

Blogging Basics FAQ Resources Document Presented by

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How do I make my own blog banner?

- <http://tinyurl.com/64r2oj>
- <http://tinyurl.com/27n474>
- http://deziqnu.com/dreamy_header

Cheap Stock Photos

<http://tinyurl.com/8u5gg>

Tutorial:How to setup RSS feeds for your blog

<http://tinyurl.com/68bjas>

Must Have Plug-Ins for Wordpress Blogs

<http://tinyurl.com/2obepz>

How can I improve my blogging community and increase my traffic?

- Allow comments on your posts, have a comment policy
<http://www.mamablogga.com/four-ways-to-encourage-comments-on-your-blog/>
- Properly mediate comments you receive
<http://www.prologger.net/archives/2008/04/23/12-ways-to-be-a-more-interactive-and-accessible-blogger/>
- Respond to commentators when possible
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/02/readers-panel-finding-time-for.html>
- Have a plan for dealing with lurkers, trolls, unpleasant emails, etc.
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/05/readers-panel-dealing-with-nasty.html>

- Get out there and comment on other blogs
<http://www.mamablogga.com/building-a-community-around-your-blog-scribbit/>
<http://www.mamablogga.com/building-a-community-around-your-blog-mommy-zabs/>
- Remember it's a community, not a competition
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/08/five-ways-to-promote-your-blog-niche.html>
- Decide your limits of privacy and what you will or will not share
- Focus primarily on good content
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2006/02/18/writing-good-content/>
- Write comment-worthy posts
- Be aware of what is happening in the blogosphere
- Try guest blogging
<http://www.mamablogga.com/guest-blogging/>
- Keep up to date on social media (i.e. Plurk, Stumbleupon, Twitter, Digg, kirtsy, etc.)
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/01/stumbleupon-in-five-easy-steps.html>
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2008/03/15/using-social-media-to-grow-your-blogs-readership/>
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2008/06/14/the-main-difference-between-twitter-and-plurk-to-me/>
- Come up with new ideas
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/03/custom-search-engine-for-momblogs.html>
- Participate in memes and carnivals
<http://www.mamablogga.com/blog-carnivals-start-to-finish/>
- Have polls or contests
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/01/write-away-contest.html>
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2008/01/15/the-costs-and-benefits-of-running-a-competition-on-your-blog/>
- Know how to properly optimize your blog (Search Engine Optimization or SEO)
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/01/blogging-101-ten-seo-tips.html>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/07/blogging-101-how-to-optimize-your-blog.html>
- Have an angle—be that “purple cow”
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2005/03/19/random-blog-tips-purple-cow-blogging/>

- Post regularly
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/06/ten-housekeeping-tips-for-your-blog.html>
- Clean up your posts, prevent spam and practice your writing skills
<http://www.prologger.net/archives/2008/06/21/letting-comment-spam-take-over-your-blog-how-to-let-your-blog-go-5/>
- Know the proper blogging etiquette for citing another blog, linking or mentioning another blogger
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/12/five-things-every-blogger-should-know.html>
- Have a goal and a plan
<http://www.mamablogga.com/setting-goals-for-your-blog/>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/06/ten-housekeeping-tips-for-your-blog.html>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/10/five-tricks-for-efficient-blogging-or.html>

What should I know and do about my blog design?

- Decide which platform to use and whether to host or not host your own domain
<http://www.mamablogga.com/advice-to-mom-bloggers-your-own-domain/>
- Pick a name
<http://www.prologger.net/archives/2005/06/05/choosing-the-perfect-blog-and-domain-name/>
- Decide what you do and don't want on your blog
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/02/five-good-blog-tools-and-three-bad-ones.html>
<http://www.mamablogga.com/how-do-you-know-when-youre-ready-for-your-own-blog-design/>
- Avoid blog clutter like the plague—shun it above all—less is usually more
<http://www.prologger.net/archives/2007/08/10/declutter-your-sidebar/>
- Be aware of how long it takes your blog to load
<http://www.bloggerbuster.com/2008/06/top-tips-for-faster-loading-blog.html>
- Learn basic customization techniques
- Know how to brand yourself
<http://www.mamablogga.com/7-ways-to-brand-your-blog/>
- Know how to write readable posts (i.e. smaller paragraphs, shorter length overall, bullets, photographs and graphics, etc.)

<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/09/photography-tips.html>
<http://www.problogdesign.com/blog-usability/format-your-posts-for-readability/>

- Decide what you need to make things navigable (i.e. Posts by Topic, search bar, archives, top posts, top commentators, etc.)
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2006/02/01/must-have-sidebar-features/>
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2008/04/27/should-i-have-a-blogroll-on-my-blog/>
- Decide what you need to make things understandable (About page, commenting policy, code of ethics, advertising page, subscription page)
<http://www.problogger.net/archives/2008/03/29/20-types-of-pages-that-every-blogger-should-consider/>

How do I do some of these slick tricks?

- Cross out words?
http://www.bloggibasics101.com/101/2007/01/how_do_i_cross_.html
- Figure out some basic HTML tags?
<http://summersnook.com/2008/07/using-html-in-blogging/>
- Track how many visitors I get?
<http://www.mamablogga.com/google-analytics-for-blogs/>
- Make a link?
http://www.bloggibasics101.com/101/2007/02/how_do_you_make.html
- Add Flickr code to my sidebar?
http://www.pearsonified.com/2006/03/how_to_add_a_styled_flickr_pho.php
- Make a scroll box?
<http://www.bloggibasics101.com/101/2008/04/how-do-you-make.html>
- Make a drop down menu?
<http://flooble.com/scripts/sidebar.php>
- Find a permalink?
http://www.bloggibasics101.com/101/2007/06/how_do_i_use_mr.html
- Insert Mr. Linky, favicons or other widgets into my blog?
<http://www.mamablogga.com/advice-to-mom-bloggers-headers/>

- Insert links to Digg, Del.icio.us, kirtsy, Magnolia, etc. at the bottom of my posts?
<http://www.bloggingbasics101.com/101/2008/02/you-have-links.html>
- Back up my blog in case of an emergency?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/06/ten-housekeeping-tips-for-your-blog.html>
<http://www.bloggingbasics101.com/101/2008/02/you-have-links.html>
- Make my full or partial RSS feed available to readers?
<http://www.mamablogga.com/whats-rss/>
<http://www.mamablogga.com/getting-started-with-feedburner/>
<http://www.mamablogga.com/seven-ways-to-master-feedburner/>
- Put a poll in a post?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/01/five-more-things-every-blogger-should.html>
- Make a graphic button?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/12/five-things-every-blogger-should-know.html>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/01/five-more-things-every-blogger-should.html>
- Put a PDF document into a post?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/12/five-things-every-blogger-should-know.html>
- Put HTML in a post?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/12/five-things-every-blogger-should-know.html>
- Put Technorati tags in my posts?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/12/five-things-every-blogger-should-know.html>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2006/12/blogging-101-ten-technorati-tips.html>
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2007/04/biggest-technorati-tip-in-world.html>
- Include an audio stream?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/01/five-more-things-every-blogger-should.html>
- Know when someone has mentioned me?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/01/five-more-things-every-blogger-should.html>

How do I make money blogging?

- How do I know when I'm ready and how much money can I expect?
<http://scribbit.blogspot.com/2008/06/readers-panel-how-to-make-money.html>
<http://www.littlemummy.com/2008/01/07/ten-tips-to-increase-your-blogs-income/>
- What options are available?
<http://www.prologger.net/archives/2007/12/04/6-steps-to-making-money-because-of-your-blog/>

WordPress Resources

- WordPress codex
http://codex.wordpress.org/Main_Page
- WordPress plugins
<http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/>
- WordPress widgets
http://codex.wordpress.org/Plugins/WordPress_Widgets
- Widgetbox
<http://www.widgetbox.com/>
- WordPress security
<http://brajeshwar.com/2008/malware-site-attack-wordpress-install/>
- Mashable's 20 must-have WordPress plugins
<http://mashable.com/2008/07/07/wordpress-compatible-plugins/>
- WordPress backup
<http://www.ilfilosofo.com/blog/wp-db-backup/>
- Lorelle on WordPress
<http://lorelle.wordpress.com/>