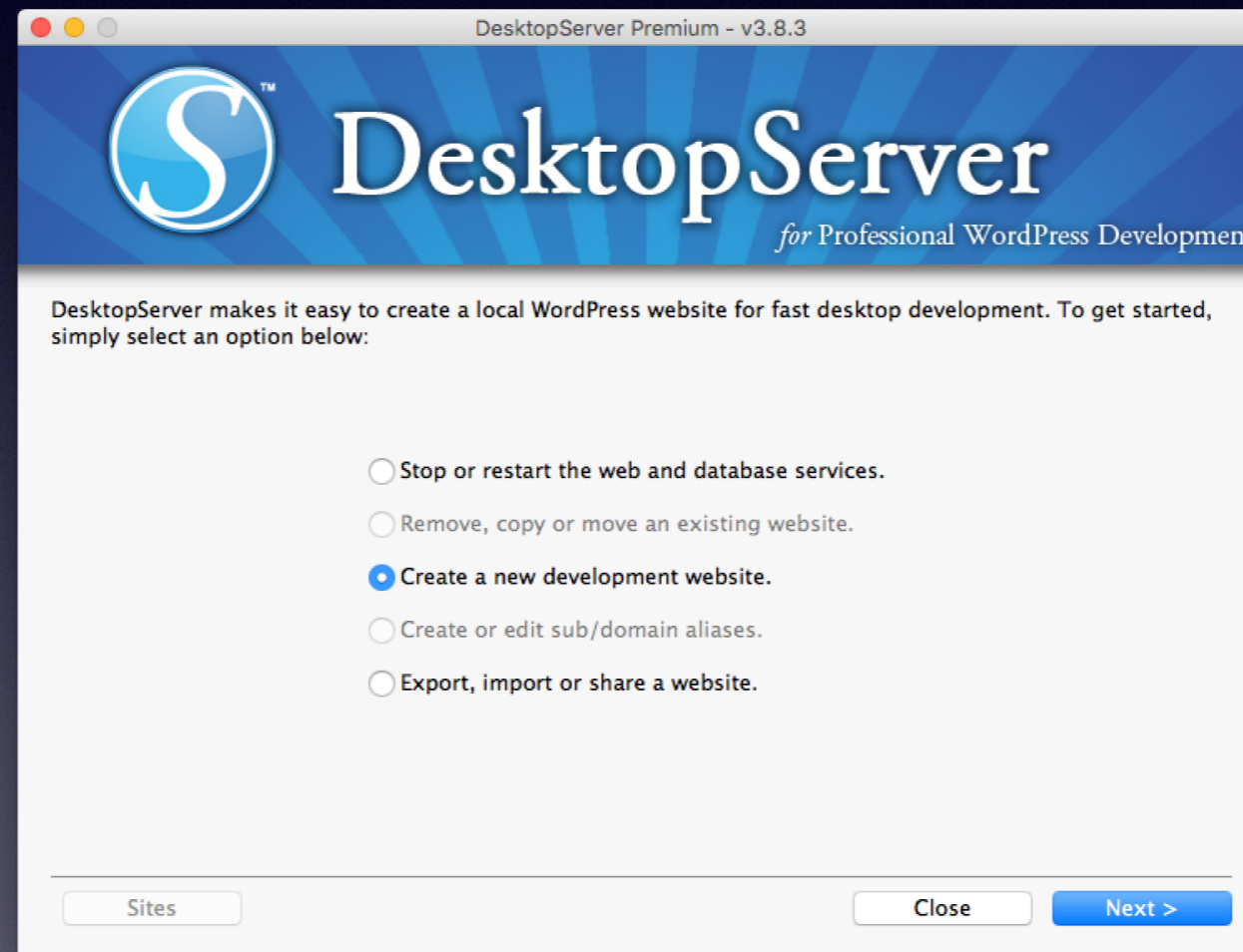**Mike Irvine
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Intro to Local Development with DesktopServer

Objectives / Goals for this Presentation

- Why create a local development environment?

- What is DesktopServer?

- Highlight DesktopServer's "BEST" features!

- Demo

- You will have a better understanding of DesktopServer and how it may fit into your workflow.

What is Cowboy Coding?

The practice of making any change (theme, plugin, code) to a live site that you haven't tested elsewhere.

Why is Cowboy Coding Bad?

- Don't want to break your live site.
- Easy to make mistakes (syntax errors, etc.).
- Incompatibility between Themes and Plugins.

- Every time you hit the "UPDATE" button, do you really know what is going to happen?
- It will eventually bite you.

Advantages of Creating a Local Development Environment

- Great for Beginners

  - Safe, allows you to explore in a sandbox environment.

  - Learning, you learn more when you can break things without ramifications.

  - Great for trying out new Themes and Plugins.

- Minimize the risk of screwing up a live site.

- Fast / Saves Time, you are not waiting on the internet every time you save a file and hit reload.

- No search engines. Don't have the risk of getting your site indexed before it is ready.

- Backups - What good are backups if they don't work. Ability to restore a backup locally before redeploying or fixing a live site.

What is DesktopServer?

- DesktopServer allows you to create a local development WordPress environment.

    - ServerPress: https://serverpress.com

- Cross-platform (Mac / Windows)

- Limited (free) and Premium Versions ($99/yr)

    - Limited -> 3 sites

    - Premium -> unlimited sites + added functionality

- Great for both beginners and advanced developers.

- How does it work?

    - DesktopServer provides a WordPress Manager on top of XAMPP (which provides the web server environment - Apache / MySQL / PHP).

ServerPress.com

DesktopServer's Best Features

- **Easy to Use**

  - Fast, literally spin up a new WordPress site in seconds.

- **Blueprints**

  - Automate installs by creating WordPress templates containing your favorite themes, plugins, settings, license keys, etc.

  - Export and archive your local sites to create new Blueprints.

- **DesktopServer Plugins**

  - Add-on functionality, which can be enabled as you need it.

  - Open API, you can create your own.

Additionally…

- **Import from Live Site**

    - Import a live site to DesktopServer using a number of various plugins (Duplicator (free), BackupBuddy, BackWP Up, Backup WordPress, InfiniteWP and ManageWP).

- **Deploy to Live Site**

    - **Direct Deploy** (works with most hosting providers):

        - DesktopServer establishes a connection with your destination server using a plugin. Your site is then moved in packets to build an archive on the destination server, which it then extracts replacing the site in place.

    - **Quick Deploy** (alternative method):

        - DesktopServer is used to create an archive of your local site. You manually copy that archive along with a script to your destination server. You then run the script on the destination server to extract the archive replacing the site that is in place.

Additional Info

- DesktopServer when deploying (using Direct Deploy or Quick Deploy) can NOT just update part of a website.

    - You can NOT just deploy one plugin, page, post, etc. It will replace your entire website (all files and database).

    - It is destructive.

- Additional tools to help with WordPress site migrations:

    - WPSiteSync: https://wpsitesync.com/

        - Ability to sync individual WordPress items (Pages, Posts, etc.).

    - WP Migrate DB Pro: https://deliciousbrains.com/wp-migrate-db-pro/

        - A great WordPress database migration tool.

Demo Time!

Questions?

Tools

- **DesktopServer:** https://serverpress.com/

- **Duplicator:** https://wordpress.org/plugins/duplicator/

- **WPSiteSync:** https://wpsitesync.com/

- **WP Migrate DB Pro:** https://deliciousbrains.com/wp-migrate-db-pro/

Learning

- **DesktopServer:** http://docs.serverpress.com/

- **OS Training:** https://www.ostraining.com/class/desktop-server/

- **Lynda:** https://www.lynda.com/DesktopServer-training-tutorials/2044-0.html

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Backup Slides

Files and Directories

- **DesktopServer's Config File:**

  - /Users/Shared/.com.serverpress.desktopserver.json

- **Default Website's Folder**

  - ~/Documents/Websites

- **Installation Folder:**

  - /Applications/XAMPP

- **Blueprints Folder:**

  - /Applications/XAMPP/blueprints

- **DesktopServer Plugins Folder:**

  - /Applications/XAMPP/ds-plugins

Alternative Local Development Tools

- Requirements for configuring a Local WordPress Environment - AMP

  - Apache - Web Server

  - MySQL - Database Server

  - PHP - PHP Interpreter

- Local Development Solutions

  - LAMP / MAMP / WAMP - (LINUX, Mac, Windows)

  - XAAMP - Cross Platform AMP Stack

  - Varying Vagrant Vagrants (VVV)

  - DesktopServer

    - DesktopServer provides a WordPress Manager on top of XAMPP (which provides the web server environment - Apache / MySQL / PHP).

Additional Resources

- **DesktopServer:** http://serverpress.com

- **Duplicator:** https://wordpress.org/plugins/duplicator/

- **BackupBuddy:** https://ithemes.com/purchase/backupbuddy/

- **XAMPP:** https://www.apachefriends.org/index.html

- **MAMP:** https://www.mamp.info/en/

- **WAMP:** http://www.wampserver.com/en/

- **VAGRANT:** https://www.vagrantup.com/

- **VVV:** https://github.com/Varying-Vagrant-Vagrants/VVV

- **bitnami:** https://bitnami.com/stack/wordpress

Additional Resources

- **Docker Compose:** https://docs.docker.com/compose/

- **Docker Hub:** https://hub.docker.com/

- **WP Pusher (Docker):** https://blog.wppusher.com/the-easiest-way-to-use-docker-for-wordpress-development/

- **Carrie Dils (Workflow):** https://carriedils.com/deploying-wordpress/

- **Carrie Dils (Blueprints):** https://carriedils.com/demo-desktopserver-blueprints/