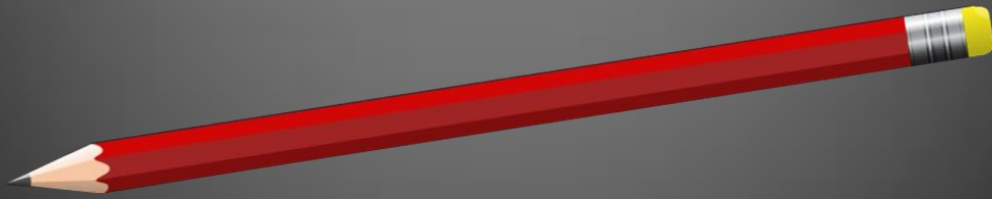

3 Easy Steps to Free Blogging

Your Pathway to Expression



By Ron Elledge

It's time to join the exciting world of blogging. Whether it is for fun, fortune or just sharing your thoughts, blogging can be incredibly rewarding. My 9 and 12 year old grandkids are blogging, the 12 year old just opened his own blog site following this simple 3 step guide.

Currently one of the most popular host platforms for bloggers is WordPress because it is so versatile and easy to use; there are two choices available for bloggers. If you do not have your own web site (i.e. www.mysite.com) and would like to get started blogging with a free blog site then www.wordpress.com is the place for you.

Follow these three simple steps and you will be up and blogging in 10 minutes or less. **It's free and all you need is an email address** they will not ask you for a credit card.

1. Step #1: After navigating to www.wordpress.com left click on this button

Create your WordPress.com blog now!

You will be immediately directed to the sign in page.

2. Step #2: Enter your email and name; create a password and the name for your blog.

- You will immediately see if the password and blog address you chose are available. If they are both available you are ready to proceed to step three. However, if one or both are not available simply choose another name until you find available names.

Once you have the five pieces of information entered and see the screen below, you are ready to move on to Step #3.

The screenshot shows two sections of the WordPress.com sign-up form. The first section is titled "Password" and contains a text input field with the placeholder text "alsdkjflsakjflsakdfj". To the right of the input field is a "Hide" button. Below the input field is a green checkmark and the text "Your password can be saved." with a blue arrow pointing to the left. The second section is titled "Blog Address" and contains a text input field with the placeholder text "mybadness1234". To the right of the input field is a blue dropdown menu with the text ".wordpress.com Free" and a downward arrow. A green checkmark is visible in the top right corner of this section. Below the input field is a question: "Did you know, the address mybadness1234.com is also available?". Below this question are two buttons: "Great! Use this address on my blog for \$18.00 a year" and "No thanks, I'll use the free address." with a blue arrow pointing to the right.

In this example I am creating the blog site named mybadness1234

3. Step #3 IS A CHOICE: Here you have the option of purchasing the domain or web site name, in this case it would be www.mybadness123.com. The free blog site will be www.mybadness123.wordpress.com.

***A word of caution here,** blogging is not only personal; it can be very profitable when set up correctly. The decision you make now may impact you in the future. When you start a blog you are actually building a brand. That brand is centered on the name of your blog and can be difficult to migrate to another name later without losing status. If you choose the WordPress.com free blog the name you use may not be available in the future should you decide to monetize your brand. If you have questions about this please feel free to contact me at ron@writtenfyi.com.*

To choose Free Blogging simply left click on **“No thanks, I’ll use the free address”** (see arrow above) and you are ready to enter the world of blogging. This site is very well explained so the beginner can follow and be up and blogging in minutes.

Go Forth and Enjoy Your Free Blogging!