

# Online Readers

---

Thank you for purchasing my plugin. If you have any questions that are beyond the scope of this help file, please feel free to email via my user page contact form [here](#). If you need my help with installation or customize plugin, use this form too. Thank you!

Last modification of document: 2015-04-23 by Tomasz Dobrzyński

## About Online Readers

This plugin shows you current amount of readers for particular posts.

## Installing

### Installing by WP plugin installer

1. Extract the zip file that you've downloaded from <http://tomasz-dobrzynski.com>.
2. Go to Plugins > Add New page in your back-end.
3. Click on the Upload button on the top.
4. Click on Choose File and choose online-readers.zip file. then press the Install Now button.
5. Now you should see "Online Readers" in plugins list. Click on the Settings link next to the plugin name to open configuration page.

### Installing by FTP

To install using FTP you'll need FTP client. There is plenty of them but I prefer to use FileZilla.

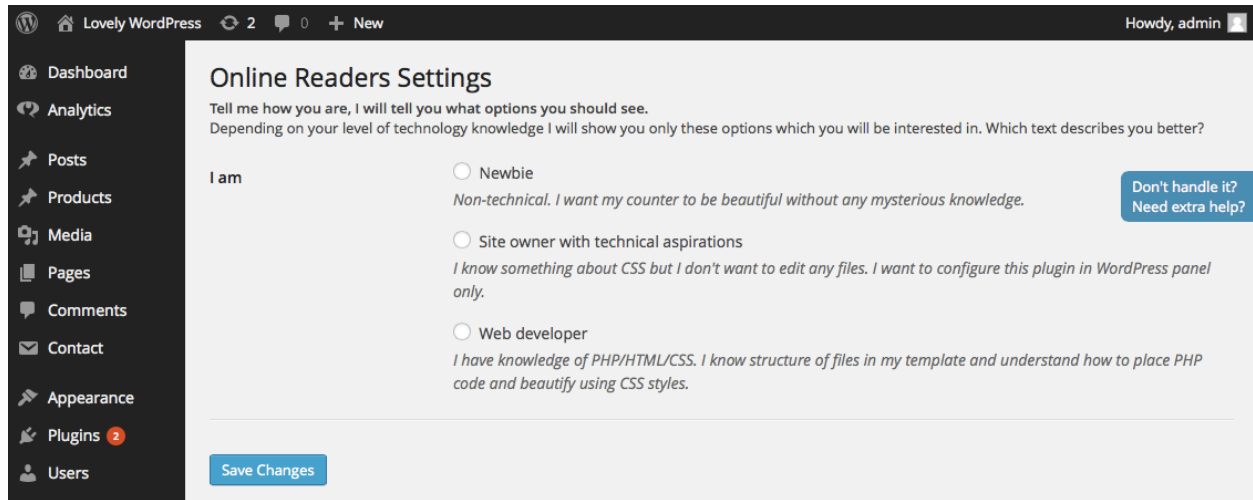
1. Extract the zip file which you've downloaded from <http://tomasz-dobrzynski.com>.
2. Open extracted folder and extract online-readers.zip file
3. Once you extract you should see "online-readers" folder.
4. Connect to your server and change directory to to /wp-content/plugins/.
5. Upload "online-readers" folder which extracted.
6. Login to your WordPress back-end and go to the Plugins page.
7. Click the Activate below Online Readers and then Settings page next to the plugin name.

## Configuration

To configure your Online Readers instance you need to open settings page. You can access it in two ways:

- Click Plugins menu, search for Online Readers and click Settings link next to "Deactivate" button
- Click Settings menu, choose Online Readers link.



Once you access configuration page you should see something like this:












First thing you need to do it to set your level of your technical knowledge. Depending on choice some options will be displayed/hidden. Please select one of following options:

- newbie
- site owner with technical aspirations
- web developer


Once you select, panel with dedicated settings will show. Please note that default configuration is preloaded so you can save your precious time. Below you'll find list of all available options with information in which level you will find them. Let's assume that green color will be used to mark options on level with least technical knowledge (newbie), orange for technical aspirations, and red for experienced developers.

<p>Position</p> 	<p>Define location where you want to see information about readers. Available positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● before title</li> <li>● after title</li> <li>● before content</li> <li>● after content</li> <li>● in short code</li> </ul> <p><b>Warning:</b> by default short codes are disabled, to use them you have to select option "in short code". It means you cannot use place online counter in specific location (eg. after title) and use short codes at once.</p> <p><b>Notice:</b> some themes don't follow rules regarding coding standards and other rules that should be meet. It means you may have difficulties with placing counter for specific location - in extreme situation you will have to place PHP code manually in your template files. If you have such a problem, <a href="#">let me know</a> - we will find solution.</p>
<p>Visibility</p> 	<p>Select content types in which you want to display counter. It's obvious that you wouldn't lie to display it everywhere. You have following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● post</li> <li>● page</li> <li>● category</li> </ul>

	<p>Additionally you have one more interesting checkbox here called “<i>Hide if one reader only</i>”. It’s very nice feature that should be used on sites with low traffic. Intention with creating of this feature was to not boast that only one reader is reading post/page - it better to not telling this reader that he is the only one from psychological way.</p> <p><b>Notice:</b> if your site uses <a href="#">custom taxonomy</a> that uses post_format, Online Reader will probably handle it without problem.</p>
<p>Templates</p> 	<p>This section provides areas in which you can provide your own text which will be used to display information about readers. You have possibility to place text in singular and plural form so it will look more professional. In areas you can provide any text but to display number you must use %s symbol which will be replace on process of counter generation on front-end.</p> <p>Another great feature is support of WPML and qTranslate plugins. It means you can place label values depending on current language. To create new value for different language you must use Enter key and then provide code of language, use colon separator and place your destination text. Something should look like below:</p> <p><i>en:%s reades of current article</i>  <i>pl:%s osób czyta bieżący artykuł</i></p>
<p>Wrapper tag</p> 	<p>Type of HTML tag which will be used to wrap template. Available options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• div</li> <li>• span</li> <li>• p</li> </ul> <p><b>Notice:</b> if “none” option selected, all appearance options will become hidden.</p>
<p>Wrapper class</p> 	<p>Name of optional class name used to style using other CSS file</p>
<p>CSS</p> 	<p>Place to type additional inline styles that are not included in current options. Styles defined in this field inject as the most recent directive so you can override other settings appearance options</p>
<p>Text align</p> 	<p>Define alignment of text. Available options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• left</li> <li>• center</li> <li>• right</li> </ul> <p><b>Notice:</b> this option may not work if “span” is set as wrapper tag</p>
<p>Size</p> 	<p>Select size of your font. Available options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• small</li> <li>• normall</li> <li>• large</li> </ul>
<p>Transform</p> 	<p>Select type of text transform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lowercase</li> <li>• normal</li> <li>• uppercase</li> </ul>

<b>Bold</b> 	Click box if you want to make your template bold
<b>Transparency</b> 	Provide numeric value in range of 0-100 to set transparency for text. Low values = light transparency, high values = heavy transparency

## Shortcodes

You can use following short codes only if “Position” value from settings page is set to “in short code”, otherwise they will not be generated. It means that short codes are created only for  user levels. If you want to want to access their from PHP code, skip to next section of this documentation.

- `[online_readers_html]` - generates template counter using template and appearance settings, so it will generate complex box that you may display in specific place.
- `[online_readers_raw]` - generates number only. If you’d like to do something special (eg. use only in one post or wrap using special attributes, this short code is definitely for you).

Please note that you cannot use short codes out of places where posts/pages are generated. Using out of there will cause displaying incorrect values. Another very important thing to remember is that you place counter in defined by you place so values from “Position” value will be omitted.

## PHP functions

Online Reader plugin allows you to get values directly from PHP using prepared functions. Basically it’s the most powerful way to display counter because you can define it directly in PHP code. Following functions are equivalent for short codes so it works quite the same. Take a look:

- `<?php online_readers_text($argument); ?>` - generates template counter using template and appearance settings, so it will generate complex box that you may display in specific place.
- `<?php online_readers_raw($argument); ?>` - generates number only. If you’d like to do something special (eg. use only in one post or wrap using special attributes, this function is definitely for you).

\$argument boolean value is optional and defined whether output should be returned to variable (true) or printed (false, default value).

It’s highly recommended to place these functions near `the_title()` or `the_content()` fragments of your template.

**Warning:** `online_readers_raw` function will return numeric value even if “Hide if one reader only” is checked.

## Uninstall

To uninstall plugin go to Plugins page and search for Online Readers. Click on the Deactivate link. To completely remove plugin from your WordPress select checkbox next to the plugin name and from Bulk actions choose Delete position.