

Steps to Create Web Sites and Blogs that are mostly free and easy to create

I. Steps to create web sites and blogs - Maybe free, but not so easy.

1. Purpose of any Web site or blog. Decide on a topic:
Information, Teaching, What are we doing, Hobby, Family, Small Business, Organization
2. Decisions to make –
Possible costs: Domain name (yes or no?) – Web Hosting costs – using your own ISP might be free, but have to go with ISPs requirements for URL. It is easier to access your web site if you have a domain name. GoDaddy is a Web Hosting/Domain Name organization. There is a fee. Should I use a Website, blog or facebook?
Do I have the time to create and maintain this challenge I'm doing? It does take time/energy.
3. Design web site or blog – on paper, make notes, outline, find and list images.
4. Create - Use a Blog: Word Press or Blogger are good editors, creators and publishers – no charge.
Or WebSite Editor – i.e. Google Sites, or software such as Ms Front Page, Ms Publisher etc.
Or Facebook page
Or do in HTML using NotePad
5. Publish – upload. Free software: Filezilla or fee to use GoDaddy. Also need a host to upload to.
6. Get your URL known. Update/maintain as you go along.

II. Definitions: Decide about Domain Name and Hosting

- (a) A **domain name** is an identification label that defines a realm of administrative autonomy, authority, or control on the Internet. Domain names are hostnames that identify Internet Protocol (IP) resources such as web sites. Domain names are formed by the rules and procedures of the Domain Name System (DNS). <http://domainname> and yourname@domainname
Sonic.net is domain name, as is comcast.com. i.e. <http://www.wscugr.com> and xyz@wscugr.dom
- (b) A **web hosting service** is a type of Internet hosting service that allows individuals and organizations to make their own website accessible via the World Wide Web. Web hosts are companies that provide space on a server they own or lease for use by their clients as well as providing Internet connectivity, typically in a data center.
Source for domain name and web hosting service definitions above is Wikipedia.
- (c) A **“Blog”** – A Web site on which an individual or group of users record opinions, information, etc. on a regular basis.

III. Create the web site or blog - This takes your information, formats and converts to html.

- a) Can be on your computer, tablet, or in the ‘Cloud’
- b) Web Editor – usually free - one example is Google Sites:
www.google.com/sites/help/intl/en/overview.html
- c) Create HTML web site in NotePad – need to learn to use HTML however.
- d) Programs – MsWord – Save as web site (html)
Ms Front Page; Ms Publisher, Dreamweaver, Ms Expression Web 3 (Do Remember learning curve).
- e) Blog – WordPress, Blogger (free) Non-interactive website but doesn't cost to upload or have to be published. Blogger is somewhat easier.
Word Press Blog: www.wordpress.org; if Sonic is your ISP, see their Wordpress option
Blog would have name such as <http://yourname.wordpress.com>
Blogger has built-in editor and template selection, but you do have the option of putting HTML code in for your own look. www.blogger.com
- f) Facebook Page/Group – go to your Facebook account and click on page/group - create.

IV. Upload or Publish

Once your web site has been created, need to upload or publish it so it can be on internet for others to access. This is part of hosting. Blogs do not need to be published.

One option is to use an ftp program to upload to your free hosting site – download Filezilla (free) and install. Another one – not free – is Wise FTP

If you use Sonic.net to host, there is a charge if you use a domain name; however, there are a lot of options with Sonic. If your ISP is Sonic, go to Sonic.net, Member Web Tools and search for Personal Hosting.

Be sure to tell everyone to access your web site.

GoDaddy can help in uploading if you use them for hosting/domain name for a fee.

<http://www.1and1.com> has several packages including MyWebSite Personal Package starting at \$4.95/mo. after first month free.

V. Possibilities for uploading

- (a) Find a copy of Netscape 4.72 to publish (and use composer part for editing).
- (b) Front Page is no longer supported by Microsoft – but can find a copy. It edits and publishes.
- (c) Use an ftp such as Filezilla to upload or publish files.
- (d) Use GoDaddy for a fee.

VI. Examples:

1. Our website: <http://www.sonic.net/wscug>
Created using Front Page, Hosted by Sonic.net, Sonic took alias and made index page. No charge for hosting. No domain name. Uploaded using Filezilla
Some of the pages are created using HTML – Notepad. Uploaded using Filezilla
2. Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/sculpturebytyson/home> No charge created by Google Sites
3. Blog: <http://www.crawfordroom9.blogspot.com> uses www.blogger.com No Cost
4. Blog: <http://bignutsandbolts.blogspot.com> uses www.blogger.com No Cost
5. Facebook: www.facebook.com/WindsorParksandRecreation Uses Facebook, No Cost
6. Facebook: www.facebook.com/Crawfords-Handyman-Service Uses Facebook, No cost
7. Website: <http://rhecrawford.com> Uses FrontPage for editing, GoDaddy for domain & hosting \$73 for 2 years for domain name, uploading and hosting – \$3/mo. On contract
8. Website: <http://www.sonic.net/windsorwest/home.htm> FrontPage Editor, Sonic.net hosting – no charge. Web site name also: donna.members.sonic.net/home.htm
9. Website: <http://www.windsorumc.com> E-zekiel.org for editing, domain name and hosting. Approx \$12/mo.
10. Website: <http://www.sonic.net/donna/dawn.htm> Used Word for Editor, Sonic.net hosting, uploaded with Netscape 4.72 No cost.
11. Website: <http://designzpro.com> Used <http://www.1and1.com> for Personal Website – reasonable charge for hosting, domain name and Wise FTP for uploading and transferring files – fee.

VII. Other References:

1. <http://www.thesitewizard.com/gettingstarted/startwebsite.shtml> How to Start/Create your own Website
2. <http://www.thefreecountry.com/webmaster/htmleditors.shtml> Free HTML Editors/ Free Web Editors
3. <http://personal.georgiasouthern.edu/~jwalker/tutorials/composer/> Creating a Web Page with Composer