



BOLDGRID PRESENTS



## SAVE MY SITE!

*The Five Hidden Dangers to Your WordPress Website and How to Fix Them if They Occur*



# Introduction

Since its inception, WordPress has become exceptionally popular, now powering 34% of websites on the Internet. While that's an impressive feat, unfortunately, with more popularity comes more threats. If you run a WordPress-powered website, you're at more at risk for hacks, crashes and other dangers now more than ever.

By now, most people know to have a backup plugin installed, or use their web host to maintain regular backups. Even if you're doing everything "right," you could still experience catastrophic data loss because of dangers you didn't even know existed.

That's what we're going to discuss: the five unknown dangers to your WordPress website, how to prevent them, and how to fix damage to your site if one happens.

**That being said, let's get started!**



Pro**Tip**

BoldGrid Backup is an automated backup, fault protection, and migration solution that allows you to secure, restore, or move your website with ease. It's got everything you need to not only keep your data safe, but prevent data loss from happening in the first place. [Try the Community Edition for free!](#)



# The Things EVERY Website Owner Should Do

Before we delve into the five unknown dangers, we need to go over the basics. If you aren't doing these next few steps, you're extremely vulnerable to catastrophic data loss.

## **ALWAYS Have An Automated Backup Solution Implemented**

Implementing an automated backup solution isn't hard. Your web host likely has a tool or service available for use. Why the focus on automated backups? Well, humans tend to be forgetful, not to mention, it's quite a pain to have to manually backup your site everyday, especially when most backup automation tools will send you an email once the backup is complete (or if it fails).



## Store Backups in Multiple Locations, Particularly in the Cloud

If you want even MORE protection (and you should), make sure your backup solution supports automated remote backups. Keeping your backups at a secure, remote location in the cloud is the best way to ensure the integrity of the archives. If you're saving them on your local hard drive, you run the risk of having them infected with viruses, or potential data loss if your computer crashes. If you want peace of mind, make sure you're storing your backups remotely.

BoldGrid Backup Premium grants you the ability to do automated remote backups to Amazon S3 and Google Drive. [The free Community Edition can save backups to a remote location via FTP / SFTP. Give it a shot!](#)



# Danger #1: Not Keeping Your WordPress Installation, Themes and Plugins Up-to-Date

It's easy to ignore the warnings within WordPress about your themes, plugins or WordPress itself being out of date. Perhaps you may have updated something once and it messed up your website (more on that in a bit) and now you're a bit leery of messing with something that's not broken. Understandable.

That being said... if you leave your software out of date, on a long enough timeline, you **WILL** suffer from a website crash or hack. The incremental updates that WordPress developers roll out often contain security patches and fixes for newly discovered exploits and hacks. They also address software stability issues. Leaving those holes open can cause serious issues for you, including total site loss.



## ProTip

BoldGrid Backup's auto update feature ensures that your website will always have the latest versions of WordPress, your theme and plugins. [Grab it here!](#)



Hackers use specialized bots to scan websites automatically for vulnerabilities and when a site has outdated software, they immediately set out to exploit the security holes. The stakes are even higher for those running an eCommerce website, as they could potentially steal your users' information, opening you up to lawsuits and fines. The GDPR requires you to contact all of your customers in the case of a data breach, meaning your reputation can take a **SERIOUS** hit if you're hacked.

It's much easier to simply update all of your software regularly and deal with any minor issues than to risk your entire website (or worse, your livelihood).



## Danger #2: Updates to Themes and Plugins Breaking Your Website

Yes, in rare situations theme or plugin updates COULD cause issues with your website. Even more rare, an update could break your website. That doesn't mean you shouldn't update your plugins and themes, however. As we discussed before, that could lead to serious issues down the road.

Rogue updates that break your website usually occur when a new version of WordPress has code adjustments that change the way plugins and themes work with the platform. If the creator of a theme or plugin hasn't changed their product to work to the new code, WordPress crashes.

Most theme and plugin creators will provide you with a compatibility chart, letting you know versions of WordPress their product works with. If they haven't provided that chart, you're taking a risk when updating.



## So, How Do You Prevent This?

Simple -- make sure you create a full backup before updating. That way, if anything goes wrong, you can easily and quickly restore your site. This can be a hassle, that's why BoldGrid Backup Premium offers automated fault protection.

You can set BoldGrid Backup to automatically backup your site before updates, and automatically rollback your site to the last backup if an update fails. Automatic updates can be set for WordPress core, plugins, and themes individually.





## Danger #3: If a Site Crash / Hack Occurs, Inability to Access the Site to Fix It

Sometimes, if your site is hacked or crashes, you won't be able to access the WordPress administration panel to restore a backup. In this situation, one of the easiest solutions is to simply delete your entire website, install a fresh version of WordPress and then restore your backup.

What if your recent backups are corrupted and you didn't know? Best case scenario, you'd have to restore an OLD version of your site -- and that's only if THOSE backups aren't corrupt. You need a way to test your backups, make sure they'll restore properly. That's where Cloud WordPress comes in.

Cloud WordPress allows you to create a fully functional free WordPress demo (with or without BoldGrid) in just a few clicks. With Cloud WordPress, you can safely test new plugins and theme changes without risk of breaking your live site. In this situation, you can use Cloud WordPress to test whether a backup archive will restore properly.



### ProTip

As a proactive measure, you could keep a clone of your website on Cloud WordPress, locked behind a password. If there's an issue, you can use the cloned site to repair your live site, whether that's copying the clean site over the crashed / hacked one, or using it to test something else.



A restoration script is included with BoldGrid Backup that allows you to restore backups outside of WordPress. For example, if WordPress has crashed, the standard restoration script will not work as it relies on WordPress. The new restoration script allows backups to be restored in the event WordPress itself has been corrupted.



# Danger #4: You or a Staff Member Accidentally Deletes a Vital File and Crashes Your Site

It can happen to anyone. You or someone else with access to your site is uploading files via FTP, or simply doing some routine maintenance and you accidentally delete or edit a WordPress file with no way to quickly restore it.

In many cases, you can simply download WordPress, your theme, or plugin and simply reupload the deleted file. You'll run into trouble, however, if you hadn't updated all of your software before accidentally deleting the file, as the provider may have updated the software since then.

Uploading a file belonging to a newer version into an installation with older files could make the problem worse. It may seem like a very small problem, but when it happens, it's incredibly annoying to fix, often cascading into larger issues.



## ProTip

BoldGrid Backup Premium provides an easy way to restore single files, right from within the backup browser. Also, if you have a file that needs to be restored, but not sure which backup it's in, the Historical Versions feature shows you a list of all of your backups containing that file, and offers an easy way to restore the file.



## Danger #5: The Worst Happens... Your Web Host Suddenly Closes Down or Deletes Your Website

It happens MUCH more than you think. A lot of entrepreneurs will open web hosting companies thinking it's an easy way to make a buck. They don't realize that the technical requirements of owning a hosting company (as well as providing tech support) can take a toll on them, and they can close shop without any notification. Search the web -- it's a common occurrence.

Likewise, if your site has been infected with malware (if you forget to update your software, for example), it's in the terms of service that they can remove the files themselves, or delete your website.



If this occurs and you don't have any backups, there's not much you can do outside of begging your web host for help. You CAN take preventative, proactive measures, however:

- Make sure you have automated, remote backups configured.
- Always update your WordPress installation, themes and plugins to the latest version.
- Use Cloud WordPress to keep a working clone of the website -- one you can easily migrate to a live host if necessary.



# More About BoldGrid Backup

BoldGrid Backup is an automated backup, fault protection, and migration solution that allows you to secure, restore, or move your website with ease. Use BoldGrid Backup to quickly restore your site after server crashes, website hacks, rogue updates, and other threats.

## Easy, Automated Backups

Simply install BoldGrid Backup, select a date and time for automatic backups and you're good to go! Download, restore, or delete backups with a single click. Safely store backups remotely via Amazon S3, Google Drive, or FTP / SFTP.

## Automated Fault Protection

You can set BoldGrid Backup to automatically backup your site before updates, and automatically rollback your site to the last backup if an update fails. Automatic updates can be set for WordPress core, plugins, and themes individually.

## Easy Site Migration

Simply install BoldGrid Backup on both WordPress sites, create a backup archive on the first site, then restore that backup on your second site.

## Site Check

Site Check monitors your site at specified intervals for errors that could lead to catastrophic data loss. If Site Check detects an error, it will send you an email alert and auto restore your website using your latest backup. You can configure Site Check's settings from the BoldGrid Backup settings page, or via command line. If your site is totally non-functional, you can use the command line to easily restore your website from the last full backup archive.



# BoldGrid Backup Premium Features

## Individual File Restorations

Need to restore only one file from a backup? The BoldGrid Backup Premium gives you the option to restore a single file within the backup browser.

## Historical Versions

Do you have a file that needs to be restored, but not sure which backup it's in? Historical Versions shows you a list of all of your backups containing that file, and offers an easy way to restore the file.

## More Remote Storage Options

BoldGrid Backup Premium allows you to store your backup on Amazon S3 or Google Drive in addition to the free options of FTP / SFTP.

[Click Here to Get the Free Community Edition of BoldGrid Backup Through BoldGrid Central!](#)