



How to Use Your Blog for Research

There are several different ways to use your blog for research and it depends on what type of research you want to do as to what way you use. The easiest way to research is to go to Technorati and see what keywords are prominent to find out what people are talking about most.

If you want to find out what people think or know about something specific, simply ask them in your blog - and make sure you ping. It won't be long before you'll find a whole host of answers and comments coming in.

If you are researching for ideas to blog about, then a free tool to help you is Google Alerts. You have only to go to the website and click on the search terms you need. You'll get an email to tell you when a new blog has been posted on that topic - and a link to it.

You can set up a blog for a special research task. For instance, you may want to find out all about your genealogy. So you start up a blog - and if you haven't done that yet, get it through blogger.com for a special reason. That is, Google owns blogger.com. So? Well, if you also have their toolbar on your computer - it's not hard to get it - you can do a really neat thing.

Once you have the toolbar, go to options and click the 'More' button. There will be a menu with boxes to check. Check the button that says Blog This. The button should now show up on your toolbar. Now you search for a name in your genealogy, or for that matter any research you are doing. You place the name into the search box; a list of websites comes up. You click on the one that looks most promising and find something you'd like to have on your blog.

Highlight the information you want and click on the Blog It button and that information will be automatically transferred to your blog. You may have to sign in again, but if you do, simply check the box that says 'remember me'. Then click on Publish Post and there you have it. All that selected text will now be on your blog. A link back to the website from which you got the information will automatically be made.

This is one way to do easy research and get stuff onto your blog, but be sure you don't copy whole pages of information. Just what is relevant to your topic?



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