

nginx config for a WordPress Network

Easy and clean nginx config for a secure WordPress Network.

The real bottleneck of a WordPress Network is that the static files of the sub-blogs will be served by PHP - unless you write some tricky rewrite rules. The drawback? This is not automatic; each sub-blog will require a new entry, but it falls back safely to the original, PHP based serving if blog is not mapped yet.

Note: PHP-FPM is required, otherwise this config will *not* work. That's going to be in an other entry, it's not here.

nginx is still marvellous and it's config is getting incredibly easy and nice. For example, this config is enough to run a WordPress site on port 80 and 443 with SSL enabled only on 443.

```
# if nginx map module is available, this can be used to
serve the
# static files from sub-blogs of a network directly with nginx
# instead of PHP
# this reduces page load time and server load as well
#
# left: sub-blog domain
# right: the number of the sub-blog in WordPress Network
map $host $wordpress_network_blog_dir {
    default                0;
    subblog1.your-domain.com 1;
    subblog2.your-domain.com 2;
}

server {
    ## Ports
    listen      80;
    listen      443 ssl;
```

apache

```

## SSL certs
ssl_certificate      /etc/ssl/yourcert.crt;
ssl_certificate_key  /etc/ssl/yourcert.key;

## server name
# . acts as wildcard
server_name         .your-domain.com;

## root
root                /path/to/your/root/;

## global rewrites
# WordPress Network sites files (map is above)
if ( $wordpress_network_blog_dir!= 0 )
{
    rewrite ^/files/(.*)$ /wp-content/blogs.dir/
$wordpress_network_blog_dir/files/$1 last;
}
# fallback if site is not mapped
if ( $wordpress_network_blog_dir= 0 )
{
    rewrite ^(.*)/files/(.*)$ /wp-includes/ms-files.php?
file=$2 last;
}

## locations
location / {

    # enable browser cache for images
    # not location, because this applies for PHP served
images as well in WP Network
    if ( $uri ~ /\.(ico|gif|jpg|jpeg|png)$ ) {
        expires 30d;
        add_header Pragma public;
        add_header Cache-Control "public, must-
revalidate, proxy-revalidate";
    }

    # enable browser cache for css / js
    # not location, because this applies for PHP served

```

```

files as well in WP Network
    if ( $uri ~ /\.(css|js)$ ) {
        expires 7d;
        add_header Pragma public;
        add_header Cache-Control "public, must-
revalidate, proxy-revalidate";
    }

    # default uri
    try_files $uri $uri/ @rewrites;
}

# rewrite rules
location @rewrites {
    rewrite ^(.*)$ /index.php?q=$1 last;
}

## hide files starting with .
location ~ /\. {
    deny all;
    log_not_found off;
}

## enable nginx status screen, optional
location /nginx_status {
    stub_status on;
}

## pass to PHP5-FPM server in the background
location ~ .php {
    fastcgi_param    QUERY_STRING            $query_string;
    fastcgi_param    REQUEST_METHOD          $request_method;
    fastcgi_param    CONTENT_TYPE            $content_type;
    fastcgi_param    CONTENT_LENGTH          $content_length;
    fastcgi_param    SCRIPT_FILENAME         $document_root$fastcgi_script_name;
    fastcgi_param    SCRIPT_NAME             $fastcgi_script_name;
    fastcgi_param    REQUEST_URI             $request_uri;

```

```

        fastcgi_param    DOCUMENT_URI                $document_uri;
        fastcgi_param    DOCUMENT_ROOT
$document_root;
        fastcgi_param    SERVER_PROTOCOL
$server_protocol;
        fastcgi_param    GATEWAY_INTERFACE          CGI/1.1;
        fastcgi_param    SERVER_SOFTWARE           nginx;
        fastcgi_param    REMOTE_ADDR                $remote_addr;
        fastcgi_param    REMOTE_PORT                $remote_port;
        fastcgi_param    SERVER_ADDR                $server_addr;
        fastcgi_param    SERVER_PORT                $server_port;
        fastcgi_param    SERVER_NAME                $server_name;
        # PHP only, required if PHP was built with --enable-
force-cgi-redirect
        fastcgi_param    REDIRECT_STATUS            200;

        fastcgi_index     index.php;
        fastcgi_connect_timeout        60;
        fastcgi_send_timeout           180;
        fastcgi_read_timeout           180;
        fastcgi_buffer_size            128k;
        fastcgi_buffers              4          256k;
        fastcgi_busy_buffers_size      256k;
        fastcgi_temp_file_write_size   256k;
        fastcgi_intercept_errors       on;
        fastcgi_split_path_info        ^(.+\.php)(/.*)$;
        fastcgi_pass            127.0.0.1:9000;
    }
}

```

When a new site is added into WordPress, a directory is created for it inside `wp-content/blogs.dir/`, with the same number the site was added to the system. This is the number I've called `$wordpress_network_blog_dir` in the config above.

Feel free to ask question if there are.

Created by Peter Molnar <mail@petermolnar.net>, published at 2012-02-10 08:52 UTC, last modified at 2021-10-31 15:57 UTC, to canonical URL <https://petermolnar.net/article/nginx-config-for-wordpress-network/>, licensed under CC-BY-4.0.