

Creating a Blog as a Web Site

Using videos and graphics I will take you through the process of creating a Blog as a Web Page. WordPress blogs are free and you can find thousands of free Themes to customize the look of your page.

Using WordPress blog is an easy way of setting up your web site. It can be updated and altered without complicated web authoring requirements. You install the WordPress blog and then configure the look with an understandable Dashboard. More on that later.

There is no need to learn Cascading Style Sheets or HTML, unless you want to really customize the look of your theme. Lets not get ahead of ourselves, we will peek at that later, in a different tutorial.

This document is owned by me, the author, Steve Wright and I retain the copyrights, but you are welcome to use it for free. You can share it with anyone you choose, you may not sell it.

This took considerable time to put together, so you might be curious as to why this is free to use. There is no catch, and the only way that I might profit from this is if you sign up for Lunarpages and use my affiliate ID, steve78412, then I make a few dollars. You pay the same either way, get the bonus deals, and the lowest price available so there is no downside for you to sign up via my affiliate link.

If you already have a web host and domain name, you are certainly welcome to use this too. After reading through this tutorial and think you might be interested in switching to Lunarpages, they offer incentives to switch. They will add the duration remaining from your old host onto your Lunarpages account for up to six months of free web hosting, and will provide you with a 30 day money back guarantee to ensure that you are absolutely satisfied with our service. Examine the offer here:

<http://www.lunarpages.com/id/steve78412/special-offer/>

I am not going to spend much time adding slick graphics to this .pdf, it will download faster and add nothing to the process but aesthetics. I will ad links to external videos that will assist along the way.

Step 1, Finding a Domain Name

The domain name is the name in the address to your site, it's URL. My domain name is WebsiteTechnician.com. If you need to experiment with finding a domain name go here:

<http://www.lunarpages.com/id/steve78412>

You can type various potential names in the field to see if a name is available. Use you key words for a name, or anything you like. Avoid hyphens in the name.

Step 2, Signing up for a Web Host

Let's do this. If you have read through this tutorial and know a domain name to use, sign up for Lunarpages at this link:

<http://www.lunarpages.com/id/steve78412/goto/basic-hosting/>

Step 3, Finding some free WordPress Blog Themes

Go look at themes:

http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=wordpress+themes&sourceid=navclient-ff&rlz=1B3GGGL_enUS269US269&ie=UTF-8

Download several, I will show you how you can switch between themes to sample them once you have a blog set up. Unzip the files so they will be ready to be transferred to your server in Step 6.

Step 4, Setting up your blog using cPanel

Lunarpages uses an uncomplicated website management system called cPanel to manage your site. It has a feature that sets up a WordPress Blog after answering a few simple questions. The Video below takes you through the setup process. At the very end of the process, Lunarpages displays you username, your password and the address for administering to you blog. Write those down. The admin address will end something like www.yoursite.com/wp-admin/

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/cpanel.html>

Step 5, File Transfer Protocol

This is a free File Transfer application. You can transfer files in cPanel, but this one has a nice interface, sets up easily and does a nice job. In Step 6 we will go through the process of setting up FileZilla and transferring Themes to your new blog. If you already have a FTP application, you are fixed up, otherwise go get this one:

<http://filezilla-project.org/download.php?type=client>

Step 6, Setting up FileZilla and uploading Themes

Set up FileZilla, or open your favorite FTP program, we are going to upload the Themes you downloaded, to the proper WordPress folder, on your server.

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/ftp.html>

Scroll down for more.

Step 7, The WordPress Dashboard

We will log in to your blog and take a look at the Dashboard Settings. We will look at the different settings and make a few adjustments. In the following steps we will switch themes and add Posts to your blog. Head over to your site and log in, either with the login link or entering www.yoursite.com/wp-admin/ in your browsers address field.

The Settings are of your Dashboard are on the lower left side of the page:



We are going to check on a few setting, but you need to go through all of them and set your blog up the way you like it, you can always go back and change things later. Visit this site to look as some settings:

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/settings.html>

Step 8, WordPress Plugins

To quote from the WordPress site:

“Plugins can extend WordPress to do almost anything you can imagine. In the directory you can find, download, rate, and comment on all the best Plugins the WordPress community has to offer.”

You need to look through the popular ones. You can always add them later, should you develop a need for some additional functionality.

<http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/>

[/wp-content/plugins/](#)

Visit this site to see a few plugins that I like, and how to get them uploaded and activated.

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/plugins.html>

Step 9, WordPress Widgets

Widgets are an important part of the appearance of you WordPress Blog. As you will see in the images at the link below, the Widgets play an important role here. Get a Widget Ready Theme and see what Widgets did for my site:

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/widgets.html>

Step 10, WordPress Categories

Categories are a great way of cataloging your posts. This site currently has two categories, but only one has posts. The categories do not appear in the Categories Widget unless a Post has been assigned that Category.

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/categories.html>

Step 11, WordPress Themes

Changing Themes in WordPress is easily done. I can show you how.

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/themes.html>

Step 12, WordPress Pages

WordPress Pages offer a way to make available information that does not change. These static pages are ideal for Contact information, About Me and other topics.

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/pages.html>

Step 13, WordPress Posts

Under the Post section of the Dashboard there are four items listed, Edit, Add New, Tags and Categories. This page looks at the three parts we have yet to examine:

<http://www.websitetechnician.com/posts.html>