

Blogging Basics for Beginners

In simple terms, a blog (short for “web log”) is an online journal—a place to record one’s thoughts. But blogs have the potential to become so much more: entertainment sources, educational tools, wells of inspiration, and even communities.

A blog consists of entries or “posts” on a particular topic. For example, say you enjoy gardening. Your blog might be about gardening tips and tricks for others to try. One post might talk about soil enhancements, while another might discuss how to deal with pests. Each new blog post shows up at the top of the blog page (which looks similar to a web page), so readers can easily find what’s new.

Blogging is fun because it allows you to talk to the world and the world to talk back. In addition to the information you provide, a blog post contains a space for readers to enter comments. Someone across the country might ask you for advice on the best types of tomatoes to grow on your gardening blog. You might reply with your advice, or create a whole new post on the subject.

In addition to text, blog posts often contain links, photos, and even videos to help get the message across. A blog can be on almost any topic, from politics to hobbies to your inner thoughts.

Creating a blog is easy. Go to a free



blogging website like Blogger (blogger.com), or WordPress (wordpress.com), and follow the directions to get started. Once you’ve started your blog, keep these basic guidelines in mind:

- Stick to your topic. If you start to stray, readers who like your topic will lose interest.
- Consistency is important, so choose a regular posting schedule that you can comfortably maintain.
- Keep your entries to around 500 words or less, and use bullets and subheads for easy scanning.

You may never get famous by writing your blog, but you will have the satisfaction that comes from self-expression. And that’s the biggest reward.

Coming to VOD for April

| Title | Studio | Genre | Rating |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------|
| 2012 | Columbia TriStar | Action | PG-13 |
| Ponyo | Buena Vista Television | Family | G |
| Capitalism: A Love Story | Starz Media | Documentary | R |
| Up In the Air | Paramount Pictures | Comedy | R |
| Planet 51 | Columbia TriStar | Family | PG |
| The Princess and the Frog | Buena Vista Television | Family | G |
| Cheech & Chong’s Hey Watch This | Weinstein Company | Comedy | R |
| The Men Who Stare at Goats | Starz Media | Comedy | R |
| The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day | Columbia TriStar | Thriller | R |
| It’s Complicated | Universal Studios Pay TV | Comedy | PG-13 |
| Bob the Builder On Site: Skyscrapers | Lions Gate | Kids-Family | G |

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|------------------------|----------|
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| Fawcett, Lessley | 257-2586 |
| James, Anthony | 776-3771 |
| Kitch, Scott | 257-2218 |
| Lehnhausen, Teresa L. | 769-5227 |
| Nall, Marvin | 746-6187 |
| Roark, Gene | 449-3497 |
| Smith, Ernie & Melissa | 652-3179 |
| Spittler, Carie | 755-4348 |
| Thompson, Brenda | 456-3984 |
| Watson, Wardell | 449-3306 |
| Webster, Wanda | 456-3647 |

Lomax Office Schedule APRIL 2010

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Days Open in Red • Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed for Lunch 11:30 a.m. to noon
April 15 - Bills Due • April 26 - Disconnect Day