

Casey Builds It FAQ: Custom Website Development

Answers to common questions about ditching WordPress for a custom-built site.

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

Q: Why did you switch from WordPress to a custom-built website?

A: WordPress plugins add convenience but also introduce dependencies, security risks, and potential breakage with updates. Building custom allows for exactly what's needed without relying on external roadmaps.

Q: What technology stack are you using for your custom website?

A: The site runs on Google App Engine for hosting, with a custom backend. Cursor is used for AI-assisted coding, debugging, and troubleshooting, and Google Cloud provides hosting and database services.

Q: How does Cursor help with building a custom website?

A: Cursor assists with writing code, debugging errors, and even reading screenshots of issues to suggest fixes. It speeds up the custom development process significantly.

Q: What is the role of Google Cloud in your custom website setup?

A: Google Cloud, specifically Google App Engine, is used for hosting the website and managing databases. It provides the infrastructure for full control over performance and backend logic.

Q: Can you give an example of a custom automation tool you built?

A: Yes, a tool was built to automatically generate descriptions, comments, and thumbnails for uploaded videos. It then creates a blog post and publishes it directly to the site's CMS.

Q: How does the custom automation tool streamline content publishing?

A: The tool eliminates manual copy-pasting and the need for separate tools by taking an uploaded video and automatically generating all necessary content and publishing it to the site's CMS.

Q: What does the custom admin dashboard include?

A: The custom admin dashboard features a media library for managing assets, downloadable lead-generation tools, and a build suggestions feature for tracking project ideas.

Q: Does the custom admin dashboard replace multiple plugins?

A: Yes, the custom-built admin dashboard is designed to replace the functionality of multiple premade plugins and third-party dashboard tools.

Q: What are the benefits of building your own site with AI and cloud platforms?

A: Pairing AI tools like Cursor with cloud platforms like Google Cloud enables faster builds, complete customization, and automation that saves significant time.

Q: Is building a custom site instead of using WordPress worth it?

A: For those considering learning to code, a custom build with AI tools and cloud hosting offers a real-world path to faster development, full control, and valuable automation.

Q: What are the main drawbacks of WordPress plugins?

A: Plugins are convenient initially but become dependencies that can introduce security risks and break when other software updates.

Q: How do you handle troubleshooting and debugging in a custom setup?

A: Cursor is used for troubleshooting, including analyzing screenshots of issues to get immediate fixes, which is part of the day-to-day development process.

Q: What does 'full control' mean in the context of a custom website?

A: Full control means managing performance, site structure, and features without being limited by plugin roadmaps or third-party dependencies.

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides for these FAQs:

■ CaseyBuildsIt.com: Custom Site vs. WordPress (Comparison)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/casey-builds-it-checklists-20260726-47cb55/casey-builds-it/Comparison/why-i-ditched-wordpress-for-a-custom-built-website-cursor-google-cloud-comparison.pdf>

■ Building Your Own Website: A Custom Approach (Workbook)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/casey-builds-it-checklists-20260731-e718c1/casey-builds-it/Workbook/why-i-ditched-wordpress-for-a-custom-built-website-cursor-google-cloud-workbook.pdf>

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