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WordPress block editor or Elementor: which one to build your pages with

WordPress & Site Builders

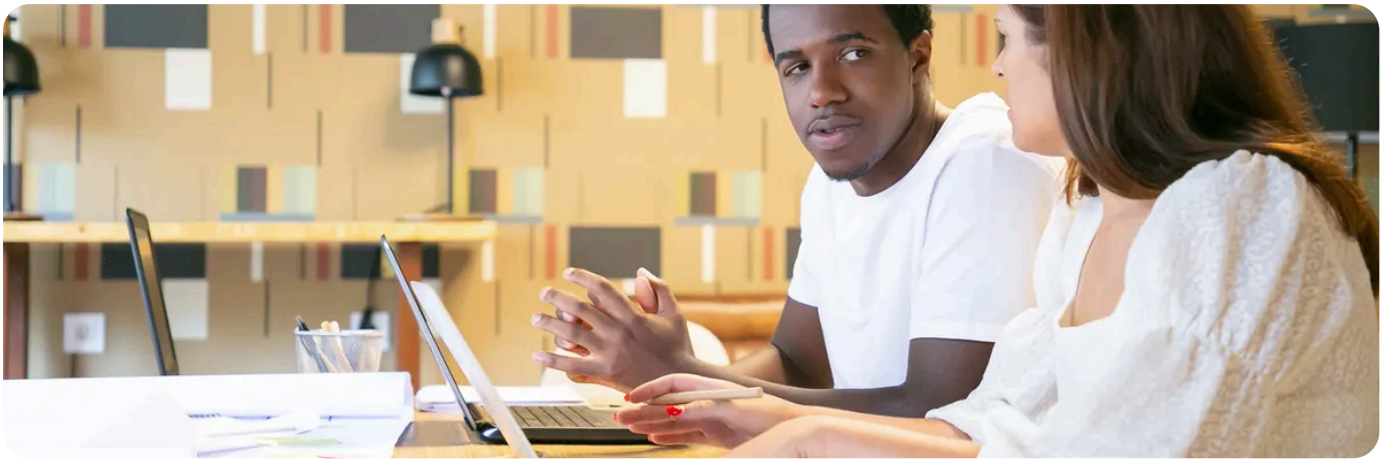
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WordPress block editor or Elementor: which one to build your pages with

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Short answer: for most sites, the **block editor** that comes with WordPress is enough, is light and ties you to nothing. **Elementor** pays off when you need fine control over the design (columns, spacing, elaborate sections) without writing code, and you accept the cost in weight and dependence. The mistake is using both at once on the same page.

Side by side

	Block editor	Elementor
Where it comes from	Part of WordPress. Nothing to install.	A plugin. The free version is in the official repository. The paid version (Pro) is bought from Elementor, not from us.
How you work	A column of blocks (text, image, button, columns) on a simple editing page.	A screen of its own where you drag elements and see the result as you drag.
Weight on the site	Light. It uses what WordPress already loads.	It adds stylesheets and scripts. Worth measuring before and after.
If you stop using it	The content remains WordPress text and blocks, and can be reused.	The content is tied to Elementor's structure. Once you deactivate it, pages tend to come out unformatted or incomplete.
PHP limits	The normal ones.	It asks for more memory and more fields per request when saving big pages.
Who updates it	WordPress, along with the core.	The plugin, with updates of its own that you have to test.

How to choose, in four questions

1. **What kind of site is it?** A blog, a company site with simple pages or a presentation page with text and images: blocks. Campaign pages with many sections designed to measure: Elementor saves time.

2. **Who will be editing six months from now?** Someone who writes without touching the design gets on well with blocks. Someone who has to change the structure without a developer likes Elementor, but can also break more.

3. **How heavy can the page be?** If speed is the priority, start with blocks. If you choose Elementor, switch on a page cache: **installing and tuning a page cache**.

4. **Do you already have a theme?** A light theme suits either. With Elementor, avoid themes loaded with options of their own: they only add weight and conflicts.

Do not mix them on the same page.
Each one stores the content in its own way, and a page started in one and continued in the other gives results that are hard to predict. Turning a whole Elementor page into blocks is, in practice, rebuilding it. If you are going to switch, switch in one go and page by page.

Before deciding, do an afternoon's experiment: the same page, one in each editor, with the same content. Measure both with the same tool (**measuring your speed**) and open them on a phone. If Elementor gives errors when saving or the editor opens blank, PHP limits are the first suspect: **PHP limits**.

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Where to see it in your account

The PHP memory and time limits of your account are shown, and can be changed, in cPanel under **Select PHP Version**, in the **Options** tab (`memory_limit`, `max_execution_time` and others). Read the current value there before you touch it. To raise one, change the value, save, and test the page that was failing; with Elementor that is usually the editor opening and saving a big page. Raise in steps rather than straight to the maximum. If the problem persists, look at **Resource Usage**, because the PHP limit cannot give the account more memory than it has. If you need more room, you can move up a plan without losing the site.

SEE ALSO

- **Using Elementor**
- **Creating and editing pages in WordPress**
- **WordPress or a drag-and-drop website builder**
- **WordPress hosting**

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