

SERVER-SIDE FIXES FOR LIGHTNING-FAST WP PERFORMANCE

The hosting-level optimizations that make or break your site speed

💡 How to Use This Checklist

1. Review what your hosting provider already includes.
2. Enable features in your hosting dashboard where available.
3. Ask your host about missing optimizations or consider switching.

🔑 Difficult Key

- Easy = Can usually be enabled in your hosting dashboard
- Intermediate = Ask your hosting provider or check plan specs
- Advanced = Requires enterprise-grade hosting & infrastructure

🗄️ Caching Essentials

- ☐ **Full-Page Caching**. It saves entire HTML pages for instant delivery.
→ Huge speed boost for high-traffic pages.
- ☐ **Object Caching** (Redis/Memcached). It stores database query results or API calls in memory.
→ Speeds up dynamic content like product listings or profiles.
- ☐ **Opcode Caching** (OPcache). It caches precompiled PHP scripts for faster execution.
→ Reduces CPU load and accelerates PHP-heavy sites.
- ☐ **Server-Side Caching**. It stores content to avoid redundant processing and queries.
→ Improves scalability and user experience under heavy load.

🕒 Reduce Time-to-First-Byte (TTFB)

- ☐ **Use Servers Close to Your Audience**
→ Regional data centers or CDN reduce latency.
- ☐ **HTTP/2 or HTTP/3 Support**
→ Multiplexed connections speed up asset delivery.
- ☐ **Minimize Slow Queries & API Calls**
→ Reduces CPU load and accelerates PHP-heavy sites.
- ☐ **Optimize Server Software**
→ [Latest PHP versions](#), tuned Nginx/Apache, secure configs
- ☐ **Choose [High-Performance Hosting](#)**
→ Optimized servers, tuned PHP workers, and load balancing

Database Optimization

- ☐ **Hardware**
 - SSD storage, fast CPUs, plenty of RAM
- ☐ **Configuration**
 - Proper indexing, [optimized queries](#), connection pooling
- ☐ **Scaling**
 - [Load balancing](#) & auto-scaling during spikes.
- ☐ **Caching Integration**
 - [Redis](#)/Memcached to reduce DB strain.
- ☐ **Management**
 - [Automated backups](#), snapshots, proactive monitoring.

PHP Version & Execution

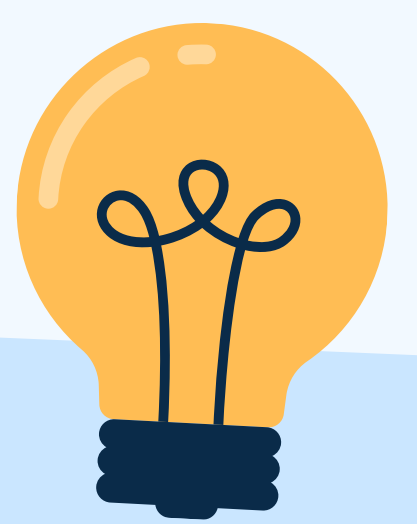
- ☐ **Always run the [latest stable PHP version](#)**
 - Older versions = slower execution, security risks, plugin conflicts.
- ☐ **Use PHP 8+ for Speed**
 - Major gains in performance & efficiency.
- ☐ **Staging for Upgrades**
 - Test theme/plugin compatibility before switching.
- ☐ **Monitor PHP Error Logs**
 - Catch and fix bottlenecks early..

HTTP Compression

- ☐ **Enable Gzip or Brotli**
 - [Reduces text-based file sizes](#) (JS, CSS, HTML) by up to 70–85%.
- ☐ **Prefer Brotli over Gzip**
 - Smaller files, better compression ratios, built for the web.
- ☐ **Balance CPU Load**
 - Compression is CPU-heavy, tune to avoid strain.

Advanced Infrastructure

- ☐ **Automatic Scaling Resources**
 - Dynamic scaling during surges without downtime.
- ☐ **Server-Level CDN Integration**
 - Edge caching built into the hosting stack.
- ☐ **High Availability & Load Balancing**
 - Distributes database requests during traffic spikes.



Pro Tip: If your host doesn't provide these optimizations, you're fighting uphill. The right hosting platform (like Pressidium) delivers most of them by default — so you can focus on growing your site, not tuning servers.