

6.12 Blogs



A Blog is an individual Weblog or Journal. All FoxSuite members receive their own Blog space to create an unlimited number of Blog files for news, journals, hobbies, etc. Members can also read and comment on the Blogs of other members - improving communication and collaboration. It's all about knowledge, information, and even fun.

From the Main FoxSuite sidebar menu – users would select **Blog** to open their personal Blog Editor. Blog files can be created using the editor's extensive tools to add rich-text, images, links, tables, backgrounds, etc.

The screenshot shows the 'Blog Editor - Jim H Smith' window. At the top, there is a 'Return' button and a 'Save' button. Below the title bar, there is a 'Save as:' field containing 'blog' and a '.htm' extension, and a 'Background:' field. A toolbar with various icons is visible. The main editing area contains a title 'My Weblog Title' and two blog entries. The first entry is dated 'March 23, 2005' and starts with 'Proin ullamcorper congue mauris.' followed by a paragraph of Lorem Ipsum text. The second entry is dated 'March 22, 2005' and starts with 'Quisque suscipit pharetra arcu.' followed by another paragraph of Lorem Ipsum text. On the right side, there is a sidebar with 'Archived Files:' listing 'April 2005.htm', 'blog.htm', 'blog4.htm', and 'blogtemplate.htm'. Below the files is a calendar for 'February 2005' with a grid of days. At the bottom, there are radio buttons for 'Normal', 'HTML', and 'Preview'.


The format is free-form, but each blog entry can be date and time stamped for historical purposes. The user can save the file to their personal blog space in **Storage/Blogs** using the **Save as:** field at the top left of the editor. The starting default file for each member is **blog.htm**. This file is created automatically for each member when their profile is initially created in the Member Directory. Blog files are stored with the .htm extension. Users can create an unlimited number of files, and can edit the files at any time. A list of the user's saved files is displayed on the right hand side of the editor as "Archived Files". The blog.htm file can be edited, but not deleted to assure each member has a least one valid entry. It is probably a good practice for the user to use the blog.htm file as their most current posting – as this is the file that is displayed by default for others visiting another member's blog.













Blog files are stored in the **Storage/Blogs** directory – with each FoxSuite member having a sub-directory by their full name – like **Storage/Blogs/Jim H Smith**.

User's can select whether or not they want to accept visitor comments on their Blogs in their Member Profile as shown below:

| |
|---|
| Allow Comments on my Blogs ? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
|---|

Selecting the “Yes” option means that all of their Blog files are open for comment by all FoxSuite members. The default option is “No”.

Users can select the **View Member Blogs** from the Main Menu or the  button on the Editor to see each member's blog files.

| Return  Member Blogs | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--|
| Member Name | Organization | Phone | Email |
|  dfhdfh dsfhsfh | Finance | | |
|  NoFiles_F_Guy | Finance | | |
|  Blog_r_Guy | Finance | qwrqwr | |
|  My LongLastname | Accounting | | |
|  Member T_One | Finance | | |
|  Blog_H_Only | Finance | | |
|  New T President | Engineering | | |
|  Jim H Smith | Finance | 234-456-3456 | cfa@brightsuite.com |
|  Member E_Three | Purchasing | | |
|  Bob H Tuna | Purchasing | | tuna@bob.com |
|  Member r_Two | Finance | | |
| < > | | | |


Upon selecting a member's name – the user is taken to that user's blog where the `blog.htm` file is displayed by default. Visitors can view other files by clicking the files from the Blog Archives list as shown below.

Visitors can not only read a member's blog – they can comment on it. The lower portion of the form shown above can be used to enter comments on the blog file being displayed directly above. Visitor's comments are saved directly into the file's content where the original author can view the visitor's comments. Comments are always coded with the name of the visitor, date, and time as shown below.

 Reader Comment: Jim H Smith 1/12/2005 11:01:36 PM

The original author may decide to leave the comments in the file, or delete them.

Full-View Option:

When reading other members Blogs, users may want to use the Full-View  icon to expand the Blog file for easier reading.

Member Security Settings:

For new Members, the Blog module shares security with the Discussion and Corkboard Modules and has 3 overall levels of Access Permissions as shown below:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Discussions, CorkBoard, Blog |  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No Access | <input type="radio"/> Browse | <input type="radio"/> Author |
|------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|

These 3 choices can be further defined in terms of the starting named security profiles, and their allowable actions as shown in the chart below:

| Advanced Security | No Access | Browse | Author | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Basic Security | Guest | | Basic, Advanced & Admin | | |
| View Forum Messages/Replies | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| View Corkboard | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Search Forum Messages | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Add Forum Message | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Reply Forum Message | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Delete Forum Message | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| New Corkboard Item | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Reply Corkboard | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Delete Corkboard Item | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |