

Setting up a WordPress blog

For extra help and tutorials, see <https://en.support.wordpress.com>

Sign Up

Go to <http://www.wordpress.com> .

(Not to be confused with wordpress.org, for setting up an externally hosted WordPress site.)

Click on  button.

Complete set-up instructions. Any of these settings can be changed later on. For now:

Click “No Thanks” to a custom address.

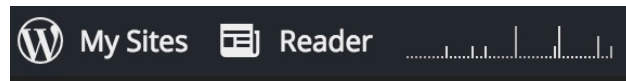
Choose a template theme to start with.

Select the free plan.

Check your email and activate your blog (you should have received an email link to do so).

Log in with your new username and password.

Dashboard



This is where you make changes to your blog’s settings and appearance.

To get to the dashboard, go to **My Sites** in the top left menu.

To view your website from the dashboard, select **View Site** under the Dashboard menu.

Take a Look Around

Browse through the headings and subheadings and see where things are.

Post Your First Blog Entry



Click on the “New Post” Button (the pencil icon) on the toolbar at the top of your screen

Write your first blog post!

Click on the “Preview” button to see how it will appear on your blog.

Click on the “Publish” button to publish the post to your blog.

Customize the Appearance of Your Blog

From the **Dashboard**, go to **Appearance** in the left toolbar.

Go to **Themes** and choose a new look for your blog (or keep the current theme).

Add **pages** like an About or Contact Me section.

Explore the **widgets**, **extras**, and customize your **header**.

Continue to customize the appearance and layout of your blog