

## Blogalert Walkthrough Document

COSC 360 Final Project – Anamica Sunderaswara & Laura Letef

Hello! Welcome to Blogalert, a personalized blogging website that allows you to search for your friends, comment on their posts or make your very own blog posts!

To complete the entire setup, we must first upload the Blogalert database! Create a new database and name it: 'db\_24466963'. Import all of the files found in the Blogalert SQL folder to your local database. This database can be accessed using the following user credentials:    \$user =

"24466963";

\$password\_db = "24466963";

Once that has been setup, we can now begin the Blogalert navigation!

To start, click the **home.php** page!

Here, you have the option of selecting login, signup or skip registration and carry on to the actual website. Let's click **"I think I'm good"** just to see what that looks like!

You should now be viewing the main feed or the **frontpage.php** page. If you scroll down, you can see all of the previous blog posts that have been made by other users. Notice how there is a search bar right below the *recent posts* title. Here you can search for specific users or blogposts by entering a keyword or username. Enter a random keyword or the username **"ana"** and hit the search button to test the functionality of the search bar. To bring back all of the posts, hit search again.

Click the **view comments** button on one of the blog posts. Now you can view the comments that have been made for that specific post. Unfortunately, you cannot leave your own comment at this time, we need to login first. Click the **login button** below the comment message or navigate back to the feed using the navigation bar in the top right corner. If you returned to the feed, click the login navigation button to take you to the login page.

Once you are in the login view, notice how you are given two other options at the bottom of the form, "sign up instead" or "return to home" Click **"sign up instead"**.

Now let's create a new account! Enter in the following values, just as a test:

First Name: test

Last Name: test

Username: testing

Email: [test@test.com](mailto:test@test.com)

Password: test

Re-enter password: wrong

For now, just skip entering the profile picture and click sign up. An error message should be returned stating the passwords do not match! Close the error message and fix the mistake:

First Name: test  
Last Name: test  
Username: testing  
Email: [test@test.com](mailto:test@test.com)  
Password: test  
Re-enter password: test

Feel free to enter in your own profile picture to test the functionality, or you can skip entering the profile picture and click sign up. Uh Oh! We've entered a username that already exists to an account! Click **return to home** and let's try this again. Click **sign up** and enter the following credentials:

First Name: test  
Last Name: test  
Username: test  
Email: [test@test.com](mailto:test@test.com)  
Password: test  
Re-enter password: test

Now you are taken to the log in page to reverify the account you just created. Re-enter the above username and password. We are back at the feed page! Since we are logged in, we can now create a blog post. So let's do it! Go ahead and write anything down and hit submit! Your blog should immediately appear at the top of the list, no refreshing required. Go ahead and click the **view comments** button on one of the blog posts. Now you can view *and* comment on that specific post. Leave a comment and notice how it immediately updates on the page.

Let's view our newly made profile page! Click **profile page** on the navigation bar. If you selected an image to be uploaded, here is where you will be able to see that. If you did not select a profile photo but would like to test the functionality of this, hit **log out** and log back in using the following credentials:

Username: laura  
Password: 123

Navigate to the profile page and see what having a profile photo looks like in this view. Let's delete one of the posts the user "laura" has made. Select any blog post that you would like to delete and click the **delete** button in the bottom right corner.

**Congratulations!** You have now explored the basic-user side of Blogalert. Now, let's check out the administration functionality.

Click **log out** using the navigation bar and **log back in** using the following credentials:

Username: adminone  
Password: 123

A user is considered an admin if their username contains the word "**admin**" so you can also create a new account containing the word "**admin**" to test the functionality too. After logging in,

the view will essentially look the same as before. Administrative users can create posts, search for posts, view comments and leave comments. The difference between an administrative user and a regular user can be seen in the **profile page view**. Navigate to the **profile page**.

At the bottom of all the admin blog posts, there is a link for “**admin controls**”. This link is *only* available to administrative users. Go ahead and **click the link**.

In the admin control page, administrative users can search for a registered user in the database.

Let’s test it out. Search up the username “**deleteme**”.

Looks like we have entered a user that does not exist. Click the link to try again. This time, enter the username “delete”. Since this user does exist, all of their information will appear in the **control panel** view. Hit “delete user” to delete them from the database.

You should receive a confirmation message stating that the user has been deleted! Let’s return to the profile page. If at any point an admin enters a username they do not want to delete, they can click the **profile page** link in the navigation bar to easily undo their mistake.

Finally, to end your exploration of Blogalert, click the **log out** button located in the navigation bar.

**Congratulations!** You have now successfully navigated through Blogalert as a registered user, unregistered user, and an administrative user!