

# A Brief Introduction to Blogs & Blogging

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## What is a Blog?

A blog, or web log, is an online personal journal. Blogs can contain commentary, news, links to other Web sites, and multimedia. Blog entries are usually displayed in reverse chronological order, with the most recent item first. Most blogs encourage interaction by allowing readers to comment on the author's entries.

## How Do I Find Blogs I Want to Read?

If you don't know the web address of a specific blog, there are search engines specific to blogs to help you locate content you are interested in:

Technorati: [www.technorati.com](http://www.technorati.com)

Blogpulse: [www.blogpulse.com](http://www.blogpulse.com)

BlogSearch: [blogsearch.google.com](http://blogsearch.google.com)

## Blogs are Great! How Do I Start My Own?

- Sign up with a free blog service (e.g. [www.livejournal.com](http://www.livejournal.com), [www.wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com), or [www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com), or one of many others)
- Customize your blog by adding a title, a picture (also called an *avatar*), changing the colors or background images, etc.
- Start writing! Most blogs work like a word processor.

## I'm Tired of Visiting a Blog Every Time I Want to Read a New Post. Help!

RSS (or Really Simple Syndication) will allow you to view new posts from all the blogs you like from one location. It is a good way to save time while staying up to date on the blogosphere.

For more information about RSS, visit either <http://www.bloglines.com> or <http://reader.google.com>

## Additional Resources Available at Your Library

Hewitt, Hugh. Blog. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 2005.

**Call Number: 006.7 H611 2005**

Mason, Margaret. No One Cares What You Had for Lunch. Berkeley: Peachpit Press, 2007.

**Call Number: 006.7 (electronic resource)**