

Starting a blog

Step 1 – Determine your Theme

- What is the purpose? Do you want to stick to one topic? Is it just an online journal? Are you going to sell things?
- Who is your audience?
- What will the name of the blog be?

Step 2 – Select a Blog Site

- Below are just a few of your free options, search for one that suits you:
 - www.blogger.com
 - www.typepad.com
 - www.wordpress.com
 - www.blog-city.com
 - www.xanga.com
 - www.livejournal.com

Step 3 – Publish first Post

- Write your first posting and publish it to your blog. Best for it to be introductory so readers know what to expect.
- Add pictures, pick templates and personalize

Step 4 – Publicize

- Add links to your site. Could be other blogs or favorite websites. Be sure to ask permission
- Add your blog to a database like www.blogcatalog.com which offers a way for people to search blog content on any topic increasing visibility of your blog.
- Email to friends, family, colleagues and others you know in your target audience and have them pass it along or link to your blog.

Step 5 – Write Regularly

- The more regularly you update, the more likely people are to read it. That includes the links you have into your blog.
- Remember, it's still plagiarism even if it's online and in a blog. Always give writers credit if you use their information, regardless of where you get it from.