

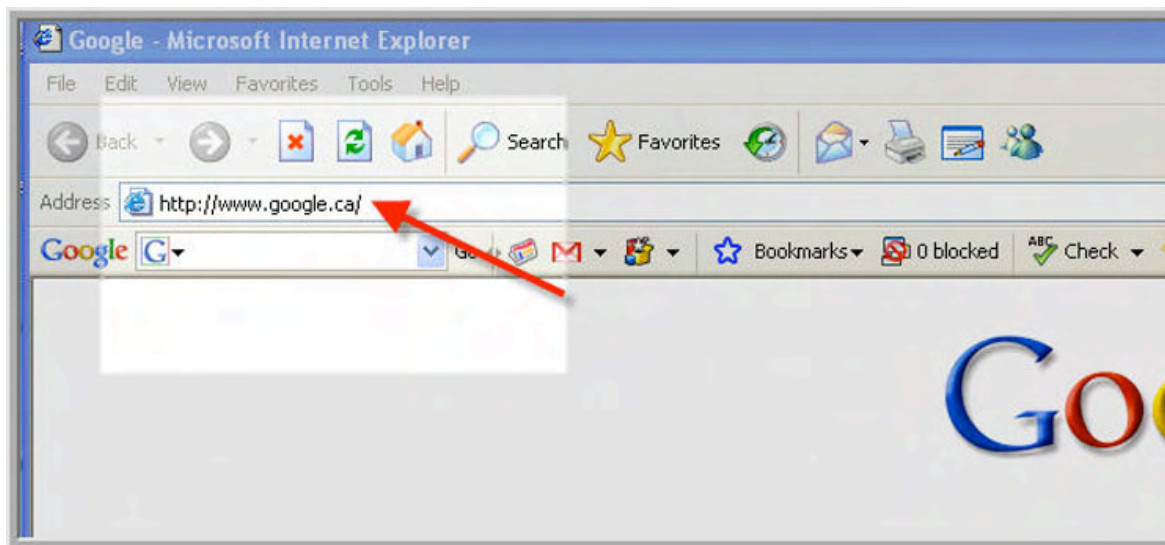
Create your own Blog website for beginners

LESSON ONE:

Getting Started

World Wide Web Address (www.address.com)

Just like your house, every website has an address, so that people can find your web site on the Internet. Here is an example of a worldwide web address: <http://www.google.com> In this example, the web address is for the Search engine Google. Note that this text is underlined to signify an address that links you to the Google website. It may also be written as www.google.com. If you click on this link you will jump directly to the Google web site. Take a look at this snapshot to locate the web address for Google.



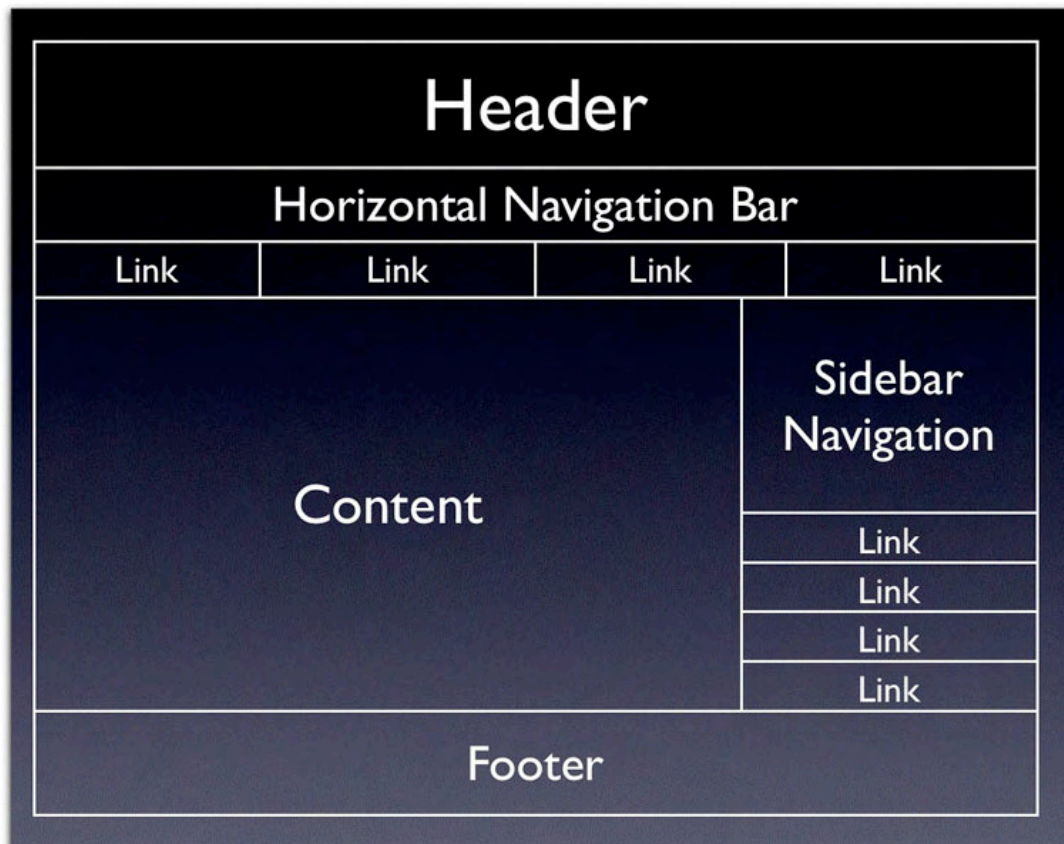
When you create your own web site you will need to get or claim your worldwide address also known as a domain name.

Website Layout explained.

When you first start setting up your web site I recommend using an application called Blogger. You can move onto other applications such as Wordpress and Movable Type as you gain your confidence. You won't need to create a layout, use html or know anything about computer programming. You should, however, have some desktop publishing skills. By that I mean

you should be familiar with things like opening, saving and closing a document, changing font types, sizes, and colours.

You should know the parts of a web site layout to help you understand what to do. The following diagram illustrates the four main sections of typical web site layout; The Header, Navigation bar, Content area and footer.



The **Header** section is usually an image with text and sometimes just text that tells the user what the website is about.

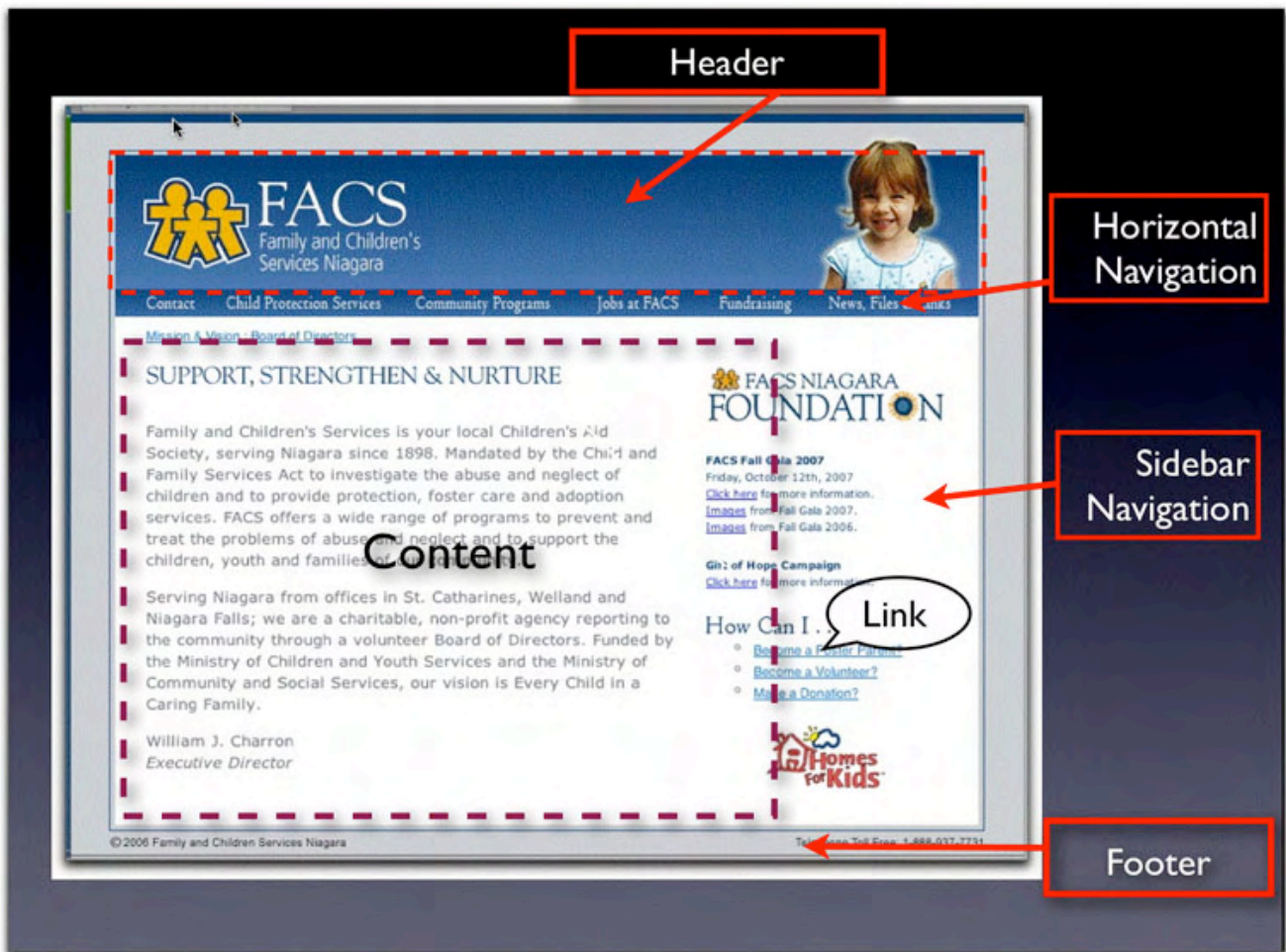
The **Navigation Bar** provides the "Links" to pages in the website or to other external websites. The Navigation bar can also be located as desired but typically you will find it either as a horizontal bar under the header or as a left or right side bar.

The **Content** section displays the information being provided to the user. You can easily change this section as needed.

The **Footer** section often is used to display contact information and logos.

If you look at this active website you will be able to locate the part of a web site layout. The **Header** is an Image of a Child and the Name of the Web site "FACS". There are two **Navigation bars**, one horizontal one under the header and one sidebar at the right of the illustration. Links to other web pages in the site and other websites are contained in both navigation bars.

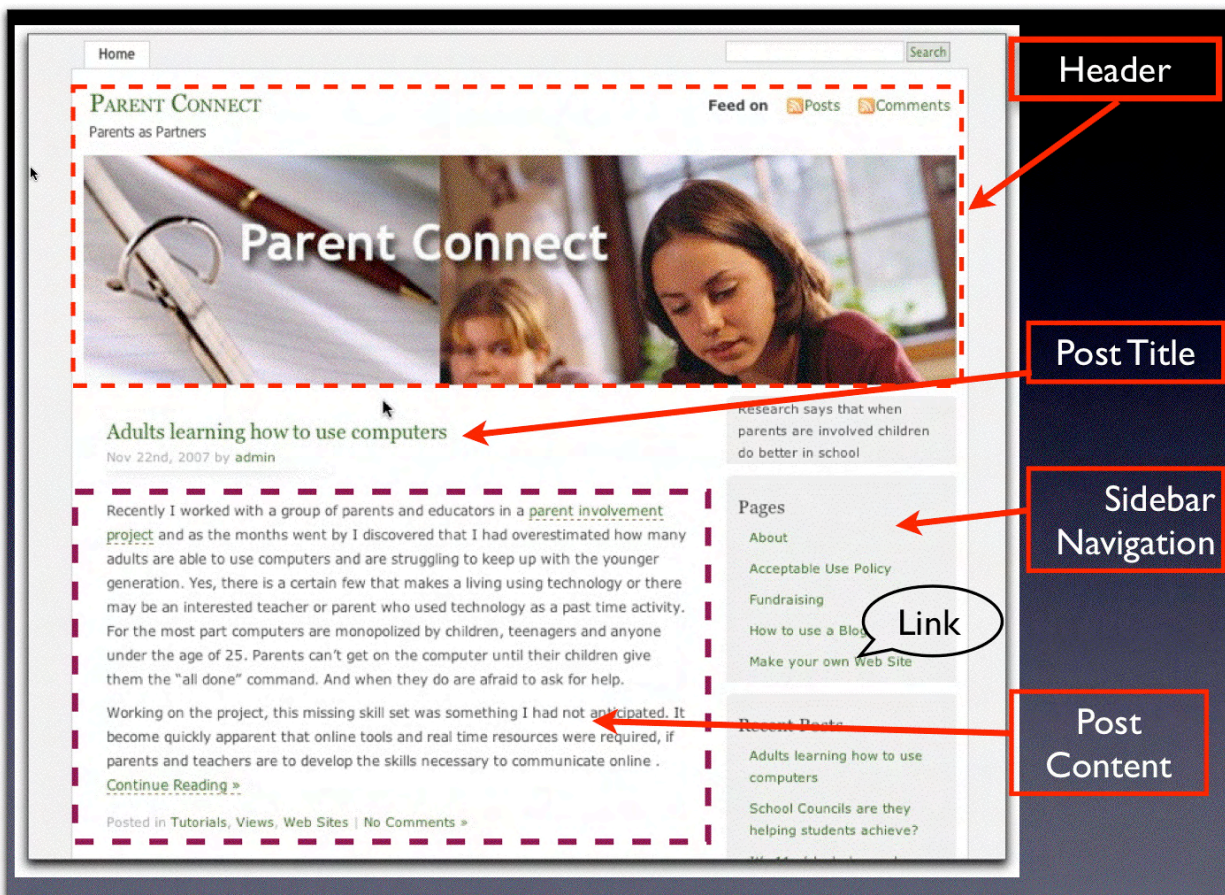
The content area, common to all web sites is located in the centre of the website. The **Footer** at the bottom of the page provides the contact information for the websites owner. If you want you can take a closer look at the actual site. www.facsniagara.on.ca



Parts of a Blog Website layout

In the introduction the idea of using a blogging application as a started point was suggested. You will be creating your web site using a Blog layout which closely resembles a standard web site with a few differences. The following illustration is a Wordpress Blog called [Parent Connect](#)

In this Blog website layout, you will find the Header, Navigation bar with Links, Content and Footer. The content area in a blog website uses a different method of displaying information. In a standard website the content area is static. In a blog website it is not. Information is displayed as an article with a title, author and date stamp. This article is called a Post.



To review, a blog is simply a modified website that uses journal entries or Posts to display information. Please note that these posts are displayed in reverse chronological order. Every time you enter information it show up as the first entry on the web page and as more new entries are made it moves on down the page.

In the next example you can see what a post looks like. The Title for the Post is "Adults learning how to use computers." The content for the article is displayed in the centre of the web site. The title of the Post is also displayed in a navigation sidebar at the right in a section titled "Recent Posts". As you post information a link is created in the sidebar to each new post item. You create a current list of links for all the posts that you use to display your new

The image shows a screenshot of a Blogger blog post. At the top is a banner image with the text "Parent Connect" overlaid. Below the banner is the post title "Adults learning how to use computers" in green text, with a red arrow pointing to it from the label "Post Title". Under the title is the date and author "Nov 22nd, 2007 by admin", with a red arrow pointing to it from the label "Date & Name of Post Author". The main content of the post is a paragraph of text, with the first sentence highlighted in yellow. A red arrow points to the end of the paragraph from the label "Last Post listed first". Below the main text is a "Continue Reading" link. To the right of the main content is a "Side Bar" with a red arrow pointing to it from the label "Side Bar". The sidebar contains three sections: "Pages" with links for "About", "Acceptable Use Policy", "Fundraising", "How to use a Blog", and "Make your own Web Site"; "Recent Posts" with three post titles: "Adults learning how to use computers", "School Councils are they helping students achieve?", and "It's 11 o'clock do you know where your children are?".

information. With that information let's move onto create your own website using Blogger.com

Create a website using Blogger

You will now see how this all fits together by now signing up for a blog website at www.blogger.com This illustration shows the main web page for Blogger. You are directed to a complete tour of the Blogger site. When you have finished signing up for your free account you can come back to get an idea of the services they have to offer.




Now get started with your first step and create a Google Account. There is no cost involved and there are numerous services available with a Google account. Gmail and Google Calendar are two additional applications that may interest you as they allow you to read your email or personal calendar anywhere you have access to the Internet.

You are asked to use a current email address to register and then create a password of at least 8 characters. Decide on a display name. A display name


is the signature that will appear on your website as the owner of the site and the author of the post displayed when you write a journal entry. If you don't want to display your real name you can use an alias.

1 CREATE ACCOUNT ▶ 2 NAME BLOG ▶ 3 CHOOSE TEMPLATE

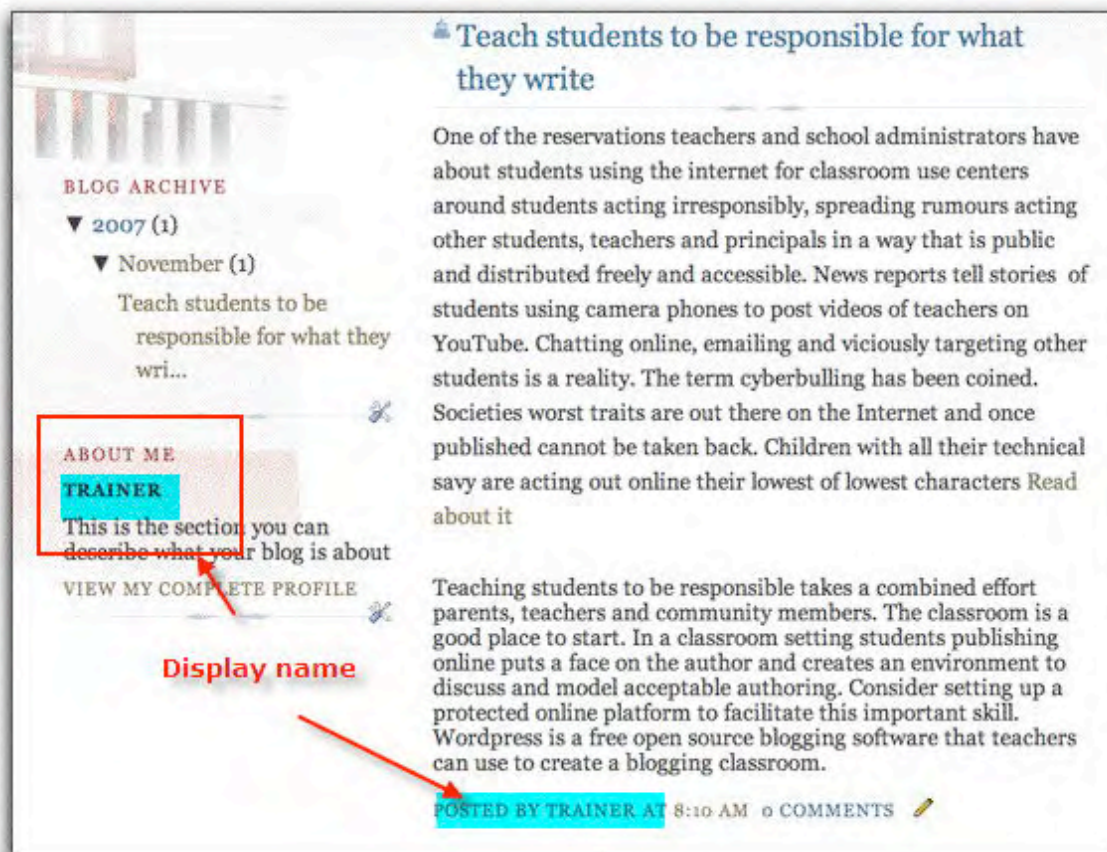
1 Create a Google Account



This process will create a Google account that you can use on other Google services. If you already have a Google account perhaps from Gmail, Google Groups, or Orkut, please [sign in first](#)

Email address (must already exist)	<input type="text"/>	You'll use this address to log in to Blogger and other Google services. We'll never share it with third parties without your permission.
	use the email address from your Internet Service	
Retype email address	<input type="text"/>	Type in your email address again to make sure there are no typos.
Enter a password	<input type="password"/> must be 8 numbers or letters Password strength:	Must be at least 8 characters long.
Retype password	<input type="password"/>	
Display name	<input type="text"/>	The name used to sign your blog posts.
	name you will as the author of the post	
Word Verification	 <input type="text"/> &	Type the characters you see in the picture to the left.
Acceptance of Terms	<input type="checkbox"/> I accept the Terms of Service	Indicate that you have read and understand Blogger's Terms of Service

Here is an example of a web site with the display name "Trainer" in the About section and as the signature of the post.



Claim your Blog name

As you proceed you will be asked to name your website and "claim" your website address or domain name. The name of your blog maybe any title you wish. For example: "Save the Environment" The selection of a web address or domain name has some restrictions. All web addresses created using Blogger contain the ending ".blogspot.com" A possible choice for the domain could be <http://www.environment.blogspot.com>.

In following example the Blog Name is Training Demo and name "Trainer", has been submitted as a choice for the domain name The address would then become www.trainer.blogspot.com. The "trainer" portion of the address is subject to availability. Unfortunately as shown in the next illustration the domain name [trainer.blogspot.com](http://www.trainer.blogspot.com) has already been claimed.

Several possible suggestions, any of which could be used to complete the process, are give you a blog. Once you settled on the name of your website address, type in the characters displayed on the screen. This is a word verification step that confirms you are a real person applying for a blog.

2 Name your blog

Blog title Enter a title for your blog.

Blog address (URL) You and others will use this to read and link to your blog.
[Check Availability](#)

⚠ Sorry, this blog address is not available
Please consider one of the following:
• trainer-training
• training-trainer
• trainer-trainingdemo

Domain name not available choose an alternate

Word Verification

sxsmaw

Type the characters you see in the picture.

Publishing your information

Once you have finished the claiming process you will be presented with the the dashboard for your website. From this location you will publish information and design your website.

Create a Web Site lornacos@gmail.com [Dashboard](#) [Help](#) [Sign out](#)

[Posting](#) [Settings](#) [Template](#) [View Blog](#)

[Create](#) [Edit Posts](#) [Moderate Comments](#)

NEW POST **SEARCH** Posts Per Page

Label Actions... Select: [All](#), [None](#) Your Posts: [All](#), [Drafts](#), [Published](#) 1 - 1 of 1

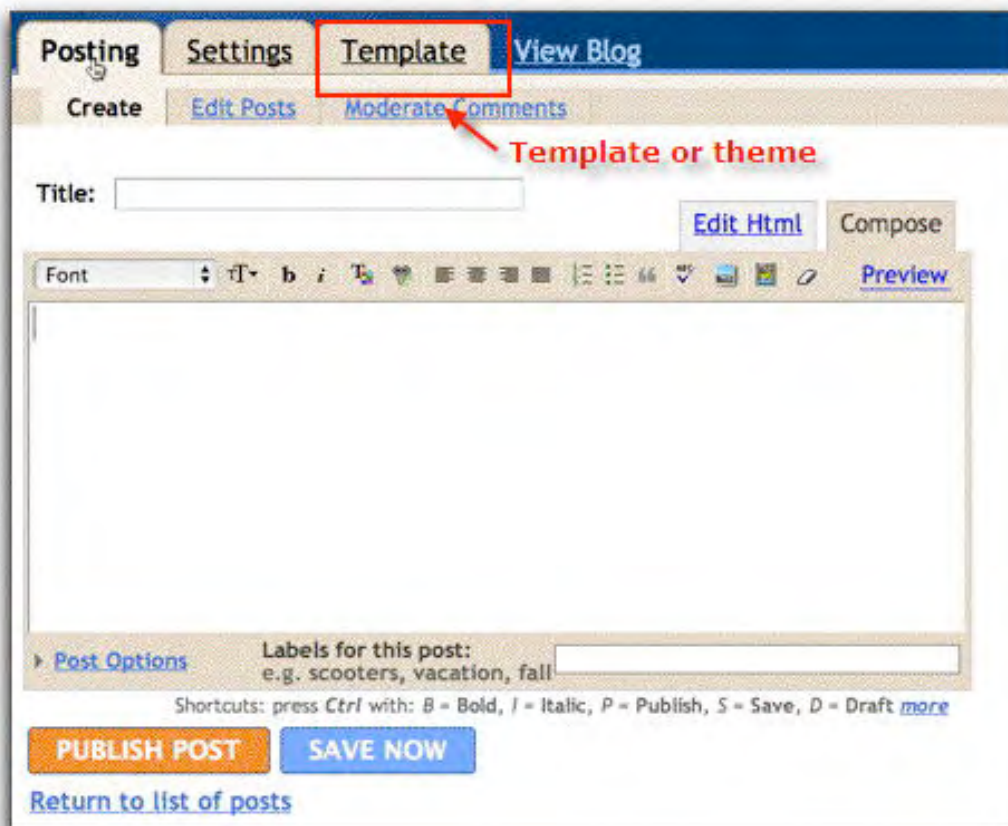
Edit This is an example of a post *draft* by Trainer 12:25:00 PM [Delete](#)

Click edit to display a post saved but not yet published 1 - 1 of 1

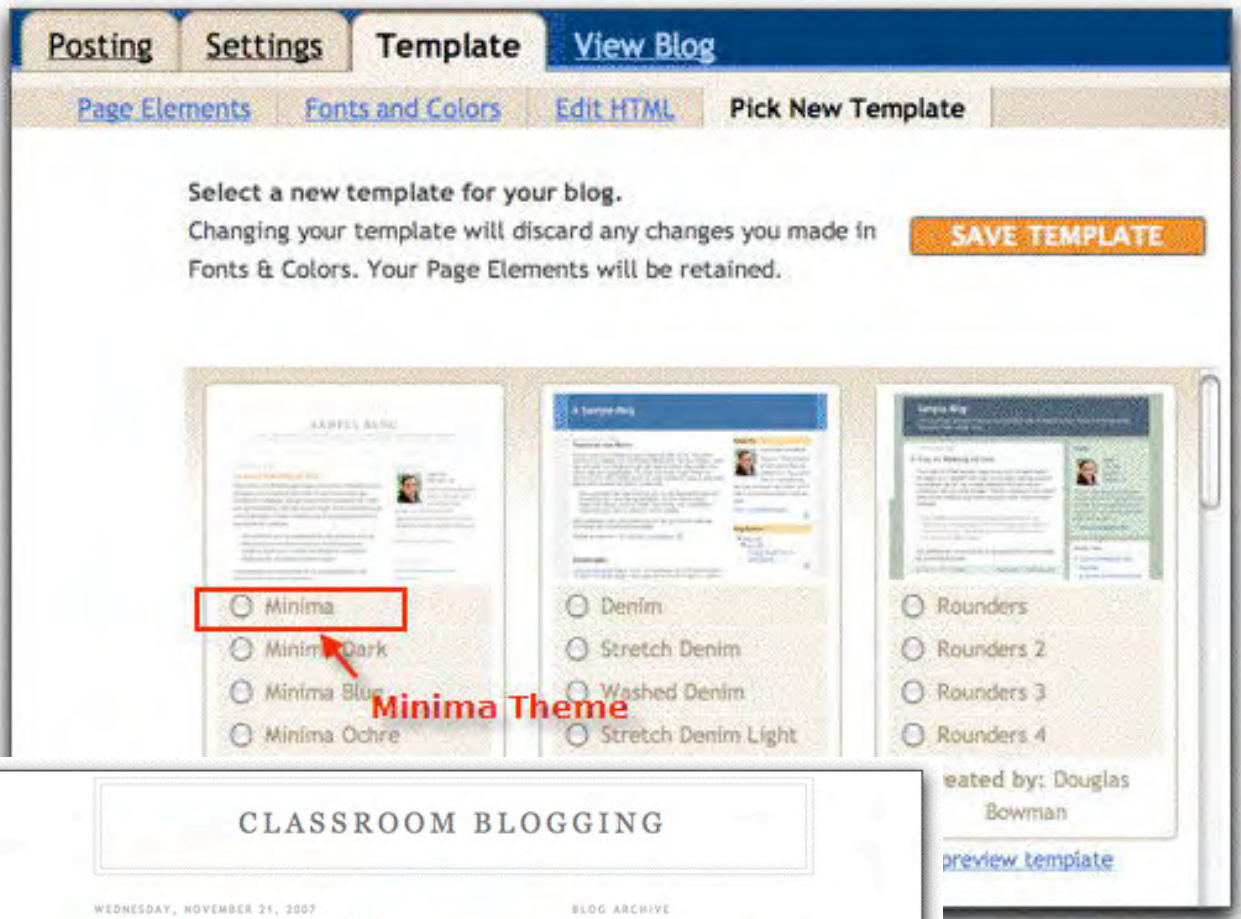
Choose a theme for your website

Naturally the first thing you want to decide after you have created a website is what the website will look like. Using Blogger and other blogging applications such as Wordpress, Movable Type and Expression Engine you will be given preset layouts known as themes.

In menu across the top of the dashboard locate the item "Template" and click on it. You will be presented with several options for different looks for your blog.



Choice of layout templates or themes There is a wide range of styles



from which to make your selections.

This is the **Minima Template** used for Classroom Blogging

Make your choice and then start blogging!!

