

CHOOSE A PLATFORM

LEARN IT.
LIVE IT.
SHARE IT.

Ratings are organized into 5 categories commonly discussed in ePortfolio platform choice. Each category has a short description, followed by the ratings chart for each platform.

Ratings were given on a five-star scale (five being the best).

CATEGORIES:

#1 Ease of Use:

Ratings were determined by simplicity of design, level of intuitive use, and how accessible the platform is for new users.

#2 Ability to Customize:

Ratings were determined by the number of templates, fonts, colors, and overall features that allow the user to develop their website in an effective way. Ratings for this category also include ease of embedding multimedia and mobile device functionality.

#3 Storage:

Ratings were determined by how much room the user has to upload content to the cloud-based storage within the platform without having to purchase more space.

#4 User Support:

Ratings were determined by amount of technical "help" available within the platform (i.e. FAQs, forums, live chats, and tutorials) and by the "help" content's clarity and ease of use.

#5 Administrative Settings:

Ratings were determined by the user's control of privacy settings, search engine optimization, and sharing capabilities.

#	Wix	Weebly	Wordpress	Google
1	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆
2	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆
3	★★★★☆	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆
4	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆
5	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆	★★★★☆

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PLATFORM RATING DETAILS:

EASE OF USE:

Wix – 4 stars: Has a simple drag-and-drop interface, but some find it slightly glitchy and think tool organization is less intuitive.

Weebly – 4 stars: Also has a simple drag-and-drop interface, but some find this structure less flexible and harder to control.

Wordpress – 3 stars: Fairly easy to use and page editor feels like a word processor, but the sheer amount of content on the [dashboard](#) can be overwhelming or less intuitive to some.

Google – 2 stars: Although the page editor retains a simple interface similar to other platforms, certain tools are difficult to locate.

CUSTOMIZATION:

Wix – 4 stars: Offers 30 [fonts](#), hundreds of templates, and a large color spectrum.

Weebly – 3 stars: Also offers hundreds of fonts and templates, but its drag-and-drop interface lacks flexibility.

Wordpress – 3 stars: Has many templates and fonts, but lacks significant personalization because of generic formatting. For more flexibility and design control, one must purchase the premium version.

Google – 1 star: The user writes text on top of a chosen template (or background image). The page editor is significantly less customizable than others.

STORAGE:

Wix – 4 stars: 2.5 GB of storage without purchase (which may be good for basic to intermediate websites). Wix also offers a gallery to view all personal documents that have been uploaded.

Weebly – 5 stars: Unlimited storage for free. However, even if documents have been uploaded to the site before, they must be re-uploaded each time they are used on the site.

STORAGE CONTINUED...

Wordpress – 4 stars: 3 GB of storage without purchase and a gallery feature to view documents that have been uploaded before.

Google – 1 star: 500 MB of storage without purchase.

USER SUPPORT:

Wix – 5 stars: Has large [FAQ](#) and public forum [sections](#). Plus, Wix offers interactive video [tutorials](#).

Weebly – 4 stars: Has a large [forum](#) and on-hand support team. They also include a steps-to-publish checklist during website creation.

Wordpress – 4 stars: Has an extensive support forum which is updated constantly by users and admin. Support for Wordpress is also available for faculty on [Lynda.com](#). To access Lynda.com, sign in to AU-Access and click on the employee services tab. Look for the Lynda.com box on this page.

Google – 3 stars: Google has a large [FAQ](#) and support [forum](#), but does not have any live or personalized support structures.

ADMINISTRATIVE SETTINGS:

Wix – 4 stars: Wix has the ability to set up different levels of privacy including free [password protection](#) or login, the ability to create multiple copies of a site, and the ability to [share](#) and edit versions of the site with other users.

Weebly – 3 stars: Also has the ability to set up different levels of privacy, and the ability to create multiple copies of the site. However, the user must purchase the Pro version for [password protection](#).

Wordpress – 3 stars: Can set up different levels of privacy and [password protection](#) without additional purchases. However, Wordpress does include advertisements from other businesses on their site unless the premium version is purchased.

Google – 4 stars: Has extensive privacy and [password](#) settings and the ability to share and edit versions of the site with other users (much like Google Docs).

COST OF PREMIUMS:

Wix – Has two types of payment plans, yearly and monthly, ranging from \$4.08-\$19.90. See [premium plans](#)

Weebly – Has only [monthly plans](#): \$3.29 or \$6.29 a month depending on features desired.

Wordpress – Has upgrades that can purchased individually or bundled for \$99. See available [upgrades](#)

Google – You can redirect a registered domain name or purchase one for \$10 a year with [google business](#).