

# SETTING UP TWITTER TOOLS

## VERSION 2.4

A QUICK CHEAT-SHEET FOR NEW WORDPRESS ADMINS.

### WHAT IS TWITTER TOOLS?

Twitter Tools is a plugin for WordPress. It handles a large number of activities for interlocking a Twitter feed and a WordPress install:

- It provides automatic posting to Twitter of posts in a WordPress blog
- It provides a widget to have the Twitter feed appear on the WordPress blog
- It provides a way to have Twitter posts be automatically posted to the Wordpress blog
- It allows you to send tweets right from inside the WordPress dashboard if you don't want to leave the dashboard for any reason.

Once you have access to the WordPress dashboard, you can install Twitter Tools directly from the Plugins menu.

### INSTALLING

*Step 1* Click the Add New Button.

A rectangular button with rounded corners and a light blue background, containing the text "Add New" in a dark blue font.

*Step 2* Set the search to 'Term' and search for 'Twitter Tools', as below:

A screenshot of the WordPress search interface. It features a search box with the text "Search" above it and "Search for plugins by keyword, author, or tag." below it. To the left of the search box is a dropdown menu with "Term" selected. To the right of the search box is a "Search Plugins" button.

**Search**

*Search for plugins by keyword, author, or tag.*

Term ▼

Twitter Tools

Search Plugins

*Step 3* Install Twitter Tools from this page.

You'll notice a lot of extra plugins related to the program. When you install, it automatically installs the following:

- Twitter Tools
- Twitter Tools – Bit.ly URLs
- Twitter Tools – Exclude Category
- Twitter Tools - Hashtags

Do not delete any of these – it will delete the Twitter Tools install.

**Step 4**

Once this is installed, activate it. At this time you also probably should activate the Exclude Category and Hashtags plugins to go with it.

**CONFIGURING IT**

**Step 5**

Before going forward, go to your Twitter account, and make sure you are logged into the correct account for this installation.

At the top of the page you'll see this:

Please update your [Twitter Tools settings](#)

**Step 6**

Click on it, and you will see the following page ( the information may be different based on your particular install):

**Connect to Twitter**

In order to get started, we need to follow some steps to get this site registered with Twitter. This process is awkward and more complicated than it should be. We hope to have a better solution for this in a future release, but for now this system is what Twitter supports. If you have any trouble, please use the Support button above to contact [WordPress HelpCenter](#) and provide code 14303.

**1. Register this site as an application on [Twitter's app registration page](#)**

- If you're not logged in, you can use your Twitter username and password
- Your Application's Name will be what shows up after "via" in your twitter stream
- Application Type should be set on **Browser**
- The Callback URL should be **http://localhost:8888**
- Default Access type should be set to **Read & Write** (this is NOT the default)

Once you have registered your site as an application, you will be provided with a consumer key and a consumer secret.

**2. Copy and paste your consumer key and consumer secret into the fields below**

Twitter Consumer Key

Twitter Consumer Secret

**3. Copy and paste your Access Token and Access Token Secret into the fields below**

On the right hand side of your application page, click on 'My Access Token'.

Access Token

Access Token Secret

**Step 7**

Once you have filled that page out, click the app registration page link. At this point,

I recommend opening it in a new tab or window, to insure you have minimal issues coming back.

### Step 8

Fill as noted above. A number of people use their website title as the 'application name'. You do not have to fill in 'organization'.

**Register an Application**  
Create your own Twitter app

Tell us about your application.

**Application Name:**

**Description:**


**Application Website:**   
Where's your application's home page, where users can go to download or use it?


**Organization:**

**Application Type:**  Client  Browser  
Does your application run in a Web Browser or a Desktop Client?  
Browser uses a Callback URL to return to your App after successful authentication.  
Client prompts your user to return to your application after approving access.

**Callback URL:**   
Where should we return to after successfully authenticating?  
You can override this at any time by sending an `oauth_callback` while obtaining a `request_token`.

**Default Access type:**  Read & Write  Read-only  
What type of access does your application need? Note: @Anywhere applications require read & write access.

**Application Icon:**  You can upload this later!  
   
Maximum size of 700k. JPG, GIF, PNG.

**CAPTCHA:**   
  
Can't read this?  
Get two new words  
Hear a set of words  
Powered by reCAPTCHA.  
Help

The description should be simple.

Your URL should go here.

Application type as 'browser'.

Callback URL is yours.

Make sure you change this to 'Read & Write'.

Your CAPTCHA will, of course, be different!

Then click 'register'.

### Step 9

You will get a Twitter API Terms of Service popup to decline or accept. If you want to go forwards, click "I Accept".

### Step 10

The next page will give you the keys you need for the settings.

Open your favorite text editor and get the following:

- Twitter Consumer Key

- Twitter Consumer Secret

Then click the button for “My Access Token” and get the following:

- Access Token
- Access Token Secret

Once this is done, paste them into the requested locations into the Twitter Tools configuration page.

Then click:



And you will see, if all went well:

Yay! We connected with Twitter.

#### Step 11

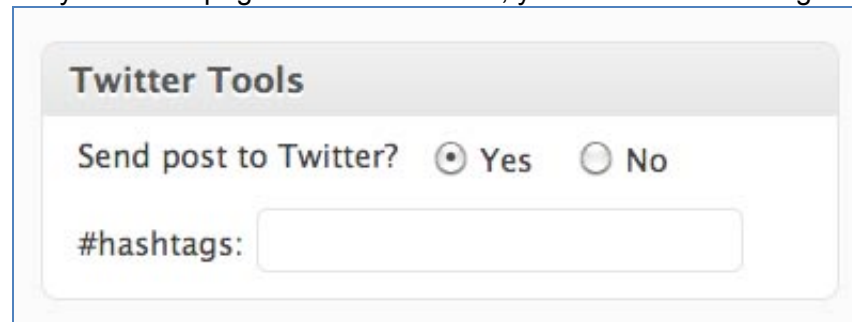
After that, you need to configure the rest. One of the most important things to set is “Tweet prefix for new blog posts”. This is what will appear when you post to your WordPress blog and it posts to Twitter. Pick something that fits your site motif.

The rest depends on your needs for the site you’re designing, whether for yourself or for your client.

## USING IT

#### Step 12

On your ‘Post’ page in the Dashboard, you will see something added:



You can set right on the post page whether or not something feeds to Twitter, and put in hashtags right there.

Hashtags can be very useful. They are a searchable method within Twitter for a topic, and if you create them related to your topic, company or group, you can get a better sense of what people might be saying about it. If people start using it, you can start to get a view of what people are saying about it on Twitter.

This should give you a good start with Twitter Tools. There are a lot of extras to go with it – added URL shorteners, other message sites, and Google Analytics addons – which make it a very flexible add-on.

GOOD LUCK WITH IT!

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WordPress is a trademark of the [WordPress Foundation](#).

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