Critical Error: WP_Background_Process Not Found

Troubleshooting · https://wpfactory.com/docs/wp-background-process-not-found/

If Wishlist for WooCommerce causes a fatal error saying Class "WP_Background_Process" not found, rename the wish-list-for-woocommerce plugin folder via FTP or your file manager to restore admin access. Then re-download the plugin ZIP from WordPress.org, re-upload it, check for plugin or theme conflicts, and confirm your PHP version is supported.

Problem Description

After installing or updating the Wishlist plugin, the admin area (or site) breaks. WP shows a fatal error like Uncaught Error: Class "WP_Background_Process" not found, preventing access to plugin settings, plugin list, or sometimes the entire admin dashboard.

Common symptoms

- White screen or “Critical error on this website” message in WP admin.
- Error trace referencing: includes/free/class-alg-wc-wish-list-stock-bkg-process.php and “WP_Background_Process”.

Cause

- The plugin tries to load a background-process class that’s missing — likely due to incomplete file deployment or conflict with another plugin/theme that interferes with autoloading.

Solution (step-by-step)

1. **Temporarily disable the plugin** — via FTP or hosting file manager, rename the plugin folder wish-list-for-woocommerce to something like wish-list-for-woocommerce-disabled. This restores access to WP admin.

2. **Ensure plugin is fully uploaded / no missing files** — re-download the plugin ZIP from WordPress.org and re-upload via WP Admin → Plugins → Add New → Upload. This ensures all files (including background-process classes) are present.
3. **Check for conflicts:** disable other plugins or custom code that modify autoloaders or background processes; switch to a default theme. Then reactivate the wishlist plugin and test.
4. **Verify PHP version:** make sure your server uses a PHP version supported by the plugin (per plugin page requirements).
5. **If error persists, contact support:** Provide the full error message, WordPress version, PHP version, theme name, and list of active plugins, this helps developers debug missing file / dependency issues.

Prerequisites

- FTP or hosting access to rename/delete plugin folder.
- Backup of site before making changes.

Additional Notes

- This issue seems rare but critical, treat it as high-priority if it arises.
- Always test plugin updates on a staging site before applying to production.

Related Issues / Alternative Solutions

- Consider waiting for a patched release if this is due to a plugin bug, check changelog.
- If background processing isn’t essential for your store (e.g. stock alerts), consider disabling related features temporarily for stability.



WISHLIST FOR WOOCOMMERCE

See every feature and the pricing on the Wishlist for WooCommerce plugin page.

View plugin →

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