

Health Resources Digest

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Weblogs and Weblog Publishing Tools

Weblogs are frequently updated Web pages with brief paragraphs of information, often structured as annotated resource lists in chronological order. They offer access to breaking news, evaluations, personal views, and other information that otherwise might not be readily available from traditional sources. While at a first glance a blog can appear a little more than a personal online diary, it has its own information value, and the Weblog publishing tool is a basic content management software that can fulfill purposes well beyond the keeping of an online diary

Blogger

This original Weblog publishing tool allows users to create a Weblog and host it at BlogSpot, or use file transfer protocol (FTP) to link to their own sites. Blogger gives you a way to automate (and greatly accelerate) the blog publishing process without writing any code or worrying about installing any sort of server software or scripts. And yet, it still gives you total control over the look and location of your blog. Instead of hand-coding your blog posts and frequently uploading the newest version of your page, you make posts to your blog by submitting a simple form on the Blogger web site, and the results immediately show up on your site, with your design.

URL: <http://www.blogger.com>

Blogspot

Associated with Blogger, this hosting site with banner ads is free, and users can also purchase the version without ads for \$12 per year. Multiple users are given administrative privileges for a Weblog.

URL: <http://www.blogspot.com>

Movable Type

Movable Type is a decentralized web-based personal publishing system designed to ease maintenance of regularly-updated content. This content can consist of, but is not limited to, entries in a Weblog or online journal, photographs in an online photo gallery, news headlines on a newspaper site, or articles in an online magazine. The software is for free for personal use. Part of Movable Type success can also be attributed to the amount of support all users receive; the support forums are staffed by both a dedicated set of Movable Type users and the creators of the software, allowing fast access to answers from expert users of the system.

URL: <http://www.movabletype.org/>

Pitas

Pitas.com is offering free and easy to update pages with an easy-to-use web interface. Most people use their pitas page to create some sort of "recent news" page for their site, or a Weblog. You can update your page from any web browser and customize it to look however you want, or use one of the templates made already, and you can give others access to it so you as a group can all have a page you all can contribute to.

URL: <http://www.pitas.com/>

Daypop

Daypop is a specialty search engine that just crawls and indexes Weblogs and news sites. It does not try to get every blog out there. Instead it focuses on what it calls the best of the blogs and news sites. It does cover over 7,500 and refreshes its entire index once or more per day. The news sites include both English and non-English language sources.

URL: <http://www.daypop.com>

The Blog Realm: News Sources, Searching with Daypop, and Content Management

In this article Greg Notess discusses the main reasons for using Weblogs and shows the ways of searching for them on the Internet: "Part of the popularity of Weblogging is due to the simplicity of creating one. Blog software is easy to use and may even come bundled with free hosting of the blog. No HTML, scripting, direct Web editing, XML, RSS, or CSS knowledge is required. Simply run through the setup, and then start creating entries. One or more people can be given posting privileges. They just log into a special Web page, and then type in (or copy and paste) their content. Posting it is as simple as clicking a submit button. The software automatically formats and posts the entry. It also automatically archives older ones on separate pages. If categories are used in the creation of entries, the software can also create subject-specific archives based on the keywords used. The site design can be edited within the blog software using pre-defined settings or more sophisticated redesigns. And while the intent of the blogging software is to create a Weblog, it can be used for many other content management needs. Especially for those without a full content management system, the blog software can be an opportunity to get more people involved in posting content on a Web site".

URL: <http://www.infotoday.com/online/sep02/OnTheNet.htm>

Family Medicine Notes

This Weblog is devoted to news and views in family medicine.

URL: <http://www.docnotes.net/>

Medical Weblogs

Medlogs is more than a list of medical Weblogs -- it's a Weblog aggregator. On the right of the screen, you can see the list of medical Weblogs, and below an excerpt from the last five Weblog posts from all the major medical Weblogs are presented.

URL: <http://www.medlogs.com/>

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