



www.smartdropshippers.com



• Type in your chosen domain name and click on next

Like I said earlier in <u>my previous post</u>, make sure your domain name is unique, easy to remember and related to your business. If you already have a business, you can go for the option that says "I have a domain name" and in this case, you will need to point the nameservers to that of Bluehost.

• Fill in the necessary details

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• Finalize the setup and make the payment.

Immidiately after checkout, bluehost will notify you to create a password.

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• Setup your wordpress site by adding your details following a few procedures.

Great! You just got the bulk of the job done – you now have a domain name, hosting plan and WordPress site

The goodnews is that <u>bluehost</u> automatically install WordPress right from the Bluehost dashboard and you can also use your details as well as the password you just created to login into your cpanel.

For those that will be using other hosting services like <u>whogohost</u> or <u>smartweb</u>, you will need to install wordpress through your cpanel sent to your email address by your hosting providers. (check your email for your cpanel login from your host)

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Once you login, scroll down until you see an icon labeled "WordPress" under softaculous, click on install and fill in the necessary details.



• At this point, you should have a blank WordPress website installed.

Your cpanel should look some thing like yourdomain.com/cpanel and your wordpress login should look something like yourdomain.com/wp-admin

The next step is to install Woocommerce plugin

Woocommerce plugin helps you in turning your wordpress site into a beautified and professional looking ecommerce store  Go to your wordpress dashboard to locate "plugin->new plugin->search for woocomerce->click on install, wait a few seconds and activate it after installation"



Click on "Let's Go!" from the woocommerce onscreen setup popup



#### The next step is to create some necessary pages

This pages are important to your store functionality. Although, woocommerce helps you in creating some pages like ;

- Shop Page- this is where your products are going to be displayed alongside their prices.
- Shopping cart this is where your customers can adjust their order before proceeding to checkout.
- Checkout this is where the customers choose the shipping/delivery method and make payment
- **My Account** with this page, customers will be able to view their past orders and manage other details).

All you need to do at this stage of the WooCommerce wizard is click the "Continue" button for WooCommerce to set up those pages for you.

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The following wizard will help j	rou configure your store and get you star	ted quickly.
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### Set up locale

Your locale is the location of your business which is also very important in defining your business origin, currency, and preferred units

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Click "Continue" once you're done.

## The next step is shipping and tax

 Choose either free shipping or flat rate and move to Recommendation stage

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On tax settings, wooCommerce has a very neat tax module, the best thing about it is that it helps you figure out the tax rates based on your store location that you have indicated in the previous step.

*Note:* You have to know the taxation rules of your country to double check it.

Also on recommendation stage, you can sign up for mailchimp email marketing right from there or jetpack.





# The next step is the payment method/gateway



On this stage, I will recommend you fill in paypal as your payment gateway but it is highly recommended that you integrate your store with both Paypal, Rave or Stripe by Just clicking on their corresponding check boxes. Though you can go for other payment gateways like check payment, bank transfer and payment on delivery.

It is important to note that in order to make online payments work, you need to sign up with either PayPal, Rave or Stripe separately.

Again, click "Continue" to move to the next step which is to activate jetpack if you want



Store setup Payment Shipping Recommended Activate Rea

Hurray!, you just built a blank e-commerce/dropshipping store with WooCommerce!

The next step is the beautification of your store by adding a theme

The theme you choose will speak for the designs and the way your products will be displayed on your store.

Although, the WooCommerce plugin must have installed its default theme on your website which is storefront which works fine with the woocommerce plugin.

For store customization of the theme, go to **Appearance**  $\rightarrow$ **Customize**. This will allow you to see the front end of your website as you customize to your taste.

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You can also go for a premium themes (visit themeforest, the largest worpress theme store) for your e-commerce website if you like, by uploading it to your wordpress dashboard.

 Under theme-→ add new-→locate "upload" on the top center of the screen-→ install and activate the theme.

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The next step is adding products

Yes, you need to start adding products to your store for it to be operational (products, services, downloads, or whatever it is that you want to sell).

Before adding products to your store, you would have visited <u>www.aliexpress.com</u> to take the screenshots of the images of the products you are going to be adding to your store

On your wordpress dashboard, locate products from the dashboard

• Go to Add Product

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- An editing screen will pop up like the one above
- Add the product name and description of the product.
- Input as much information as possible about the product in the description box, add images/galleries, add videos if necessary, add the various parameters of the product.
- Set the pricing and taxes.
- Manage stock levels by setting the inventory.
- Set the Shipping weight, dimensions, and the cost of shipping.
- Linked Products if necessary for setting upsells, cross-sales, etc.
- Set custom product attributes. This helps you to add variations of the product in terms of color, sizes etc
- Write a short description of the product that will displayed on the front end.
- Create the Product Categories to be able to group similar products together.
- Give the products some tags just like the standard WordPress tags.
- After all the setting, click on publish

• Add a few products more by following the same step

# Let's move to the next step by checking out some woocommerce extensions/add-ons

You can visit the official website of <u>woocommerce</u> to see them (<u>www.woocommerce.com</u>)

Among the addons are;

- <u>Shipping extensions</u>- if you want to automatically integrate your store with the official shipping rates from companies such as UPS or FedEx then this will come in handy.
- <u>Payment gateways</u>. If want to accept more payment methods with the standard PayPal. It helps you to accept more payment methods on your store
- <u>WooCommerce Subscriptions</u>- allows customers subscribe to your products or services and pay a weekly, monthly or annual fee.
- <u>Accounting extensions</u>-It helps you to integrate your WooCommerce store with the accounting tool of your choice.
- WooCommerce Bookings-allow customers to book appointments for services without leaving your site.

# Let' look at some plugins that can help in supercharging your e-commerce store

These are;

- All in one Seo Pack/Yoast SEO-helps you improve the SEO of your website.
- SEO for WooCommerce plugin- helps improve the SEO of your products and other areas of your e-commerce store.

- WooCommerce Multilingual- run your store in multiple languages using this plugin.
- **Contact Form 7** your store visitors can contact you directly ny filling the form.
- **Updraft Plus**-help back up all your site content, including your products and other store data.
- Social Share Buttons by GetSocial-it makes it possible for your buyers share your products with their friends and family through social media with this plugin.
- **Google analytics**-integrate your site with Google Analytics to monitor your site traffic.
- W3 Total Cache- helps speed up your website through caching and makes it load faster.

# In conclusion, to create an e-commerce/dropshipping store, we will need to follow the following few steps;

- Get a domain name and hosting plan
- Install wordpress and woocomerce plugin
- Activate woocomerce and set the woocommerce setting
- Setup locate, tax and shipping and payment gateways
- Add a theme to your store
- Set and adjust your store shop page, cart page, checkout as well as other pages

# On the Extentions and Plugins

- Remember the payment gateways
- Remember some of the woocommerce extentions
- Remember to install all of the plugins that will supercharge your e-commerce store like the All in one SEO Pack/Yoast SEO, SEO for woocommerce, Contact form7, Social Share Buttons, Undraft etc.

<u>WordPress+woocommerce</u> platform offers almost all of the functionality you need to sell products online.

As you can see, you do not need a web developer to do this, just follow the tutorial step by step.

I hope this help you in creating your dropshipping store step by step.

Goodluck!