

Important things to consider when setting up your blog...

1. In most cases it's better to choose a username that makes it easier for others to relate to you as a real person. e.g. Compare "twintokt3" with "jholmes" — which is easier?
2. Think carefully about your blog URL. Once your blog has an established audience you're less likely to want to change your blog URL.

This teacher's blog URL, <http://weisztokschool.blogspot.com>, for a classroom blog is an example of a good URL which is easy for most of her students to remember.

3. Think carefully about the name of your blog. While you can change your blog name this title doesn't change if readers have already subscribed in an RSS reader like Google Reader. Choose a name that is reflective of what you plan to blog about and a name your readers can relate to. For example, most students use their first names in their blogs – Jason's School Blog. Jason will be using this blog throughout his school years to post things from various classes, so this name is reflective of the type of posts his blog will contain.
4. Make sure you complete your About page so people know who you are and what you blog about. Remember, you don't need to include your last name anywhere!
5. Don't stress too much over choosing your blog theme -- you'll find with time that you will frequently change it – it's fun! As you learn more about your blog you'll learn more about adding all kinds of gadgets to personalize it – but be careful not to get so much that you overwhelm visitors to your site.
6. Take the time to check out how other bloggers have set up their blogs to get ideas on "what works"/"doesn't work".
7. Start writing posts! Remember to Publish them, or no one can see them!

Important aspects of writing blog posts:

1. Initially, most of your posts will be related to this course, but you can certainly add posts that are personal reflections or fun pictures from your life. Later, you may find that you'd like to add work from some of your other classes as well. Remember, you can keep this blog as long as you like – throughout the rest of your schooling if you wish. It's a good record of your work over time.
2. Be PATIENT! If you are looking to build readership, that takes time. It's nice when people start commenting on your posts, but it won't happen overnight!
3. REMEMBER: Blogging is a conversation! It's not just about you writing posts it's also about you reading other people's blog posts and taking the time to engage in conversations with them.

4. When you write a post, try to be concise, and to the point. Here are [7 Tips to Create Better Blog Posts](#).

5. ALWAYS link to articles, websites or other blogger's post when you write about them! Nothing says newbie faster than lack of links!!!

6. "Pictures are worth a thousand words!" Learn how to use images effectively to enhance blog posts and start using images well! Start by learning about copyright and using images in blog posts and then work through these posts to learn about all the different image options for blog post.

7. Make sure your comment settings aren't making it hard for readers to comment! REMEMBER what's said online stays online! If you wouldn't say it in a crowded room don't say it on a blog post. Especially since this blog is for this course and school work, keep it appropriate!