

# The Block Editor

Documentation: <https://birdpress2.wpengengine.com/blocks>

Sample YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qM2jwdNBYIq>

Sample Vimeo Video: <https://vimeo.com/309547891>

Sample Tweet: <https://twitter.com/CornellHawks/status/1384847058608209920>

Sample MyMaps:

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19dBZlcZJHsPjMvYSkPRMjZBy\\_y8&ll=36.371559553573924%2C-98.52444874999995&z=3](https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=19dBZlcZJHsPjMvYSkPRMjZBy_y8&ll=36.371559553573924%2C-98.52444874999995&z=3)

## Introduction

**Welcome to BirdPress 2.0. This version of BirdPress features the new Gutenberg block editor, which I will introduce to you in this video. Please note that some of the look and feel that you see on this video could be slightly different than your version of WordPress. We will keep the block editor tutorials as up-to-date as possible as major changes occur.**

## PART ONE - Overview

**I will start with a quick overview of the editor layout. It is very different from classic WordPress.**

**The top toolbar has the block appender, undo and redo buttons, details about the content on the page and an outline of blocks on the page. The outline becomes very useful when you have nested blocks and need to select a parent block.**

**On the right, you can save, preview or publish the post or open the right sidebar.**

**The cog icon opens the post or page settings, the pencil icon opens custom fields, which include hero media, custom options and navigation options. And, if you have a multilingual site, settings are under the languages icon. We have videos available for more in-depth information on all of these features.**

## Options

**The next icon is the editor options.**

- Open editor options

**Here you can customize your own personal view of the editor. For example, you can toggle the block toolbar to show up in a consistent location along with the rest of the top toolbar items.**

**By default, you will see the full screen editor. I personally like to see the rest of the WordPress admin and disable it by unchecking “Fullscreen mode.”**

- Disable Fullscreen mode

**The rest of the screen is your editor. At the top, there is the post or page title, and below it is the block content editor.**

**You can add blocks by clicking the block appender icon from the top toolbar or directly from the editor.**

- Open block appender from top corner and quickly scroll through
- Open block appender from content area

**The block appender in the content area shows recently used blocks or you can search for blocks.**

**I will do a quick overview of each block and what they do. Some of them are more obvious than others. See the next video in the Block Editor series to get to know the core WordPress blocks.**

## **PART TWO - Text Blocks**

**Welcome to part two of the BirdPress 2.0 Block Editor tutorial. This video will introduce you to the WordPress core blocks.**

**First, I will create a blank page for us to work with.**

- Create new page with title "BirdPress Core Blocks"

**We will start with text blocks, which include basic everyday content blocks.**

### **Text Blocks**

#### **Paragraph**

**Paragraphs can be started by simply typing in the editor.**

- Type a sentence "Welcome to BirdPress 2.0"

**You have the choice of two different sizes for text other than the default size. You can go larger for intro text or smaller for caption text. This can be changed in the block settings under Typography.**

- Give first block large text size

**A new paragraph can be added by pressing return**

- Press return to show new paragraph

**Content can be easily pasted from a document or another page.**

- Paste more content from lorem ipsum to show that it will paste as new paragraph blocks

#### **Heading**

**Blocks can be converted to other select blocks. Here, I will change a paragraph block into a header by clicking on the paragraph icon and selecting heading.**

- Convert first sentence into a heading

**You can also add a new block by typing a forward slash followed by part of the block name**

- Place cursor in content
- Select block from /head and add a header

**The header block adds an h2 by default, but you can change it to another level in the block toolbar.**

- Change header to h3

## List

**Ordered and unordered lists can be added with the list block**

- Select from /list
- Add some content

**By default it is an unordered list. It can be converted to an ordered list from the block toolbar.**

- Change to ordered list

**To delete a block, press options icon in the block toolbar and select “Remove Block”**

## Classic

**The WordPress Classic editor is still available, however, it does not have all of the neat customizations we offer. Only use it for text, nothing else will be styled properly.**

## Quotes

**There are two types of quote blocks. The regular quote block is set up to break up content.**

- Add quote block and paste in text

**And also the pullquote, which is a way to call out content from the page. They can easily be converted to one or the other. The pullquote can be added with or without quotes - this is under the advanced tab.**

- Add pullquote, align to right
- Show option to show or hide quotation, save & view

## Tables

**Some sites have the need for tables to neatly display data. Use them very sparingly and never for layout purposes. We have other blocks for that.**

- Add basic 2x2 table with header

**A basic table style and striped style are available. You can also select fixed width and add a header or footer. Please ignore the color settings.**

- Add stripes style and fixed width, save & view

# PART THREE - Media & Embeds

Welcome to part three of the BirdPress 2.0 Block Editor tutorial. This video will introduce you to media and embed blocks.

We'll start with media blocks. Media blocks include images, video, gallery and slideshow

## Media Blocks

### Images

**You will likely use images the most**

- Insert cursor before the first paragraph

**I will upload an image for this first example.**

- Add image from upload

**Remember that all images within content should include alt text that describes the image for accessibility reasons. Do not use alt text to credit the photographer. Use the caption for that instead.**

- Add alt text describing the image and caption with credits, save & view

**There are several alignment options for how the image is displayed. You can align to the left or right of content, centered, wide or full width.**

- Select align full, save & view

**Full width images should have a ratio of 16:9 - the image I chose does not work for full width, so I will change it to align to the right of the text.**

- Select align right, save & view

**See the BirdPress 2.0 documentation site for suggested image ratios and minimum sizes**

- *Open BP2 tab and navigate to the Images page to show suggested ratios and sizes*

### Video

**There are several ways to add video. You can upload an mp4 directly to your website, or add a youtube or vimeo embed (I will go over this in a little bit). Embedded videos work similar to images.**

- Insert cursor after last paragraph
- Add video from Media Library - select penguin or manakin video

**Videos have the same alignment options as images.**

- Select align full, save & view

### Gallery

**Multiple images can be displayed in a gallery.**

- Insert cursor after a paragraph
- Add gallery and select four Galapagos images (for size consistency)

**There are a couple of layout options. You can choose the number of columns to show the images.**

- Show Gallery layout with three column, change to two column, save & view

**Or you can display the gallery as a slideshow.**

- Go to advanced toggle and turn on slideshow, save & view

**Galleries can be floated with content, but I'd only recommend doing this with one- or two-column galleries or slideshows.**

- Show alignment in editor

**Slideshows can also be added as an initial block**

- Show slideshow block in appender

## Cover

**There is also a cover block, which is a full width image that you can place content over.**

- Add cover block with text, save & view

## Media & Text

**If you want to have an image or video next to text without floating the image, you can use the media & text block. This creates a two column layout with media on one side and content on the other.**

- Add media & text block
- Select image from media library
- Paste text in content side

**Text has a larger size by default. I will select the normal font size.**

- Select default text size

**The media is on the left by default, but you can change that in the block toolbar. You can also change the alignment of the text to the image.**

- Switch media to the other side

## Embeds

**And now onto the embed blocks. We currently have YouTube, Vimeo and Twitter embed blocks available.**

### YouTube

**For the YouTube embed, I will add the block. The video URL gets pasted into the text box.**

- Add YouTube block
- Paste video URL into block

### Vimeo

**You can also paste the URL of the media directly into the editor and it will automatically convert to the proper block. I will use Vimeo as an example.**

- Paste video url into new line

## Twitter

**And finally, a twitter embed.**

- Paste tweet url into new line
- Save & preview all embeds together

# PART FOUR - Design & Widgets

**Welcome to part four of the BirdPress 2.0 Block Editor tutorial. In this video, I will go through design and widget blocks that will assist you with content layout needs.**

## Design Blocks

### Columns

**Starting with columns. You can add columns to your layout either as a way to show text side-by-side or as an option to have sidebar content. There are other ways of adding sidebars, which you can see in the advanced block editor video.**

- Add column block to editor

**There are several options for column widths. We recommend staying with two columns at either 50/50 or 70/30 width.**

- Choose 50/50

**Blocks can be added into the columns with the block appender or by dragging into a column**

- Add paragraph block to left side and paste lorem ipsum
- Drag existing gallery block into right side, save & view

### Buttons

**Buttons can be used as a way to call out a link**

- Add button into media & text block - use bce and "Cornell Lab" text

**There are two styles - solid, which is default, and outline**

- Show outline style, revert back to solid save & view

### Separator

**A horizontal rule can be added between content with the separator block.**

- Add separator block between paragraphs

### Spacer

**Spacer is used to add white space between blocks rather than adding an empty paragraph or line breaks. You can specify the height for this spacer.**

- Add spacer block between paragraphs

- Change height to 200

## Group

The group block is a way to keep similar content together, it also makes it so the grouped content can be moved around easier. You can also add an ID for an anchor link or class for styles. I've used it to widen width for areas of content.

- Add group block

I will show an example of this in use with an HTML widget block.

## Widgets

Widgets will probably be the least used blocks. Plugins tend to add their additions to the Widget category. On the sample site, MailChimp and the contact form plugin have blocks.

## Custom HTML

HTML can be added using the custom html block. This is a good way to add iframe code that will not embed automatically.

- Add HTML block inside of group block
- Paste Google MyMaps iframe code, save & view

```
<iframe  
src="https://www.google.com/maps/d/embed?mid=19dBZ1cZJHsPjMvYSkPRMjZBy_y8  
" width="100%" height="520"></iframe>
```

I'd like to make this map a little wider on the screen. I can add it to a group block to do that.

- Set alignment of group block to full, save & view to show wider view of iframe

## Shortcode

Shortcodes could be required for some plugins, like Zotpress for Zotero. After you add the block, paste the shortcode into the text field.

## Conclusion

As you see, there is a good variety of core blocks to work with your content. For more details on these blocks, see our BirdPress 2.0 documentation website.

- Open BP2 tab, navigate to Block Editor page

Be sure to check out the next video for more advanced block editor usage.