

How To Avoid Looking Like a New WordPress Install

This article is part of the [Protecting WordPress](#) index, but can be generally applied to your account and security practices!

- Step 1: Remove default posts, etc.
- Step 2: Remove Version information in default files.
- Step 3: Remove “Powered by WordPress” footers.
- Step 4: Remove install or upgrade files.

Step 1: Remove default posts, etc.

Step 2: Remove Version information in default files.

This can be done in two places.

- The first is the meta generator tag in your template. That's found in **wp-content/{name of your WordPress theme}/header.php**. Look for something like “” and remove it.

- The other element is in your RSS feed. Open up **wp-includes/general-template.php** and look around line 1858. Find:

```
function the_generator( $type ) {  
echo apply_filters('the_generator', get_the_generator($type), $type) . "\n";  
}
```

- Make sure a hash is applied next to the “echo” command so that it looks like this:

```
function the_generator( $type ) {  
#echo apply_filters('the_generator', get_the_generator($type), $type) . "\n";  
}
```

Step 3: Remove “Powered by WordPress” footers.

Step 4: Remove install or upgrade files.

- Be sure to delete **/wp-admin/install.php** and **/wp-admin/upgrade.php** after every WordPress installation or upgrade. You don't need them for day to day WordPress functionality.

- Change some of the misc default settings

- Go to Settings > Miscellaneous in your admin console and change the names of **wp-content/directory** and **wp-comments-post.php**.
- Make sure to change the template URL within the template and **wp-comments-post.php** accordingly, to maintain the function of your site.