



Checklist for choosing a blogging service

Blog-specific considerations

- The dashboard is easy to use.
- Posts can be tagged and archived.
- Video, images, and hyperlinks can be added to posts.
- The service supports widgets.
- I can add static pages if I want to (for information that students need to access on a regular basis).
- I can invite, add, and delete users as I need to.
- I can moderate and approve comments and delete them if necessary.
- I can set the timezone to my local region.
- I can export my content if I wish (to create a backup).

General service considerations

- The service meets my basic requirements for free.
- The service provides enough storage and bandwidth to meet my needs.
- I can make the service or parts of the service private and thus viewable only to those I invite.
- There is no advertising on the service.
- There are topic restrictions, such as on hate speech, pornography, and spam.
- The service has an acceptable Privacy Statement.
- The service has an acceptable Terms of Service.
- The service is age- and skill-appropriate to myself and/or my class.
- There are adequate FAQs, discussion forums, or other forms of help.
- The service is easy to use.
- I can set the timezone to my local region.
- I can export my content (to create a backup).
- The service is not blocked by my school.