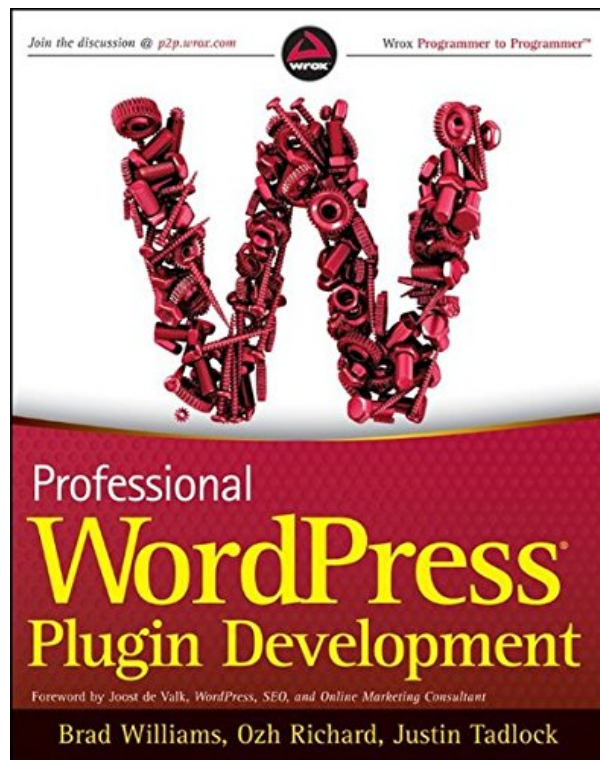


# PROFESSIONAL WORDPRESS PLUGIN DEVELOPMENT BY BRAD WILLIAMS, OZH RICHARD, JUSTIN TADLOCK



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*Foreword by Joost de Valk, WordPress, SEO, and Online Marketing Consultant*

**Brad Williams, Ozh Richard, Justin Tadlock**

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From the Author

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  - How to create plugins for WordPress Multisite networks
  - Integrate user and role management
  - Explores the HTTP API, JavaScript and AJAX, Cron, the Rewrite API, and more
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#### Most helpful customer reviews

27 of 27 people found the following review helpful.

A must-have and timely book for WordPress developers

By R. Huereca

A formula for success:

1. Put together an idea and outline for a book that hasn't been covered in-depth before.
2. Gather three of the most talented WordPress developers/writers and have them write the book.
3. Release the book and watch the Elves return back to Middle Earth to rejoice with men.

Professional Plugin Development, written by Ozh Richard, Justin Tadlock, and Brad Williams, is a much-needed and very timely book.

There have been several aspiring developers that have approached me saying they needed a start-from-the-basics WordPress plugin development book. And while Professional Plugin Development does teach the basics of plugin development, it quickly moves on to much more complex topics.

The book covers the topics I care most about, such as:

- \* WordPress Plugin Foundation and Best Practices
- \* WordPress Security
- \* WordPress Actions and Filters (aka, hooks)
- \* And Ajax

But the book goes beyond basic plugin development. It teaches you about plugin options, CRON for scheduling common tasks, storing data (whether it is via post types, transients, or options), the HTTP API (for retrieving remote data), users (how to set up roles and capabilities), localization (err, internationalization), and how to test plugin performance.

For a novice PHP and WordPress developer, this is a good starting point. But don't think of this book as your way to learn PHP, jQuery, or even basic WordPress (there's WordPress for Dummies for that).

This is a book written by developers for developers. And I must say that I learned a lot from this book, and I've been developing WordPress plugins and themes for almost six years.

Here are the things I learned most from this book:

- \* **The Why.** I've used a lot of the techniques from the book before, but now I have a better understanding of why the techniques should be implemented. An example is security and WordPress coding best practices.
- \* **Rewrites and Cron.** These two topics escape me (no pun intended) for some reason, but I have a much better understanding of how everything works behind the scenes.
- \* **Security.** Security can not be stressed enough, and very solid security tips are sprinkled throughout the book (and the topic even receives treatment via its own dedicated chapter).
- \* **Multisite.** I've been working with multisite for almost a year now, and it's a topic I'm still learning in-depth. The chapter gives a great explanation of terms and common pitfalls.

Last, but certainly not least, the book goes into great detail for what you should do after you've released a plugin, whether you want to release it for free in the official WordPress repo, or have it available exclusively on your own site (whether commercial or free). The book explains marketing, how to set up automatic updates (albeit a bit glossed over), and how to get the plugin on the official repo.

This is a highly recommended book, whether it be the print version, or digital.

20 of 20 people found the following review helpful.

It takes true experience to create a book this useful

By Eric A. Mann

The first time I went to a WordCamp presentation, the speaker said off-hand, "before I do anything, I check Justin Tadlock's site to see if he's written a tutorial." Before that day, I had never depended on anything but the Codex for support when I wrote plug-ins ... and you could tell by looking at my code.

Since then, I've become a frequent reader of Justin's blog, I've subscribed to several mailing lists for code, and I've started following quality developers - namely the authors of this book - on Twitter. It's been a slow start, but it's changed the way I look at open source and development in general.

And now comes a book written by three of the most respected developers in the WordPress community. It's well written, honest, and comes from a collective background of collaboration and been-there-done-that experience. I've been working with WordPress for more than 4 years now, and this is by far the best reference I've seen to date ... both for developers just starting with the project and for seasoned professionals who build their business on WordPress.

I've seen code written by all three of these developers, built my own systems on the shoulders of their outstanding work, and watched several others grow as developers following after their example. I can't think of any team more qualified to write about WordPress plug-in development, and I can't think of anyone else

who'd do a better job.

This is an outstanding book and was definitely worth the 2-month pre-order wait to have a physical copy on my desk to mark up and turn back to. Though I'm confident that the eBook version will be just as useful for those who can't wait for overnight shipping to deliver! :-)

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

A must-read for WordPress developers

By James Beswick

There aren't many great WordPress books on the market and the topics covered here are not explained in any comprehensive way in the existing online resources. The authors have managed to distill everything you could possibly need to know about plugin development into a well-organized, well-written reference book that I've been calling on a couple of times a week.

Apart from the basics of plug-in development - which it explains very effectively - there are many advanced subjects that any plug-in developer needs to understand. It delves into WordPress actions and hooks, security, best practices, Ajax, the HTTP API, regionalization and how to test for performance.

The book doesn't pretend to teach you PHP and WordPress - you need to be well versed in both to get the most from the material. But if you want to develop plug-ins for either the community or commercial audience, everything you need to know is in here. As an aside, the authors are very well respected WordPress coders so you really couldn't hope to learn from better teachers.

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