

Create multilingual language website

Creating a Multilingual WordPress Site (Human Translation)

First thing you need to do is install and activate the [Polylang](#) plugin. Upon activation, you need to visit **Settings » Languages** to configure the plugin.

The screenshot shows the WordPress 'Settings » Languages' page. The 'Languages' tab is selected. The page includes a sidebar with 'Settings' highlighted. The main content area has a 'Add new language' section with a dropdown menu and a text input for 'Full name'. Below this is a table listing installed languages: Deutsch (de_DE, de), English (en_US, en), العربية (ar, ar), and 中文 (中国) (zh_CN, zh). At the bottom, there are radio buttons for 'Text direction' (left to right selected) and 'right to left'.

The language settings page is divided into three tabs. The first tab is labeled 'Languages'. This is where you add the languages you want to use on your site. You will need to add the default language, as well as select all other languages that users can choose on your site.

After adding the languages, switch to the 'Strings Translations' tab. Here you need to translate site title, description, and then choose the [date and time format](#).

Languages		Strings translation	Settings	
Bulk Actions ▾ Apply View all groups ▾ Filter				
<input type="checkbox"/>	Group	Name	String	Translations
<input type="checkbox"/>	WordPress	Site Title	Lorem Ipsum	العربية أليوم هومز Deutsch Lorem Ipsum 中文 (中国) Lorem 存存 English Lorem Ipsum
<input type="checkbox"/>	WordPress	Tagline	Just another WordPress site	العربية فقط ثان ووردبريس الموقع Deutsch Ein weiterer Wordpress-Website 中文 (中国) 又一个WordPress站点 English Just another WordPress site
<input type="checkbox"/>	WordPress	Date Format	F j, Y	العربية F j, Y Deutsch F j, Y 中文 (中国) F j, Y English F L Y

Last step in the configuration is the Settings tab. This is where you can choose a default language for your site and other technical settings.

Languages	Strings translation	Settings
Default language <input type="text" value="English"/>		
URL modifications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> The language is set from content <i>Posts, pages, categories and tags urls are not modified.</i> <input checked="" type="radio"/> The language is set from the directory name in pretty permalinks <i>Example: http://demo3.sabza.org/en/my-post/</i> <input type="radio"/> The language is set from the subdomain name in pretty permalinks <i>Example: http://en.demo3.sabza.org/my-post/</i> <input type="radio"/> The language is set from different domains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hide URL language information for default language <input type="radio"/> Remove /language/ in pretty permalinks <i>Example: http://demo3.sabza.org/en/</i> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Keep /language/ in pretty permalinks <i>Example: http://demo3.sabza.org/language/en/</i> 		
Detect browser language <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> When the front page is visited, set the language according to the browser preference		
Media <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activate languages and translations for media		
Synchronization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Taxonomies <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Custom fields <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Comment status <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ping status <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Sticky posts <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Published date <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Post format <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Page parent <li style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Page template 		

For most beginners, we recommend not changing the URL, so select the first option. Why? Because if you ever turn off this plugin, then all those links will be broken.

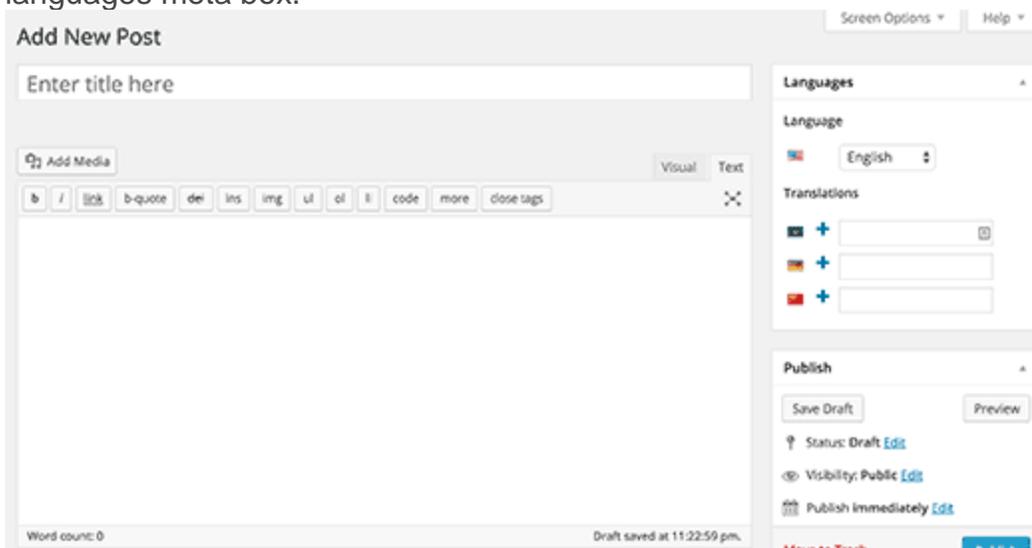
For those who are looking to take full advantage of multi language SEO, then we recommend that you choose the second option for pretty permalinks as shown in the screenshot above.

You should select the option for detecting browser's preferred language, and automatically show them the content in their preferred language. By doing this, the user will see the content in their preferred language and can switch the language if needed.

Once you are done, click on the save changes button to store your settings.

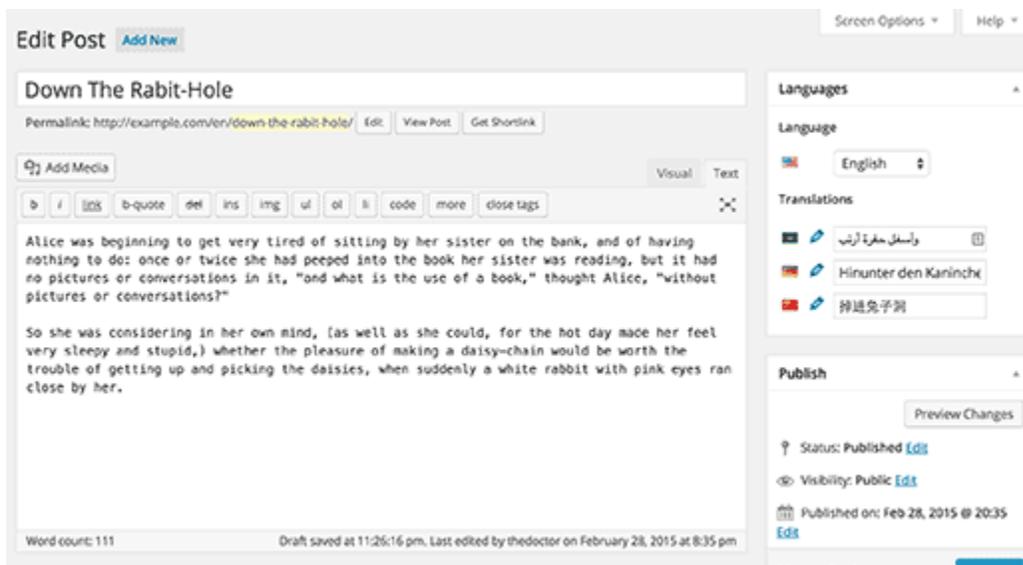
Adding Multilingual Content in WordPress

Polyglot makes it super easy to add content in different languages. Simply create a new post/page or edit an existing one. On the post edit screen, you will notice the languages meta box.



Your default language will automatically be selected, so you can first add content in your default language, and then translate it into others.

To translate, you need to click on the + button next to a language and then add content for that language.



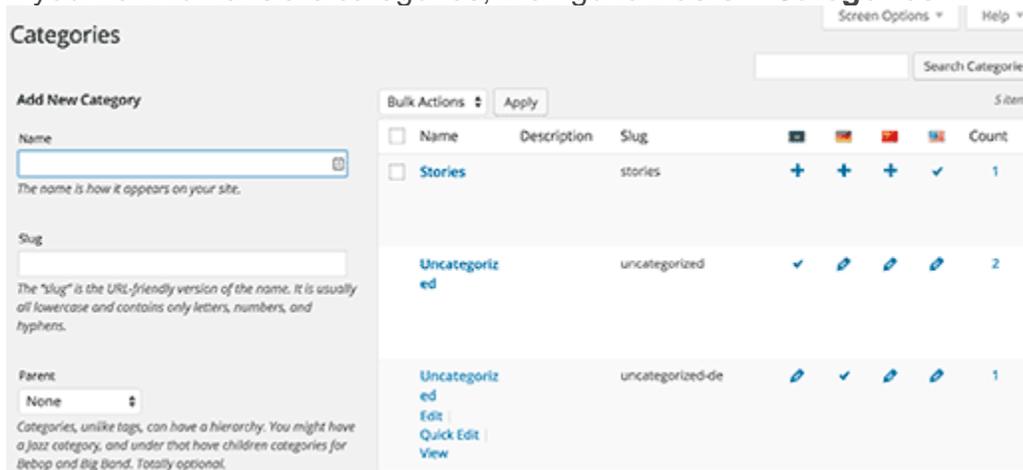
Repeat the rabbit process for all languages. Once you are done, you can publish your posts and pages.

It's important to note that Polylang works with custom post types, so it can definitely help you make your woocommerce store multilingual.

Translating Categories, Tags, and Custom Taxonomies

You can also translate **categories and tags**, or any **custom taxonomies** you may be using.

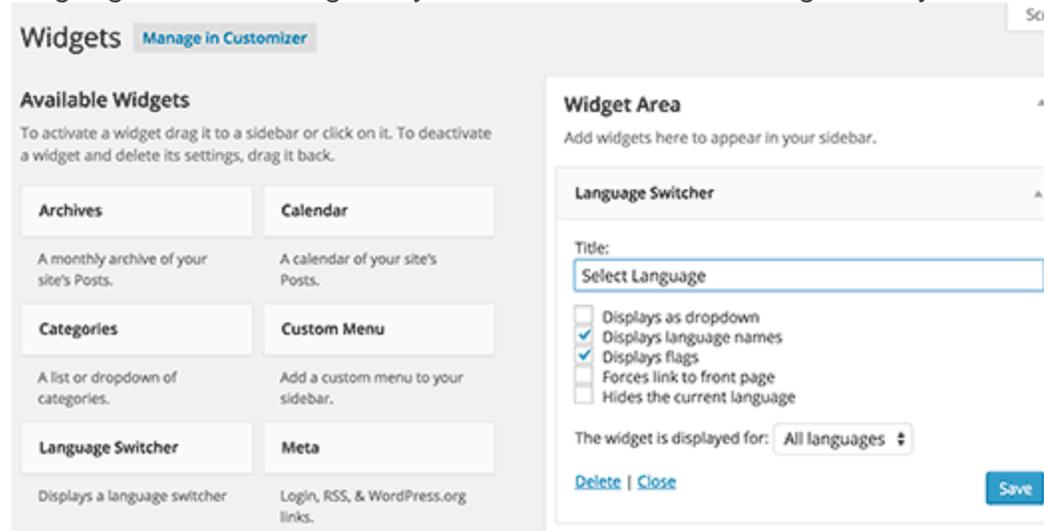
If you want to translate categories, then go to **Posts » Categories**.



Add a category in your default language and then click on the plus icon for each language to start adding translations.

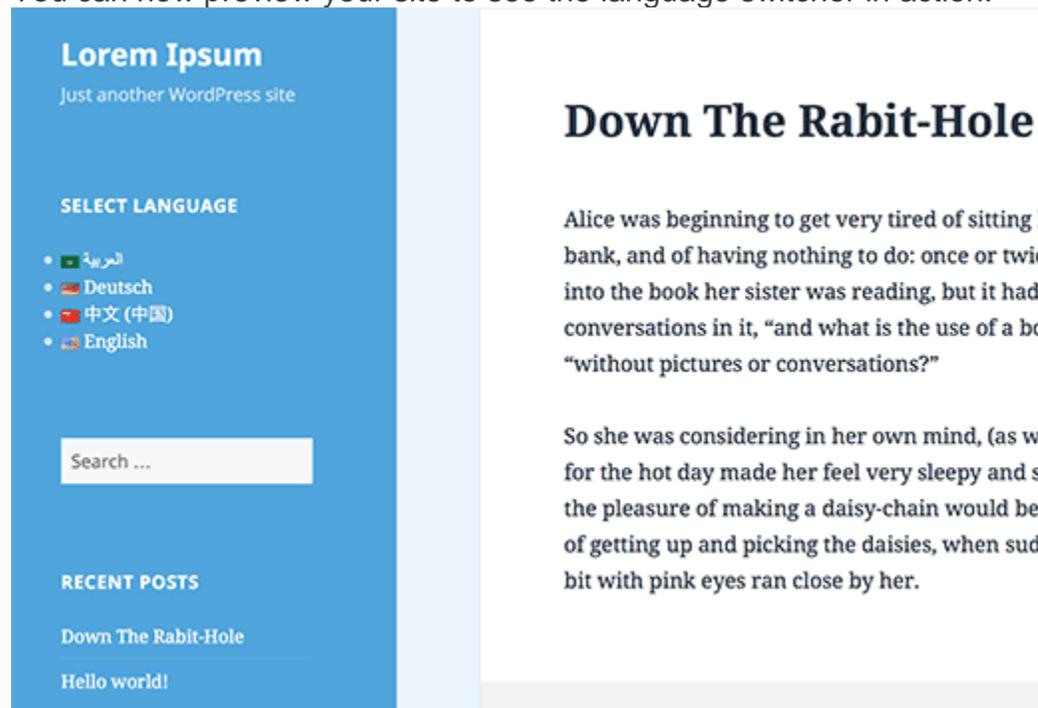
Displaying Multi Language Switcher on Your WordPress Site

Adding a language switcher allows users to select a language when viewing your site. Polylang makes it super simple. Just go to **Appearance » Widgets** and add the language switcher widget to your sidebar or another widget-ready area.



You can choose a drop down, or use language names with flags. Once you are done, click the save button to store your widget settings.

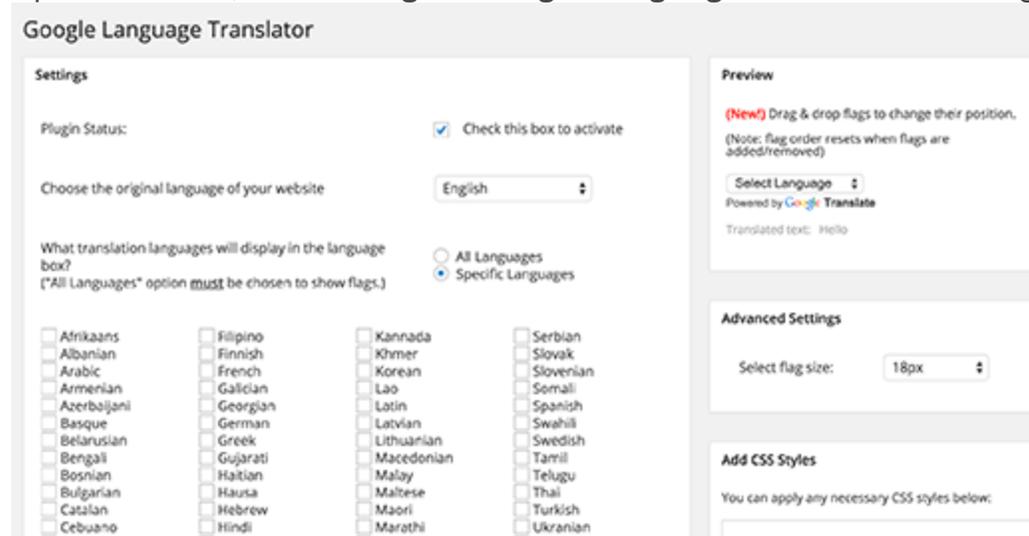
You can now preview your site to see the language switcher in action.



Using Google Translate to Create a Multilingual Site in WordPress

While adding human translations definitely creates a better user experience, you may not have the resources or time to do that. In that case, you can try using Google Translate to automatically translate content on your site.

First thing you need to do is install and activate the [Google Language Translator](#) plugin. Upon activation, visit **Settings » Google Language Translator** to configure the plugin.



The plugin allows you to select the languages available with Google Translate. You can even remove Google's branding from translation. This is a highly customizable plugin, so you need to go through the settings and configure it to your liking.

For more details check out our tutorial on how to [add Google Translate in WordPress](#) with video and text instructions on how to set up the plugin.

That's all, we hope this article helped you learn how to create a multilingual site in WordPress. You should also look at our article on how to [install WordPress in your language](#).

If you are looking for a multilingual WordPress theme also referred to translation-ready themes, check out our guide on how to [find translation ready WordPress themes](#) that also has an easy way to translate existing WordPress themes.