

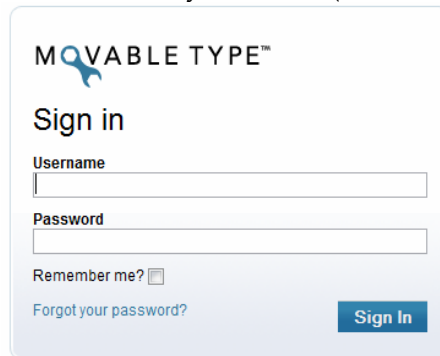
An Illustrated Guide to BLOGGING

(originally written by Mei Huang, modified for this class by Christian Sandvig and Max Rodriguez)

A “blog” is a Web diary. The word comes from “Web” + “log”. As a student of this class you now have access to a *Movable Type* Blog to post your assignments and discuss them with other students. Below is a quick guide to get you started with blogging. Please familiarize yourself with it before you actually start your assignments.

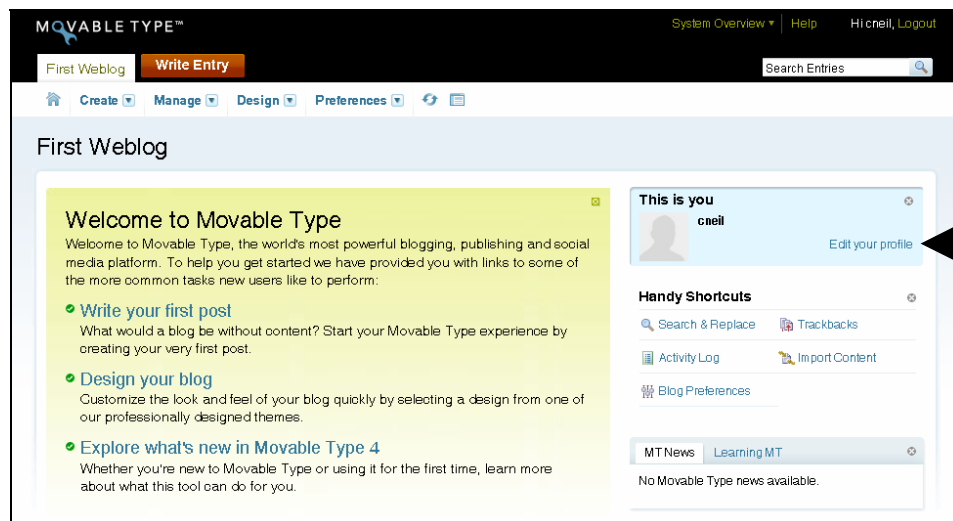
Part 1: Logging in and setting up

1. The **URLs** for your **BLOG**:
 - 1) The “front door”: go to the class homepage then click **blogs** (this is where you will later be able to *view* the class blogs).
 - 2) The “back door”: (This is where you *login* and *post to* or *edit* your blog.) There is a link to this page called “Edit” or “**Post to your blog**” from the class homepage, in the “Blogs” section (see #1, above).
2. Below is a screenshot of what you will see once you are at the “back door.” Your **login** is your U of I netid. Your initial **password** is also your netid (... for example, “yournetid”).



The screenshot shows the Movable Type Sign in page. At the top is the Movable Type logo. Below it is the text "Sign in". There are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below the password field is a "Remember me?" checkbox and a "Forgot your password?" link. At the bottom right is a blue "Sign In" button.

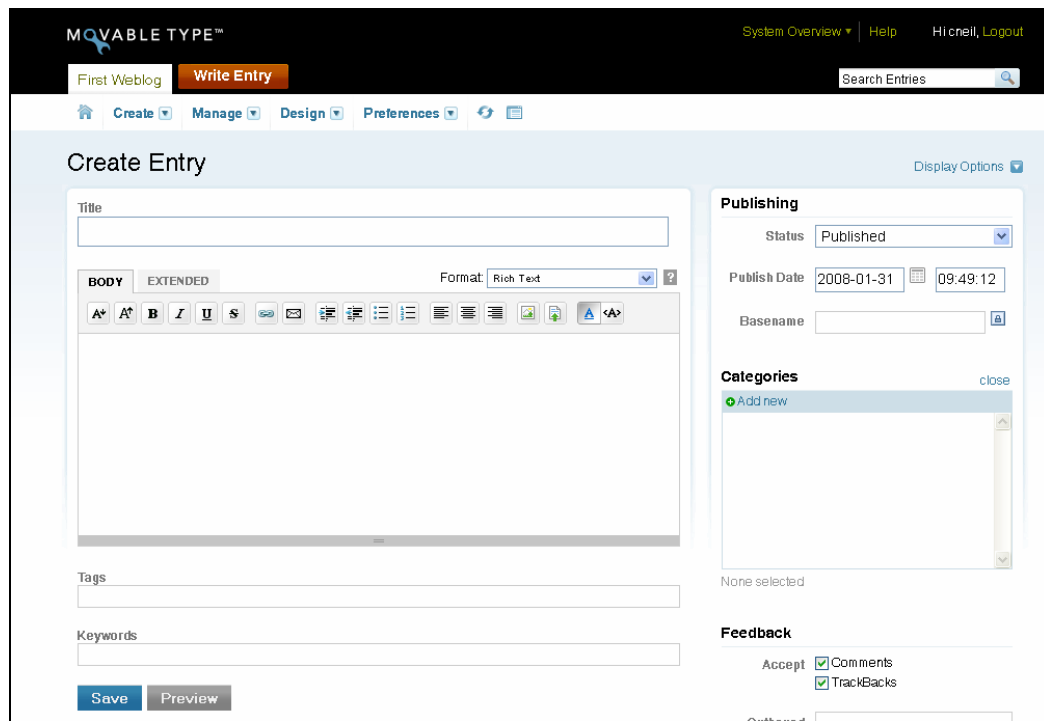
3. Once you have logged into the blog, you will see a screen like this:



4. Now you can click on “EDIT YOUR PROFILE” to **set your nickname** and **change your password**. Follow the instructions given to set your nickname and change your password **NOW**.

Par 2: Add and view blog entries:

1. From the main menu, you can click on the orange button marked "Write Entry" at the top of the screen (see below), there are three basic things you need do to create an entry:
 - 1) **Title:** Please try to think of a short engaging title for each posting. NEVER USE THE ASSIGNMENT TITLE as your post title (that's almost as bad as titling a paper: "paper").
 - 2) **Body:** This is the place to add the main text of your entry. (Note that there are buttons that you can use to format the text of your post (for instance: bold, italics, underline, add a hyperlink, indent a quote, and add a picture).
 - 3) **Save:** After you have finished your main text, please scroll down and find the "save" button and click on it.



2. Now, to see what your blog entry will look like from the front door (to the public), click the "View Site" button on the far right of the menu bar. (It looks like a rectangle with some text in it.)



3. Did you see your blog entry? If yes, congrats! If not, please check the guide again, look at the manual for Movable Type by clicking "HELP" at the top of any page after you login (see Part I, step 1 of this guide), or email the instructor. Good luck!

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Losing your password** and not being able to login won't excuse you from turning in your work. You might want to make your Movable Type password the same as a password you already know well (e.g., the one that is matched to your netid).
- If you are writing a long post, we suggest you **write it in a word processor** and then cut and paste it into the "new entry" window. That way your writing will not be lost if the Web browser crashes... and you can use the spell-checker.
- You can **post about any class-related topic** at any time, not just the assignments.