

WP-Members™

A WordPress® Plugin to make your blog installation a membership driven site.

Plugin developed and maintained by Chad Butler, butlerblog.com

Current production version: 2.7.2

WP-Members™ User Guide

WP-Members™ is a plugin for WordPress® that is designed to restrict content to registered users while putting the login and registration process inline with your content and theme, thus providing a professional looking membership driven site.

While WP-Members™ was designed to be simple to install and easy to use, there are a lot of options and settings available to customize your installation to a variety of possible uses. This guide attempts to provide an in-depth view of the features and how they can be used.

All references to items in the WordPress® Admin Panel menu are given as **Main Menu > Sub Menu**.

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This guide may make references to specific aspects of WordPress® that may or may not be familiar to you. If you are a new user of WordPress®, it is recommended that you read some of the "Getting Started" material in the WordPress® Codex: http://codex.WordPress.org/Working_with_WordPress

Notes Regarding License, Copyright, and Trademark

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WP-Members has been available since 2006. Since then, there have been some commercially released plugins that have tried to capitalize on the name WP-Members or a derivative thereof. These plugins are not associated with the author of WP-Members. [A full and complete statement is available here](#).

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Getting Started

WP-Members™ is designed to work right out the box. However, there are some key elements that you should probably be aware of as you get started.

The first thing you should know is that the plugin installs with certain default settings. You may need to make changes to these in order to achieve the behaviors that you want for your site. The plugin is very flexible and can be used in a variety of situations. Additionally, not all of the features need to be used to make it work.

This guide will discuss all of the features of the plugin. If you are looking to get things set up quickly, there is a simple [Quick Start Guide](#) to get you going. It covers the basic set up.

At the end of this guide, I have included some links to the FAQs and some additional tips and tricks.

If you find this plugin useful, please consider donating at butlerblog.com/wp-members. I have spent a significant amount of time over the past six years not only developing new features for this plugin, but also providing support on a regular basis. This free plugin is supported solely by donations.

Recommended WordPress® Settings

Settings > General

Anyone can register unchecked.

This prevents open registration via the backend /wp-login/

Settings > Reading

For each article in feed set to **Summary**

WordPress® installs with this defaulted to Full Text, in which case your protected content will be available in the RSS feed.

Settings > Discussion

Users must be registered and logged in to comment checked.

This adds a level of protection to your comments. Certainly, you could leave this open, but unregistered users will be unable to view comments on protected pages anyway.

Settings > Permalinks

Anything other than **default** (i.e. [yoursite.com/?p=123](#))

It is amazing how many installations of WordPress spend a princely sum on design and content, yet fail to make better use of permalinks. While this is optional in terms of running the plugin, it does make the use of special pages (register and members-area) somewhat easier

Add New Post/Page > Screen Options

Custom Fields should be checked.

If you need to use custom fields to override the default content protection at the article level, you will need to have custom fields turned on. (The Screen Options menu is a pull down found in the upper right hand corner of the screen, next to the Help menu.)

Plugin Settings

Settings for the WP-Members™ Plugin are found in the admin panel under **Settings > WP-Members**

Options

Block Posts by Default / Block Pages by Default

The plugin installs with posts blocked by default but not pages. (Note: posts and pages in WordPress® are handled differently, therefore, WP-Members™ handles them separately.) Either of these settings can be overridden at the article level using **Custom Fields**. [See [Managing Content](#)]

Show Excerpts

This will show any excerpt before the 'more' tag on a protected page or (individual) post. (Does not effect post summary pages such as archives or search results.) [See [Managing Content](#)]

Notify Admin

This should be self explanatory. When turned on, the admin will receive an email notification for any new registrations. This is especially helpful when **Moderate Registration** is turned on. Email is sent to the admin address specified for the blog found under **General > Settings**.

Moderate Registration

If you wish to approve a registration manually prior to allowing them access to the site, turn on **Moderate Registration**. Any new users must be approved by a site admin prior to receiving their password and access. Users can be approved individually via the **user detail page**. This can be access via WP's admin menu **Users > Users** or the plugin's bulk user management screen under **Users > WP-Members™**. [See [Registration](#)]

Use reCAPTCHA

Turning this on will include a CAPTCHA in the registration process. WP-Members™ uses reCAPTCHA for which you will need an API key. [See [Using reCAPTCHA](#)]

Turn Off Registration

Suppose you want to manage registration through some other process and simply use WP-Members™ for protecting content and putting the login inline with your content. Or, you have a private blog for which you do not want users to register; you will send them access. Turning this setting on removes the registration form from restricted content and the members settings area.

Note: you may still set up a separate registration page to direct users to.

Legacy Forms

Prior to the release of WP-Members™ 2.5.1, the plugin's built-in forms were table based. There were CSS IDs specified for these as well. If you have been using the plugin prior to 2.5.1, have the old forms integrated into your site, and do not want to change them, you can turn this setting on to maintain the pre-2.5.1 forms. Likewise, new users can use the table-based forms by turning this on, although it is recommended to leave it off and use the new forms, which provide more CSS control.

Ignore Warning Messages

WP-Members™ has a number of warning messages that it will display in the WP Admin Panel. Some of these are for WP settings conflicts and others are specific to the plugin. You can turn the warning messages off with this toggle.

Members Area URL

WP-Members™ allows you to establish a **Members Settings Area** where users on the front end can update their password and registration information. The **Lost Password Reset** feature is also maintained on this page. Specifying the URL of your optional **Members Settings Area** in this field will cause the plugin to add a **Forgot Password Link** to the login form in both the main content area and the sidebar widget.

Register Page URL

WP-Members™ allows you to establish a separate **Register Page** to direct users to specifically for registration. Specifying the URL of your optional **Register Page** in this field will cause the plugin to add a **Register Link** to the login form in both the main content area and the sidebar widget.

Custom CSS

If you want to use custom CSS for the new table-less forms, specify the location of the stylesheet here. [See Customizing CSS]

Fields

This settings screen allows the administrator to establish what fields are displayed in the registration form and which fields are required. Check the box for which fields you want displayed in the registration form and check the box for whether entering data for this field is required or not.

Fields loaded into an array in the WP Options table at plugin install. [See Choosing Fields for

information on how add/delete fields and change the field order]

Email is always mandatory and cannot be removed. The notation of **WP Native Fields** indicates which fields are part of WordPress® and are therefore already part of the **User Detail Page**.

Dialogs

Custom dialogs are allowed for certain user dialog and error messages that are displayed, such as empty registration fields, login error, etc. Simple HTML is allowed in these fields including <p> (paragraph), (bold), <i> (italics), etc.

This settings page is also where you can load your TOS (Terms of Service) content, if you are using one. HTML is also allowed here, including <h1>, <h2>, , , etc.

Alternatively, if you have set up a Terms of Service page as a WordPress® page and want the TOS link to open that page, you can enter the following shortcode into the TOS dialog box:

```
[wp-members page="tos" url="http://mysite.com/my-tos-page"]
```

(Be sure to put the full URL of your WP TOS page in the URL value of the shortcode.)

Emails

The Emails tab is where you would go to manage the email messages that are sent by the plugin. It is important to note that the only messages that are displayed in the tab are the ones that are used based on your plugin settings under the “Options” tab.

Under this tab, you may also set an email address to change the default address that WordPress® sends from (wordpress@yourdomain.com). Note: you do not need to use this setting if you already have a plugin or some other filter to do this.

Managing Content

The first thing you need to think about in setting up your site how to manage content. Do you want mostly protected content or will only some content be protected. Do you want protected blog posts, pages, or both? Do you understand the difference between pages and posts in WordPress®?

A good place to start is to make sure that you understand the difference between posts and pages. According to the WordPress® [Codex regarding posts](#):

***Posts** are the entries that display in reverse chronological order on your home page. In contrast to pages, posts usually have comments fields beneath them and are included in your site's RSS feed.*

Pages are something different. Again, quoting from the [Codex regarding pages](#):

***Pages...** are for content such as "About Me," "Contact Me," etc. Pages live outside of the normal blog chronology, and are often used to present information about yourself or your site that is somehow timeless -- information that is always applicable. You can use Pages to organize and manage any amount of content.*

WP-Members™ treats posts and pages separately, just like WordPress®. So you need to consider content restriction in terms of posts and pages separately. The default installation of the plugin is to protect all posts by default and leave all pages open.

We will deal with how to manage these separately, as well as how to manage content restriction at the article level in order to override the default setting.

Restricting Posts

Block Posts by Default

Under the **Options** tab in the plugin admin panel, the first option is **Block Posts by Default**. Turning this on will do what it says, "block all posts by default." Likewise, if you leave it off, all posts will be left unrestricted by default. Whatever you have here is what we will refer to as the "default setting for posts." We will discuss how to override this setting at the individual article level separately.

Something that is important to note about posts is that there are many places that a post can show up. There are theme pages, such as the home page, archive, and search, that will show

either full articles or excerpts, depending on whether you define an excerpt or not. You can define an excerpt either using the excerpt field in the post editor, or you can use what is known as the 'more' tag. ([Read More about The Excerpt from the WordPress® Codex](#)) Either of these methods will cause WP to only display a "teaser" of your content on one of these summary pages rather than full content. In order to protect posts, WP-Members™ requires that you use an excerpt, preferably by use of the 'more' tag. In this way, your specified excerpt will display to anyone on the summary pages, but a registered user must be logged in to view the full content.

Write your content and put the 'more' tag at the point you want to restrict the post from non-registered users. This will create your "teaser" content to be used on summary pages and will restrict the remainder of the content unless a user is logged in.

Override the Default Setting for Posts

What if you have set the default to block all posts by default but you have some content that you would like anyone to be able to view? In this case, you can override the default setting at the article level using a **Custom Field**. Custom fields are used in WordPress® to add some meta-data to a post that can be used for some action, typically by a plugin or a theme. In this case, we are specifying a custom field to override the default setting for restricting posts.

The Custom Field entry is found in the post editor below the editor window. They are not displayed by default, so if you have not used custom fields in the past, you may need to turn this setting on. Look to the upper right corner of the admin panel when you are in the post editor window and find a tab called **Screen Options**. Open this up and check the box next to **Custom Fields**.

To override a specific post when posts are:

- restricted by default, specify a custom field of **unblock** with a value of **true** or **1**.
- unrestricted by default, specify a custom field of **block** with a value of **true** or **1**.

IMPORTANT: As with many things in php (the web programming language WordPress® is written in), **Custom Fields are CASE SENSITIVE!** This means that **Block** and **block** are **NOT** the same. You must use all lowercase for the custom fields used by WP-Members™.

In choosing your default setting, consider whether more of your content will be restricted than unrestricted or vice versa. Set the default setting accordingly. Then use custom fields to override any posts that do not fit the default.

Restricting Pages

Pages, while separate from Posts in both WordPress® and WP-Members™, are restricted much the same way as posts. You should familiarize yourself with the section on Restricting Posts.

That being said, WP-Members™ understands that WordPress® has become popular not only as blogging software, but as a content management system as well. Many users do not use it as a blog at all, and therefore, do not generally use posts, putting all of their content in pages.

If you are one of those users, it is important to note that the default installation of WP-Members™ is to block all posts by default and to leave all pages unrestricted.

Block Pages by Default

If you need to restrict pages, you should turn on the setting found in WP-Members™ **Settings > Options** called **Block Pages by Default**. This operates the same as **Block Posts by Default**, blocking all pages. However, unlike posts, pages are not generally summarized as they are in a blog. So excerpts and the use of the ‘more’ tag are not required to fully protect content (unless you are using the “Show Excerpts” feature). All you need to do to begin restricting pages is to turn on **Block Pages by Default**.

Override the Default Setting for Pages

This is the same as for posts. Review the section titled **Override the Default Setting for Posts**.

Show Excerpts

WP-Members™ can show the excerpt (via the ‘more’ tag) on a single post/page as a teaser above the message indicating that content is restricted and the user must log in. To use this setting, turn on **Show Excerpts** in the plugin settings. NOTE: this does not effect any excerpt content for summaries of posts, such as archives or search results. It only effects the single post or the single page that the content is displayed on.

Using an Excerpt on Single Posts

There are occasions where a user may wish to have an excerpt display as teaser content on a single restricted page. If you use the WP-Members™ setting **Show Excerpts**, the teaser content will display above the login/registration forms that are placed into restricted content.

Using an Excerpt in Pages

This is the same as for posts. Review the section titled **Using an Excerpt on Single Posts**.

While a ‘more’ tag is not required to protect pages, if you use a ‘more’ tag in a page in combination with the WP-Members™ setting **Show Excerpts**, the teaser content will display above the login/registration forms that are placed into restricted content.

IMPORTANT: If you are using **Show Excerpts**, and you are blocking pages (or you have any pages blocked with **Custom Fields**, you **MUST** use a 'more' tag on the blocked pages. Otherwise, **all** of the content will show before the login box.

Managing Users

WP-Members™ handles user data within the WordPress® framework, putting users into the users table and user_meta table in the WP database. Username, password, email, and website (if used) are all stored in the [wp_users table](#). All other fields are stored as metadata in the [wp_usermeta table](#).

Users can be managed through the WordPress® **Users > Users** menu or the WP-Members™ Users menu found under **Users > WP-Members™**.

User Detail Panel

Clicking on a specific user in either of the above mentioned panels brings up the individual user panel. WP-Members™ appends any additional, non-WP native fields at the bottom of the page. If you are moderating registration and the user is not yet activated, there will be a check box in the WP-Members™ section to activate the user. Also found on this screen is the IP address of the user when they registered.

WP-Members™ Bulk User Management

The plugin adds its own user management screen to the WordPress® Users Menu. This screen allows the administrator to do additional user management not found in the WordPress® Users Screen.

Display Users

You can choose to display all users in the table or just users not yet exported. Also, you can display only users not yet activated if you are moderating registration.

Bulk Actions

You can choose to bulk export all users displayed in the table (choose to display only non-exported users to export users since the last export). You can also bulk activate a list of users if you are moderating registration.

Registration

WP-Members™ has a two stage registration system that requires users to enter a valid email address when registering. Upon successful registration, a randomized password is sent to the user via email which they can then use to login.

If you have established as **Members Settings Area**, the user can go to this section to reset their random password to whatever password they like.

NEW in 2.7: You may add a password field via the field management panel if you would like users to pick their own password at the time of registration. However, this feature does not presently allow for moderated registration so the user will have access regardless of admin approval.

Choosing Fields

At install, WP-Members™ creates an array containing all of the registration field data and stores it in the wp_options table. [See Installing the Plugin with Custom Registration Fields for information on how to add/subtract fields from the default installation.] These fields are displayed in the plugin's Fields tab.

This screen allows the administrator to establish what fields are displayed in the registration form and which fields are required. Check the box for which fields you want displayed in the registration form and check the box for whether entering data for this field is required or not.

There is a column in this panel indicating which fields are native to WP. Data for fields that are not native to WP will display at the bottom of the user detail page.

Delete Fields

To delete a field, check the box marked **Delete** and click the **Update Fields** button. You can delete multiple fields at one time by checking more than one box. Once a field is deleted from the settings, you would need to use the **Add Fields** process to recreate it. Also, you may not delete fields that are native to WordPress. If you are not using these, simply uncheck the box marked **Display** and they will not be used.

Note: Deleting a field from the plugin settings does not effect any registrations that used that field. Any user_meta database values will remain in the database.

Add Fields

To add a new field, check the box marked **Add Field** and complete the details for the new field.

Parameters for all fields:

- Field Label - this is what displays on the form
- Option Name - name this will be stored as in the user_meta table (spaces not allowed)
- Field Type - currently support text, textarea, and checkbox
- Display - check this box if the field is to be used in registration form
- Required - check this box if the field is a required field

Parameters for checkboxes:

- Value - this is the value of the field if the box is checked
- Checked by default - this will cause the checkbox to display as checked

Parameters for dropdown list:

Dropdown support was added in 2.6.3 and in 2.7 this was added to the Field Management panel. If you add a dropdown list field, you must specify the values for the list items in the dropdown in the box provided. This list should be provided in the following format:

The Displayed Text|the_stored_value,

- “The Displayed Text” is the text that will display in the dropdown list to the user.
- The pipe character (|) is used to separate the displayed menu item from the stored value.
- “the_stored_value” is the value that will be stored in the database if the user selects this item.
- A comma must separate this list item from the next item in the list (no comma is needed after the last item).

These parameters account for a couple of extra features. For example, if you want the list to start with something such as <--SELECT ONE--> but that this is not a selectable value itself, put the displayed menu item, followed by the pipe separator, and then a comma like this:

<--SELECT ONE-->|,

Alternatively, if you want a blank line as a separator between a group of menu items, simply use the pipe separator followed by a comma.

NOTE: if you add a password field, the Option Name **MUST** be password and you **MUST** set this as both a displayed and a required field.

Once you have entered parameters for the new field and checked the **Add Field** box, click **Update Fields** to update the field list with the new field. If your new field is not displayed in the list, it did not update.

Change Field Order

The order in which the fields display can be changed by dragging the field where you want it. Note that the field order is changed immediately upon dropping the field in the new location, you do not need to click Update **Fields**.

Creating a Registration Page

If you would like a specific registration page to direct users to register, create a new page with the following shortcode in the body of the page:

```
[wp-members page="register"]
```

Note: If you have set the plugin to block pages by default, you will need to **unblock this page** with a custom field. [See [Override the Default Setting for Posts](#)]

Registration Page Location

Once you create the registration page as outlined above, it is available as a page in your WP installation to be added to menus in the same way you handle other pages. This is dependent upon you and your theme, and whether you display all pages in a default menu.

WP-Members™ has an option setting for you to enter the URL of your registration page. This is optional and does not effect the functioning of your registration page. It merely provides the plugin with knowing where the page is and uses this to generate a “Register” link in the login forms.

Moderating Registration

Suppose that you do not want users to have instant access to the site upon a successful registration, but rather, you want to manually validate that you have legitimate user. In these types of cases, WP-Members™ allows you to moderate registrations, requiring that the user be “activated” by an administrator prior to having access.

If you turn this setting on, it is recommended that you also turn on “Notify Admin” which will send an email to the site administrator (set in **Settings > General**) upon each new registration.

Users can be activated individually on the User Detail page, or in bulk using the WP-Members™ Users page.

Using CAPTCHA

The plugin allows for the addition of a CAPTCHA to the registration process. WP-Members™ uses reCAPTCHA for this. In order to use reCAPTCHA, you will need to provide an API key ([available here](#)).

Turning on reCAPTCHA in the plugin options will add an options tab specifically for the CAPTCHA details.

IMPORTANT: You **MUST** provide an API key if you turn this on. The CAPTCHA will not display if you have not entered an API key, but the registration form will consider it a required entry, thus throwing the user an error when trying to register.

There are several themes from which to choose when using the CAPTCHA form.

Turn Off Registration

You have the option of turning off the registration for the plugin. There are two potential uses for this setting.

Managing Registration Elsewhere

For users that might have some other method of registration, up to and including private blogs that don't want anyone registering and thus sending invited users login information. In this case, turn off registration and do not establish a registration page.

Removing the Registration Form From Content

The process flow that WP-Members™ uses by default is the assumption that minimal clicks results in increased registrations. Simply put, if an unregistered user ends up on a page that requires login and registration, they are presented with a login form (in case they are already registered but haven't logged in) and a registration form (so they can register right then and there, without leaving the page and having a chance to change their mind).

To make the plugin as flexible as possible, turning off the registration will remove this registration form from the inline content areas. In this case, it is advised that you specify a registration page to direct users to.

Members Settings Area

In order to keep things on the front end of the site where things are wrapped in your theme (as opposed to the WP back-end), the plugin allows you to set an area for registered users to manage their settings, change their password, and also reset a forgotten password.

Setting this page up is exactly like setting up a registration page, covered in the section on Registration.

Note: this page is not intended to be the location of your protected content. See the section on Managing Content for information on how to set up protected pages.

Creating a Members Settings Area

If you would like a specific registration page to direct users to register, create a new page. In the body of the page, place the following shortcode

```
[wp-members page="members-area"]
```

Note: If you have set the plugin to block pages by default, you will need to **unblock this page** with a custom field. [See Override the Default Setting for Posts]

Members Settings Area Location

Once you create the Members Settings Area as outlined above, it is available as a page in your WP installation to be added to menus in the same way you handle other pages. This is dependent upon you and your theme, and whether you display all pages in a default menu.

WP-Members™ has an option setting for you to enter the URL of your members settings page. This is optional and does not effect the functioning of the page. It merely provides the plugin with knowing where the page is and uses this to generate a “Forgot Password” link in the login forms. (The members settings area is the only place in the plugin for a user to reset a forgotten password. If you want to provide this functionality to your users, you must set up this optional page.)

Customizing Emails

New in version 2.7 is the ability to customize the email messages that are sent by the plugin.

Note: only the emails relevant to your settings will display. For example, if you are not moderating registrations, the email for an admin approved registration will not display since you do not use it.

Set a custom email address

By default, WordPress® sends messages from `wordpress@yourdomain.com`. This section allows you to set a custom email address that the plugin will send from rather than the default. There are two parameters: the address, and the name.

As an example, if you want your messages to come from:

John Smith <email@yourdomain.com>

then you would set the email address as email@yourdomain.com and the name as John Smith.

Note: these settings are optional and if not used should be left blank. If you already have a plugin or filter that provides this site-wide, there is no need to respecify it here.

Custom Emails

There are several emails that may go to users. These include:

- New Registration - notifies the user that they have successfully registered.
- Registration is Moderated - notifies the user that their registration is pending admin approval.
- Registration is Moderated, User is Approved - notifies the user their pending registration is now approved.
- Password Reset - email to send a new password to a user that forgot their password.
- Admin Notification - email to admin notifying them of each newly registered user.
- Email Signature - a footer or signature placed at the bottom of each of the above emails.

Custom Email Shortcodes

The following is a list of shortcodes that may be used in the above messages. Note: some shortcodes are only available in the admin message, and it is up to you to make sure that proper information is sent (i.e. if you remove `[password]` from the registration email, the user will not receive a password and thus not be able to login). The plugin installs with defaults for each of these messages to provide you with an example of what is available.

- [blogname] - the Site Title you have specified under **Settings > General**
- [username]
- [password]
- [reglink] - a link to the page the user registered on (useful to return a user directly to the content they registered to view)
- [members-area] - the members area where, among other things, the user can change their random password to whatever they want

- [email] - admin only - the user's email address
- [fields] - admin only - a list of any of the registration fields
- [user-ip] - admin only - the user's IP address when they registered
- [activate-user] - admin only - a link to the user profile page so they can be activated (used if moderating registration)

Available Shortcodes

Create a Registration form

This shortcode will create a registration form on a page (page should not be blocked):

```
[wp-members page="register"]
```

Create a Members Settings Area

This shortcode creates the members settings area, including password reset (NOTE: if this page is blocked, password reset will not function):

```
[wp-members page="members-area"]
```

Create a Login Form

The following shortcode will create a login form on a page (page should not be blocked):

```
[wp-members page="login"]
```

Logged in content

The following shortcode shows an example of content that will display to a user that is not logged in. This can be used on any page, including special pages created with other shortcodes, such as the members settings area or a registration page.

```
[wp-members status="in"]  
    this content can only be seen by logged in users.  
[/wp-members]
```

Logged out content

The following shortcode shows an example of content that will display to a user that is not logged in. This can be used on any page, including special pages created with other shortcodes, such as the members settings area or a registration page.

```
[wp-members status="out"]  
    this content displays when a user is not logged in.  
[/wp-members]
```

Action and Filter Hooks

wpmem_login_redirect

Description

Filter hook to redirect the user upon login

Usage

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_login_redirect', 'my_login_redirect' );
function my_login_redirect() {
    return 'http://yourdomain.com/your-page';
} ?>
```

wpmem_logout_redirect

Description

Filter hook to redirect the user upon logout

Usage

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_logout_redirect', 'my_logout_redirect' );
function my_logout_redirect() {
    return 'http://yourdomain.com/your-page';
} ?>
```

wpmem_register_redirect

Description

Action hook to redirect the user upon logout

Usage

```
<?php
add_action( 'wpmem_register_redirect', 'my_reg_redirect' );
function my_reg_redirect() {
    // NOTE: this is an action hook that uses wp_redirect
    // wp_redirect must end with exit();
    wp_redirect( 'http://mydomain.com/my-page' );
    exit();
} ?>
```


wpmem_sidebar_status

Description

Filter hook to filter the user's sidebar status when logged in.

Usage

The generated sidebar status is passed to the filter. You can use this, edit it, or add to it ahead and/or behind. In this example, we are adding a gravatar image to be appended before the unchanged \$string:

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_sidebar_status', 'my_sidebar_status' );
function my_sidebar_status( $string ) {
    // This is an example that puts a user's avatar next to the
    // user if they are logged in.
    global $user_ID;
    $gravatar = '<div style="padding-top:4px;padding-right:4px;float:left;">' .
        get_avatar( $user_ID, '46' ) . '</div>';
    $string = $gravatar . $string;
    return $string;
} ?>
```

wpmem_register_links

Description

Filter hook to change the links shown on the register page when logged in.

Usage

The generated string is passed to the filter. You may use this, overwrite it, or append to it.

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_register_links', 'my_register_links' );
function my_register_links( $string ) {
    // Original link output comes in as a $string.
    // You can add to it before or after, or drop it altogether.
    $string = "<p>I put this before the original links</p>" . $string;
    $string = $string . "<p>This is extra stuff I added after...</p>";
    return $string;
} ?>
```

wpmem_member_links

Description

Filter hook to change the links shown on the members area page when logged in.

Usage

The generated string is passed to the filter. You may use this, overwrite it, or append to it.

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_member_links', 'my_member_links' );
function my_member_links( $string ) {
    // Original link output comes in as a $string.
    // You can add to it before or after, or drop it altogether.
    $string = "<p>I put this before the original links</p>" . $string;
    $string = $string . "<p>This is extra stuff I added after...</p>";
    return $string;
} ?>
```

wpmem_login_links

Description

Filter hook to change the links shown on the login page when logged in.

Usage

The generated string is passed to the filter. You may use this, overwrite it, or append to it.

```
<?php
add_filter( 'wpmem_login_links', 'my_login_links' );
function my_login_links( $string ) {
    // Original link output comes in as a $string.
    // You can add to it before or after, or drop it altogether.
    $string = "<p>I put this before the original links</p>" . $string;
    $string = $string . "<p>This is extra stuff I added after...</p>";
    return $string;
} ?>
```

wpmem_pre_register_data

Description

Action hook gets user registration data after data is validated, but before new user is inserted.

wpmem_post_register_data

Description

Action hook gets user registration data after new user is inserted.

wpmem_pre_update_data

Description

Action hook gets user data from the update page before updated data is inserted.

wpmem_post_update_data

Description

Action hook gets user data from the update page after updated data is inserted.

Usage

All of the `_data` hooks can be used in a similar manner. The differences are if the user data has been inserted or not. All of it has passed validation by the time it gets to the hook.

Here is an example that will grab the user registration data before insertion, and echo the array results on screen. Note: this is ONLY an example to show the fields and data that are passed with this hook; the call to `exit()`; will stop execution before this user data is inserted.

```
<?php
add_action( 'wpmem_pre_register_data', 'my_reg_hook', 1 );
function my_reg_hook( $fields ) {
    echo "<pre>"; print_r( $fields ); echo "</pre>";
    exit();
} ?>
```

Customizing

Forms Look and Feel

WP-Members™ now included table-less forms. You can create your own stylesheet to determine the look and feel of the forms to better integrate with your theme. Feel free to use the included stylesheet located in the plugin's /css/ folder as a starting point.

Note: this is not required. If the included forms, either table-based, or table-less, work for you, you don't have to customize the CSS.

Once you have created a custom stylesheet, you will need to store it somewhere. It is not recommended that you store it in the plugin folder structure as this may be overwritten in the event of an upgrade. Wherever you choose to keep it, you'll need to specify the full URL in the Custom CSS option field. If you provide a location in this field, your custom styles will be loaded automatically rather than the default styles.

Note: for those that are familiar with WP functions and programming, you may use **enqueue_style** to load a custom stylesheet.

Installing the Plugin with Custom Registration Fields

As of plugin version 2.6, additional registration fields may be created (and others deleted) via the plugin's admin panel. If, however, you would like to install the plugin with custom set of registration fields at install, these instructions still apply.

The registration fields are stored in the WordPress database in the options table. They are stored as a single array that is written to the database when the plugin is installed. The install script is in the file **wp-members-install.php**. Look for **\$wpmem_fields_options_arr** near the top. This is where the array values are defined. Change these accordingly based on the following:

- Order: consider this the primary key value, keep them sequential.
- Label: This is what will display in the form next to the field.
- Optionname: This is used by the script to pass values to the script. The important thing to remember here is that you CANNOT use spaces in your definition; i.e. 'field_name' NOT 'field name'. Note: this does not display to the user.
- Input type: Defines the field type. At present, fields must be text. Checkbox is being tested and should be considered experimental.
- Display: This sets the default setting upon install whether this field is displayed or not.

y = yes, it is displayed, n = no it is not. Once you install, you can change this value for each field via the plugin's admin panel.

- Required: Sets whether the field is required or not based on the same principle as above.
- Native: The defaults are all set to tell you which fields are natively part of WP and which are not. Any custom fields you create are not, and setting them to 'y' is not going to break the script, **but it will cause them to not display on the User Detail panel.**

You should use these steps at your own peril – especially if you do not know php. If you choose to customize your installation and break it, please do not come to me and ask me how to fix it. Also, it is highly recommended that you not change any of the WordPress native fields. Without getting into too much necessary detail, most of these are stored a certain way and the plugin makes assumptions based on names and locations in the database for these. It doesn't mean you have to use them, and certain ones are non-essential, but do not change their optionname.

Once you have set up the array to install, you will need to run the plugin install. If the plugin has been previously installed prior to your customization, you will need to force the new array to install. There is a toggle at the top of the install file called `$chk_force`. Set this value to true, then deactivate/reactivate the plugin. This will force in the new field array.

For More Information

A good source of information on the plugin is <http://butlerblog.com>. This is where you will find announcements of upgrades, as well as tips about using the plugin.

Tips and Tricks

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [How to change the default WP email address without a plugin](#)
- [How to change the default WP email address with a simple plugin](#)
- [Tips on customizing the stylesheet](#)
- [How to disable the WP admin bar for subscribers](#)
- [Tips on protecting Pages \(vs. Posts\)](#)