

Custom Website Build Checklist

Migrating from WordPress to a custom stack with Cursor and Google Cloud.

Based on [Why I Ditched Wordpress For A Custom Built Website Cursor Google Cloud](#) by Casey Builds It

1. Evaluate WordPress Limitations

Identify the drawbacks of using WordPress plugins and themes for your specific needs.

- List all current WordPress plugins and their functions.
- Assess the security risks associated with each plugin.
- Identify plugins that cause compatibility issues or break during updates.
- Determine if plugin roadmaps align with your project goals.
- Evaluate the performance impact of installed plugins.
- Consider limitations imposed by WordPress themes and page builders.

2. Explore Custom Stack Options

Investigate alternative technologies for building and hosting your website.

- Research AI-assisted development tools like Cursor.
- Explore cloud hosting platforms such as Google Cloud.
- Understand the benefits of a custom backend for full control.
- Evaluate Google App Engine for hosting and database management.
- Consider the advantages of a custom stack over plugins and themes.

3. Plan Custom Development with AI

Leverage AI tools to accelerate the custom website building process.

- Identify coding tasks that can be assisted by AI (e.g., writing, debugging).
- Use AI to troubleshoot errors by analyzing screenshots or error messages.
- Integrate AI into your development workflow for faster iteration.
- Define the core features needed for your custom site.
- Prioritize building essential functionalities without unnecessary additions.

4. Develop Custom Automation Tools

Build automated workflows to streamline content creation and publishing.

- Design an automation tool for video processing (description, thumbnail, shorts).
- Develop a system to automatically generate blog posts from video content.
- Integrate the automation tool with your site's CMS for direct publishing.
- Connect custom APIs required for automation processes.
- Test and troubleshoot authorization errors in automation workflows.

5. Build a Custom Admin Dashboard

Create a personalized backend interface for managing site operations.

- Design a media library for managing site assets.
- Implement downloadable lead-generation tools within the backend.
- Develop a feature for tracking and suggesting future project ideas.
- Ensure the dashboard replaces the functionality of multiple plugins.
- Customize the dashboard to match your specific workflow.

6. Implement Google Cloud Hosting

Set up your custom website on a reliable cloud infrastructure.

- Configure Google App Engine for website hosting.
- Set up databases managed by Google Cloud.
- Ensure full control over backend logic and performance.
- Optimize hosting for speed and scalability.
- Monitor resource usage and costs on Google Cloud.

7. Refine and Iterate Workflow

Continuously improve your custom-built site and automation pipeline.

- Review the performance of the custom stack.
- Identify areas for further automation.
- Update AI tools and cloud services as needed.
- Gather feedback on the custom admin dashboard.
- Plan for future enhancements and feature additions.

Resources & Further Reading

Use these pages while working through the checklist:

■ Casey Builds It

<https://caseybuildsit.com/>

■ Casey Builds It

<https://caseybuildsit.com/the-files/>

■ Downloads

<https://caseybuildsit.com/downloads/>

■ Casey Builds It

<https://caseybuildsit.com/make-contact/>

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- | caseybuildsit.com
Custom builds with AI and cloud offer speed, control, and automation.