Alexander's Site research:

**Blog sites typically are composed of these features:**

A standardized font for all pages

Engaging, relevant topics

Newsletters to keep people coming back

**Here is an example blog:**

**https://blog.hubspot.com/?hubs\_content=blog.hubspot.com%25252F&hubs\_content-cta=blog-nav-card--media-card&hubs\_post-cta=blognavcard-website**

We see that there are numerous topics to read about whether it be sales, marketing, or even website building tips.

What's also interesting is there appears to be a login option for the website, which I've found to be a common feature for the more popular blog sites.

Above all, we see a standardized format for each page. I believe this is the most important aspect of a website to keep users engaged.

Given the overall description of the page, I believe it is important to note the relevancy why the specific features are displayed on this page.

We see a "featured posts" option. I believe this engages users who want to only read the most up-to-date topics.

Below each topic, we see a date and name of the author.

Each topic is split into its own section to allow users to easily see which topic they want to read.

**Here is another example blog:**

**https://www.vice.com/en/topic/vice-blog**

This website has a very similar format. The topics are clearly defined underneath the title of each post, as well as the date and author.

There looks to be pictures for each blog post. There is an option to share each post to your social media network. There is also a newsletter sign-up option.

The most interesting part of this blog is there are tags at the bottom of each post indicating the topics discussed within the post.

For example, I clicked on a family guy blog post, at the bottom of the page there were tags like:

COMEDY TV CARTOON REVIEWS FAMILYGUY OPINION VIEWSMYOWN VICEBLOG SETHMACFARLANE BADTV

If we were to click on any of these options, there would be a whole section of posts relating to the specified option.

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Amy Site Research:

**URL: https://quiltsmadewithlove.com/**

**Libraries:**

-Font Awesome

-Jquery

-Widgets UI Library

**Features:**

-Contact info

-Social media links

-Custom logo (links to home)

-Custom background image

-Icon to jump to top of page

-links:

-About page

-Design Library

-Finished Quilts

-Services

\*I liked the minimalist theme of this blog and the use of a color theme throughout, the navigation isn’t as smooth as with the other blog I looked at. I definitely think using a navigation bar is a better option

**URL: https://theteacupoflife.com/**

**Libraries:**

-form.js

-FitVids

**Features:**

-mailing list subscription modal

-Custom header (clicking it links back to home page)

-Navigation bar

-Dropdowns link to different pages/sections of the site

-Social media links:

-Youtube

-facebook

-twitter

-instagram

-pinterest

-bloglovin

-Search box

-Home page shows recent posts

-Navigation tabs to brows older posts

-Option to comment on post-Copyright information

-Custom footer

\*I found this site very easy to navigate with a navigation bar, search functionality, and next/previous page tabs in the footer. I like the font choice for the header and how it stands out against the background image. I like that the background image is fixed and the page scrolls up over it. Most blogs that I look at have some kind of comment option so that users can comment on individual posts. This blog also has a pop-up that offers the user the option of subscribing to a newsletter for updates.

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Roger's Site Research - CSCD 378:

**https://herbstarchitects.co.nz**

This site is from an Architectural firm. For each image clicked there is information about awards, contractors, etc. This style of website is a blog of all their work but it is not designed as a traditional blog. This website focuses more on images, and user interactions such as hover states and click transitions. The look and feel of this site is minimalist, however it takes a while to get used to exploring all the posts in this manner. Most if not all of their css is custom made. Also, all their images are being called from an REST API to populate the website. I am assuming they integrated this site into a Content Management System. I am unable to see the Javascript fully since it is obfuscated.

**https://reisinger.studio**

The filtering system is how a user gets around this website. I think it's useful since there are many posts, but you can choose how you wish to view the content. For example, you can view content as plain text, a grid, image covers, or by scrolling. By doing that they give the user the choice to choose how to view their information which is not traditional in many blog sites. Instead, blogs filter by categories instead of layout styles. Their CSS is custom made, and they use the JQuery library which makes sense since they have a filtering system with many options. Also, they integrated VIMEO a video player iframe to showcase their work through video.

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**Blog example:**

**https://medium.com/**

- Has filters that we can filter what category of blogs that the user would want to see

- Bookmarks and save for later

- Users can create/write their own story

- Not too much flashy things where its hard to navigate

- Has estimated time it would take to read a blog

- Includes authors info such as personal website and occupations

- Login page

- Subscription service

- Readers can comment and like the blog posted

**Blog example:**

**https://ghost.org/explore/**

- Has search bar

- Filter for popularity, trending, new, A-Z (sorting)

- Explore page is part of home (randomized Blogs)

- Categories for types of blogs

- Login page

- About us page

- Able to create blogs/advertisments

- Mailing list (subscription based)