

KS Blogs Tutorial

Wikipedia definition of a “blog”:

“A blog (a portmanteau of web log) is a website where entries are written in chronological order and commonly displayed in reverse chronological order. "Blog" can also be used as a verb, meaning to maintain or add content to a blog.

Blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject such as food, politics, or local news; some function as more personal online diaries. A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, web pages, and other media related to its topic. The ability for readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs.”

Some KS Blog definitions:

A “post” is an entry. You can include text, photos, videos, audio files, and links in a post.

A “blog” is a collection of these "posts." They are time-stamped, with the recent posting placed at the top. A blog is sort of like an online journal.

A “comment” is a response to a "post" by the viewer of the post. Comments may be allowed, screened, blocked, or deleted by the.....poster-er.....post-host.....um.....the creator of the post.

48 Responses

1. *hannah wilson* Says:

August 14th, 2007 at 10:21 am

to prepare ourselves for a storm like this, my family usually gets flashlights, batteries, candles, lanterns, and we take out our gas stove. we also go shopping for canned food, like soup. we also pack warm blankets, food, and warm clothes, in case we have to evacuate. i think thats it. oh, we also make sure theres lots of gas in the car so we can leave quickly and not have to stop.

2. *moani terukina* Says:

August 14th, 2007 at 4:17 pm

in order to be prepared for a hurricane my family and i bought a whole bunch of canned food, we got all of our candles, flashlights, batteries and matches all in one area. my family and i brought backpacks and stuffed them with our necessary items (e.g. clothes and blankets, etc.). my mom also forbaid my dad from driving our other car so that we have gas in something just for evacuation. i hope it doesn't come this way...

3. *jase santana.* Says:

August 14th, 2007 at 4:18 pm

for the dorms i guess i'm prepared for this storm. but at my house on the big island i'm not sure if they're ready for it. they should be though. to get ready for this storm i would pack a bag with a flash light, blanket, perhaps a pillow, clothes, water, food, stuff like that.

4. *noe itson* Says:

August 14th, 2007 at 5:12 pm

My family prepared for this storm just recently by my father buying a whole bunch of water and toilet paper. My mother froze a couple of the water bottles and brang out our cooler for storage, also she filled one of our cars with a full tank of gas and just got a bunch of other supplies like batteries and food.

5. *Isaiah* Says:

August 14th, 2007 at 5:54 pm

no. We get prepared by getting flashlights and buying water from costco. Get can food for eating, we put gas.

A “discussion” is a series of comments to a particular post.

A “category” allows you to sort or view posts by.....um....categories. This is especially useful when working with different classes or teams. You may give a post more than one category. A better term for this feature would be a "tag."

A “blogroll” is another word for "links."

An “archive” is simply a "category" for a particular month.

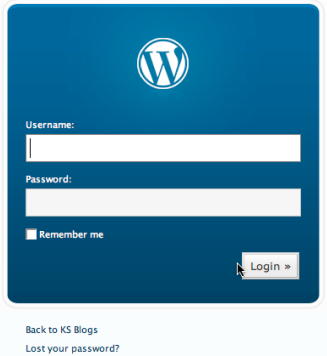
Recommendation:

Develop your KS Blog in Firefox and NOT in Safari (at least for this particular theme.) When composing or editing a post, Firefox will display it in either "design" or "code" view. Safari displays the construction of your post in "code" view only.

It's a good idea to have two browsers on your computer. Some sites work better in Firefox and some work better in Safari.

Login:

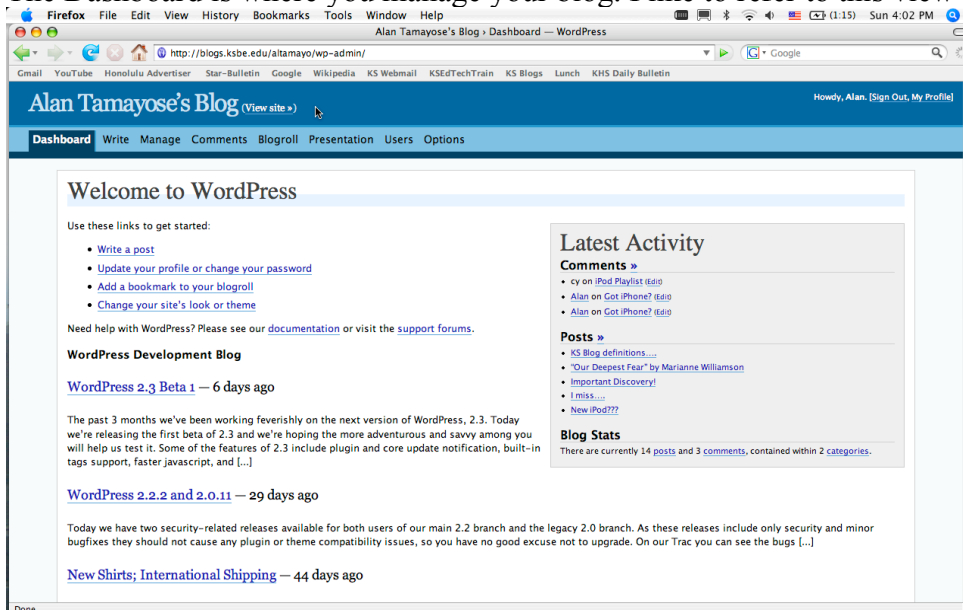
Login with your KS id (and not your full email address.)



A screenshot of the WordPress login page. It features a blue header with the WordPress logo. Below the logo are two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". There is a "Remember me" checkbox and a "Login" button. At the bottom, there are links for "Back to KS Blogs" and "Lost your password?".

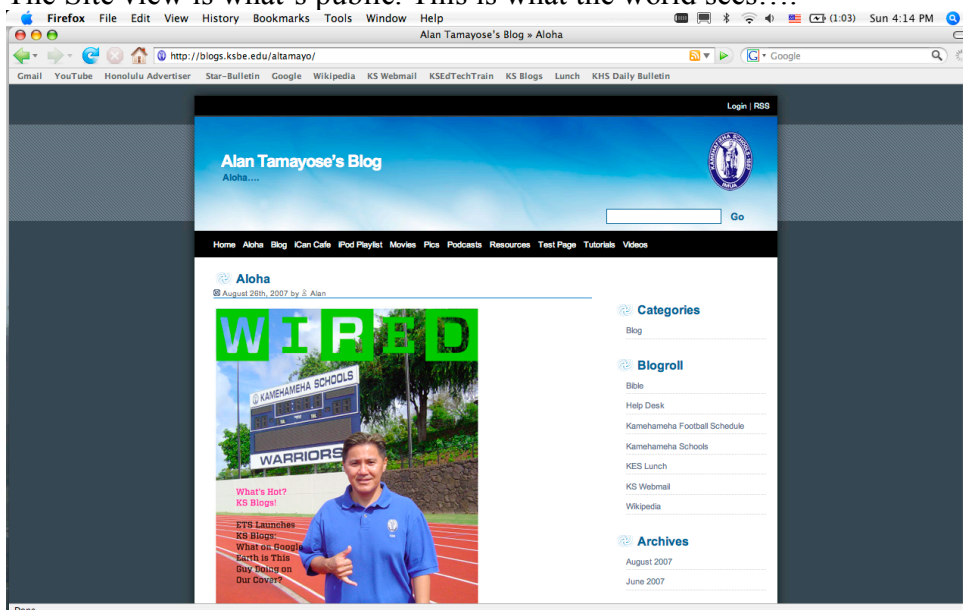
Navigating around:

The Dashboard is where you manage your blog. I like to refer to this view as “backstage.”



A screenshot of the WordPress Dashboard for Alan Tamayose's Blog. The page has a blue header with the site name and a navigation menu. The main content area is titled "Welcome to WordPress" and includes several sections: "Use these links to get started:" with links for writing a post, updating profile, adding a bookmark, and changing the site's look; "Need help with WordPress?"; "WordPress Development Blog" with recent updates; "Latest Activity" with sections for "Comments" and "Posts"; and "Blog Stats" showing 14 posts and 3 comments.

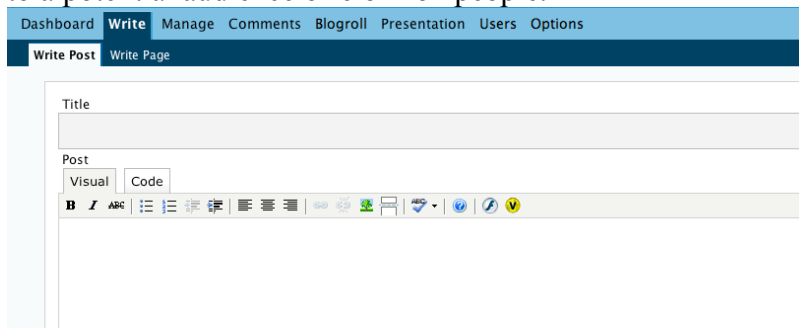
The Site view is what's public. This is what the world sees....



A screenshot of the WordPress Site view for Alan Tamayose's Blog. The page has a blue header with the site name and a search bar. Below the header is a navigation menu. The main content area features a post titled "Aloha" with a date of August 28th, 2007. The post content includes a large "WIRED" graphic and a photo of Alan Tamayose. To the right of the post are sections for "Categories", "Blogroll", and "Archives".

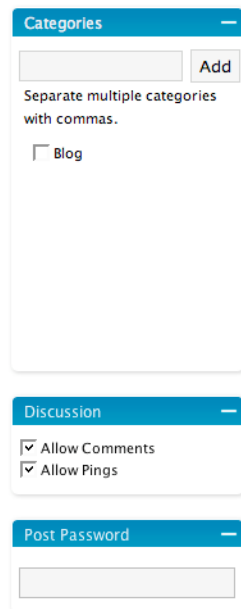
Write a post:

Simply give your post a title, then type in the larger post box. If you are composing a lengthy post, save and continue. When done, click on “publish.” That’s it. You are now communicating to a potential audience of 6 billion people.



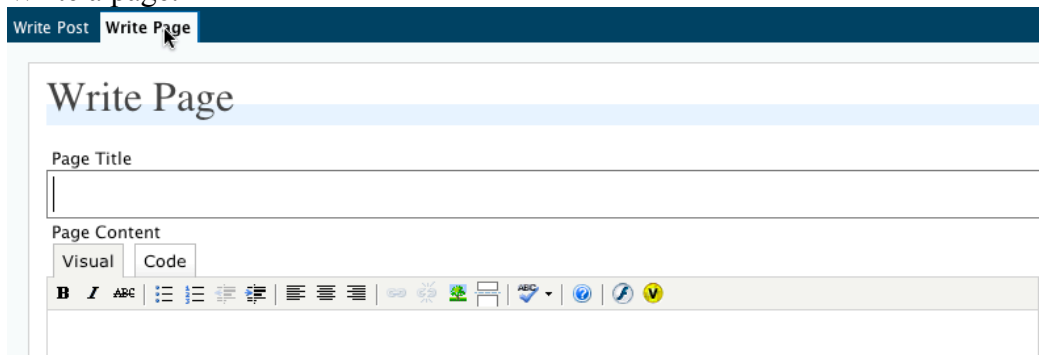
The screenshot shows the 'Write Post' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Dashboard', 'Write', 'Manage', 'Comments', 'Blogroll', 'Presentation', 'Users', and 'Options'. Below this, a sub-bar highlights 'Write Post' and 'Write Page'. The main content area has a 'Title' field at the top. Below it is a 'Post' section with 'Visual' and 'Code' tabs. The 'Visual' tab is active, showing a rich text editor toolbar with icons for bold, italic, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, insert image, insert video, undo, redo, and a visual editor icon.

You can give your post a category (this is useful when working with multiple classes.) You may also allow or disallow commenting, and password-protect this particular post.



The screenshot shows three settings panels for a post. The 'Categories' panel has a text input field, an 'Add' button, and the instruction 'Separate multiple categories with commas.' Below this is a checkbox labeled 'Blog'. The 'Discussion' panel has two checked checkboxes: 'Allow Comments' and 'Allow Pings'. The 'Post Password' panel has an empty text input field.

Write a page:



The screenshot shows the 'Write Page' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Write Post' and 'Write Page', where 'Write Page' is highlighted. Below this, the main content area has a 'Write Page' header. Underneath is a 'Page Title' field. Below that is a 'Page Content' section with 'Visual' and 'Code' tabs. The 'Visual' tab is active, showing a rich text editor toolbar with icons for bold, italic, text color, background color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, insert image, insert video, undo, redo, and a visual editor icon.

You do this in the exact same way as writing a post. Creating pages will give your KS Blog the appearance and functionality of a full-fledged website. This is extremely powerful!

Important point:

Only one page can be designated as your blog page. The default is your home page. This is where all of your posts go. Your other pages stand alone as single postings. You may, however, update your page and add a lot of content to this single posting through the “editing” feature.

Uploading content:

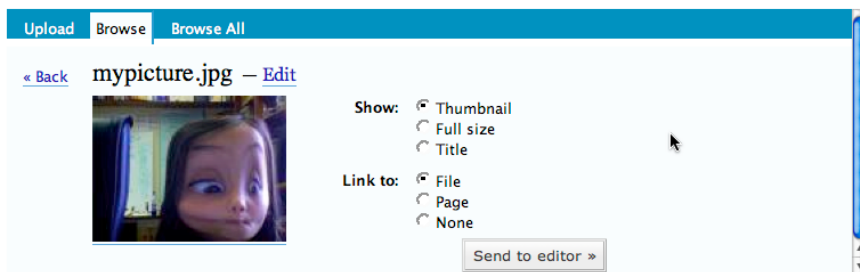
This is how to add a picture or clip art to your post. **Explanation:** because blogs are web applications, any photo (or audio, movie, or pdf file) must first be “hosted” on the web by posting it to a server. For example, Flickr and Google Images are popular photo hosting sites. YouTube is a video hosting site. Every image has an “image location” or a URL. To have these elements appear on your blog, you must “access” them with an html code. Confused? Don’t worry. KS Blogs allows us to upload content and also provides a “code generator” for ease of use.

Let’s upload a picture. (It’s best to have the file on your desktop. Drag it out of iPhoto.)



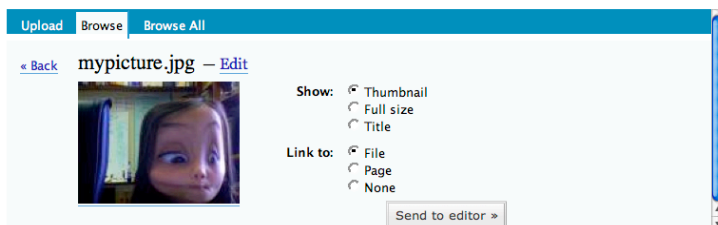
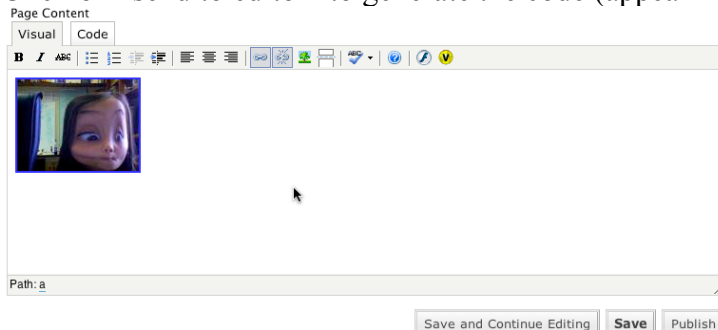
The screenshot shows the upload interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Upload', 'Browse', and 'Browse All'. Below the tabs, there is a 'File' input field with a 'Browse...' button. Underneath the file field are two text input fields labeled 'Title' and 'Description'. At the bottom right of the form is an 'Upload »' button.

Click on “browse.” Locate the file on your desktop and click on “open.” Click on “upload.” That’s it.



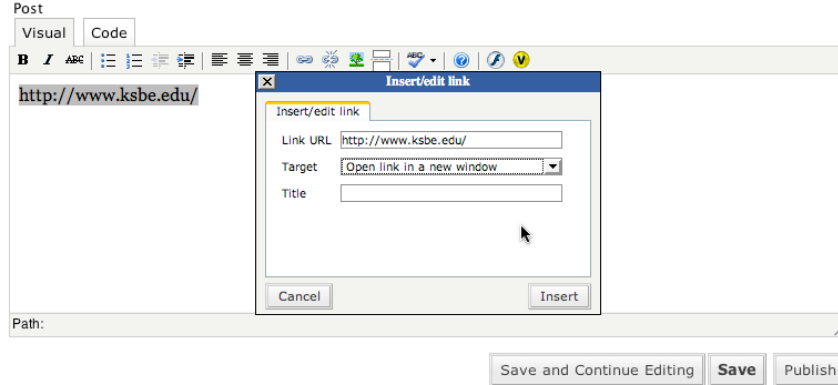
Select “thumbnail” or “full size.” Don’t go over 600 pixels. Your post’s window might “explode.” To resize your photo, use Photoshop Elements.

Click on “send to editor” to generate the code (appear in the window.) You’re ready to publish.



Create a link:

First, copy the URL of the site that you want to link to. Type your text & highlight. Click on the chain icon in the toolbar (insert a link tool.) Re-paste the link in the dialog box. Select “open link in a new window.” Click on “insert.” You are ready to publish.



Embed a file:

To embed a YouTube video, first copy the URL location. Select the “V” icon tool and paste the URL. Click on “publish” for the video to appear in your post.



Tabs:

Use the “Manage” tab to manage your posts, pages, and uploads in one convenient location.



You can do the same with the “Comments” tab.

Blogroll tab:

Manage your links here. To add a link into your blogroll, first copy the site's URL. Then click on "add links." Paste the link in the address window. Select "_blank" in the target section. (This will open the link in a new window.) Your blogroll appears on every page.

The screenshot shows the 'Add Link' form within a navigation menu that includes 'Dashboard', 'Write', 'Manage', 'Comments', 'Blogroll', 'Presentation', 'Users', and 'Options'. Below the menu are sub-links for 'Manage Blogroll', 'Add Link', and 'Import Links'. The form itself has a title 'Add Link' and several input fields: 'Name', 'Address' (containing 'http://www.ksbe.edu/'), and 'Description'. An 'Add Link >' button is positioned to the right of the description field. Below this is a 'Link Relationship (XFN)' section with a 'rel:' input field and a list of relationship types with radio buttons: 'identity', 'friendship', 'physical', 'XFN Creator', and 'geographical'. Each type has sub-options, such as 'another web address of mine' for identity or 'child', 'kin', 'parent', 'sibling', and 'spouse' for family. To the right of the form is a 'Categories' section with an 'Add' button and a list containing 'Blogroll' with a checked checkbox. Below that is a 'Target' section with radio buttons for '_blank', '_top', and 'none', where '_blank' is selected.

The "Presentation" tab allows you to select the theme or look of your blog.

The "Users" tab allows you to select another "administrator" for your blog. This comes in handy when you have multiple contributors to a single site. For example, the principal, VP, and curriculum coordinator could all post to an office blog.

The screenshot shows the 'Add User From Community' form. It has a title bar and a text prompt: 'Type the e-mail address of another user to add them to your blog.' Below this is a 'User E-Mail:' input field and a 'Role:' dropdown menu currently set to 'Administrator'. An 'Add User >' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

The "Options" tab is extremely important. This is where you configure most of your settings. For example, in the "Options – Reading" tab, you can select your "home page" and determine how many postings can be displayed on your blog page.

The screenshot shows the 'Reading Options' form within a navigation menu that includes 'Dashboard', 'Write', 'Manage', 'Comments', 'Blogroll', 'Presentation', 'Users', and 'Options'. Below the menu are sub-links for 'General', 'Writing', 'Reading', 'Discussion', 'Privacy', 'Permalinks', and 'Delete Blog'. The form has a title 'Reading Options' and an 'Update Options >' button in the top right. Under the heading 'Front Page', there is a 'Front page displays:' section with two radio button options: 'Your latest posts' and 'A static page (select below)'. The 'static page' option is selected, leading to two dropdown menus: 'Front page:' set to 'Aloha' and 'Posts page:' set to 'Blog'. Under the heading 'Blog Pages', there is a 'Show at most:' section with a text input field containing '20' followed by the word 'posts'.

Editing your posts:

You may also edit your posts from the public view, when logged in. Click on the “edit” link. This will take you “backstage” into the edit mode.

Recommendation for ono ribs....

August 28th, 2007 by Alan Tamayose

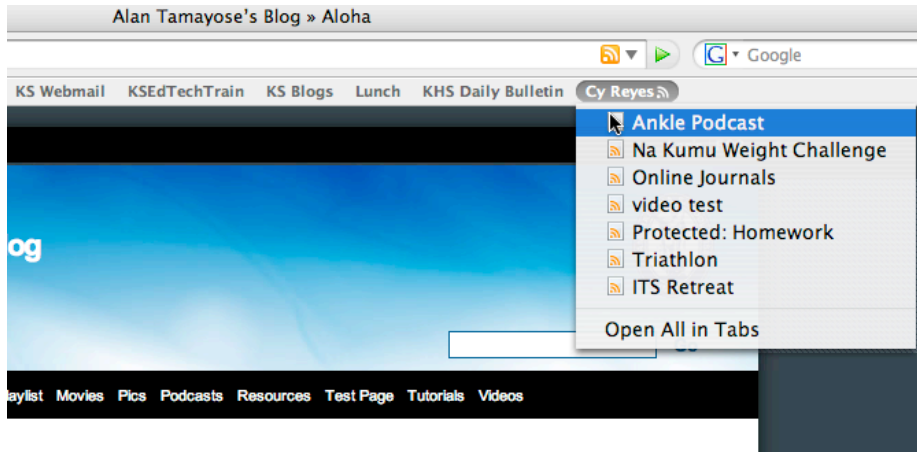


Next to my friend Aika, these guys serve the best ribs in Hawaii. No disrespect to Dixie Grill, Chili's, Dave & Buster's, Tony Roma's, etc., etc., etc....

Posted in [Blog](#) | [Edit](#)  [No Comments](#) »

RSS feeds:

RSS stands for Really Simple Syndication. This allows you to subscribe to a blog or a podcast and have updates retrieved automatically. You can place this feed into your bookmarks bar in a web browser.



Pau:

KS Blogs is a wonderful Web 2.0 tool. Imua.