

What is a Blog?

A **blog** (a [blend](#) of the term *web log*)^[1] is a type of [website](#) or part of a website. Blogs are usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video. Entries are commonly displayed in reverse-chronological order. *Blog* can also be used as a verb, meaning *to maintain or add content to a blog*.

Most blogs are interactive, allowing visitors to leave comments and even message each other via widgets on the blogs and it is this interactivity that distinguishes them from other static websites.^[2]

Many blogs provide commentary or news on a particular subject; others function as more personal [online diaries](#). A typical blog combines text, images, and links to other blogs, [Web pages](#), and other media related to its topic. The ability of readers to leave comments in an interactive format is an important part of many blogs. Most blogs are primarily textual, although some focus on art ([art blog](#)), photographs ([photoblog](#)), videos ([video blogging](#)), music ([MP3 blog](#)), and audio ([podcasting](#)). [Microblogging](#) is another type of blogging, featuring very short posts.

As of 16 February 2011, there were over 156 million public blogs in existence.^[3]