

LiveJournal - Blogging & Blog Readers

These are accompanying notes for the help-sheets **Getting Started with LiveJournal** and **LiveJournal Communities**. These notes give important guidance to posting entries into your LiveJournal account or into a LiveJournal Community.

This help-sheet concentrates on how to **make a blog entry that is readable only by selected friends** and not open to the public. A blog may be found, via a search, or if someone knows your account, but if posts are only viewable by friends, then any other visitor will just see an empty blog (and of course any personal information you add to your profile!).

When either posting a new entry or updating an existing journal entry, you have full control over who sees that entry and who can leave comments on your postings. **All your entries to your blog, default to being open to public viewing, unless you change the Security setting.**

Note: You need to set the security for every post you make to your LiveJournal blog, otherwise it will be viewable by anyone!

There are four levels of security available. **Remember to check the setting** (shown below) each time you make a post or posts by default will be made public.

- **Public:** This option makes your post available to anyone. For learning and teaching purposes it is **not recommended** to use this option unless you have a specific reason.
- **Friends:** This makes the posting viewable to anyone you have chosen to list as a Friend. We **recommend** this option as the most suitable for learning and teaching use. Even if someone lists you as a Friend, they will not be able to view your Friends-only entries, unless you also choose to list them as a Friend.
- **Custom:** A chosen group of people you list as Friends, as defined by custom friends groups you create, can read a Custom entry.
- **Private:** Only you can read your Private entries.
- **To change who can view your post every time you make a new entry:**

1. After the field for entering your text, there is an **Options box**: This block of fields and menus control various settings for the display of your entry and also allowing comments by other users.

2. The only one that you should need to alter at this stage is the **Show this entry to:** setting. Choose **Friends** from the drop-down option.
3. Click on the **Post to [your username]** button to post an entry.

- **To add friends** to your LiveJournal blog see the accompanying help-sheets **Getting Started with LiveJournal** and **LiveJournal Communities**.