

How2 set up a blog in WordPress

You have seen that Google Blogger is a great program to use to get your blog started. WordPress is another very good blogging platform, which offers a wider range of design themes and allows you to keep your blog private.

This guide explains how to use WordPress to create your blog and gives you a different platform to explore and try out.

Getting started with WordPress

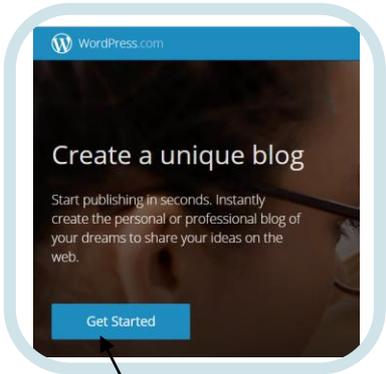
WordPress is very similar to Google Blogger.

- You set up an account to start your blog
- You can choose a theme
- Posting uses a WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) editor
- You can easily add images and other media to your blog posts
- You can make your WordPress blog private.

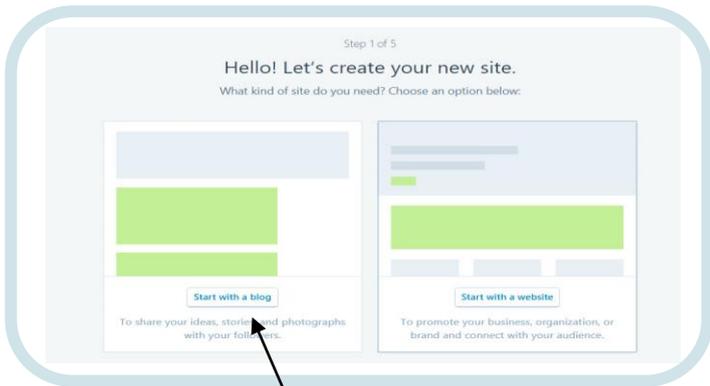
This guide gets you started, and other how2s will help you do everything else you need to do to use WordPress as your blogging platform.

Start by going to www.wordpress.com.

On the landing page of WordPress.com you will see options across the top of the left side of the page. Click on Blogs to get started.



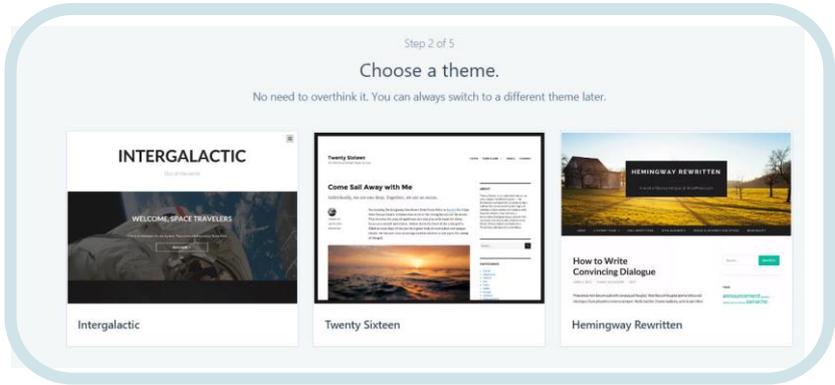
Clicking on Blogs brings up another page. Here you can get started on your blog. Click on Get Started



Get Started brings up a five-step process of creating your blog. You will also see an option for creating a website too – you might want to look at this in the future! But for now, we're starting with a blog. Click on Start with a blog.

How2

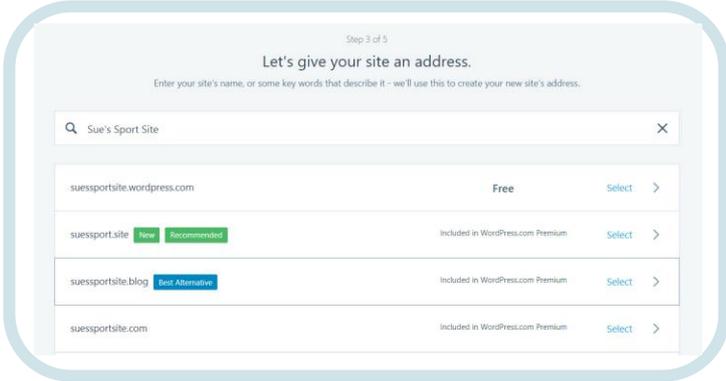
In Step 2, you can choose from three themes – this is just to get the blog started, and the choice you make here can be changed later! So just click on one to go to the next step.



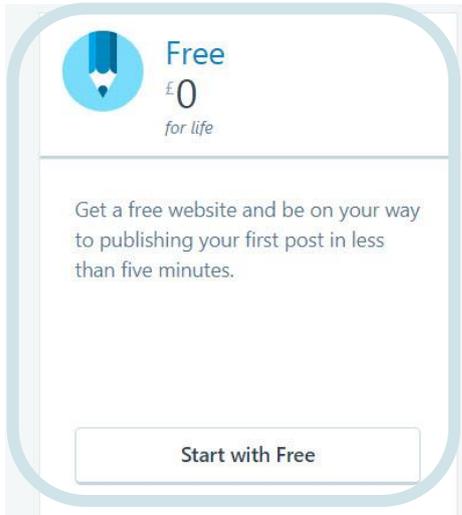
At this stage, you need to think about a name for your blog which will be used by WordPress to generate the address for the site. So make sure you choose something at this stage that you like.



There is also a question here about your own domain – this is for users who already have their own website address (known as a domain or URL) and want to use that.

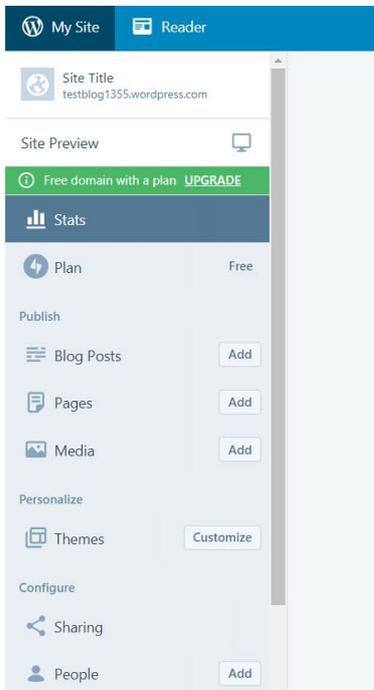
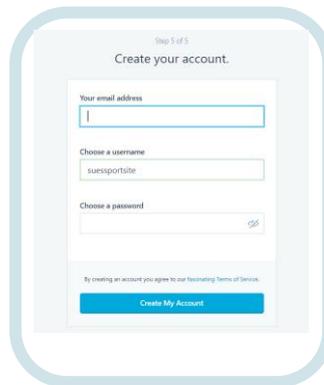


I typed in Sue's Sports Site and WordPress then generates lots of ideas for the site name. The first one on the list has come up as **sue sport site.wordpress.com** and that one is free for me to use, if I want to. Other options don't have the wordpress in the middle of the address – these are not free to use, though. For those addresses, you need to pay for a WordPress Premium account.



In the next window, you will see a number of different options, most of which are paid for. So you can pay for a WordPress account which gives you more – but for your blog, you only need to use the free option as it provides everything you need.

Clicking on Start with Free opens the Create your account window. Here you create a WordPress account, with your email address. This is the point where you need to talk to a parent (or teacher) to check it's okay to create the account. You also need to choose your password at this point.



Once you have your account, your blog will be created by WordPress.

It looks a bit more complicated than Google Blogger, but it is very easy to use. Our set of WordPress how2 guides will help you to set a theme, create a blog post, add images and make your posts private.