BLOGS BY *Heather*

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BLOG*Setup*
BLOG STORE*Setup*
BLOG*Design*
BLOG*Maintenance*
NEWSLETTER*Design*
NAVIGATIONAL BANNER*Installation*

Happy St Patty's Day from Blogs By Heather! This month I would like to follow up on the "share buttons" concept and show you how to add a "Follow Me" area to your site. We will also have a little HTML lesson towards the end!

FOLLOW ME

This type of format is concise and does not take up a lot of space in your blog's sidebar. The Twitter and Facebook icons are recognizable but you may create your own. In the HTML code provided below I include the code for these and you are free to use them on your site!

HTML CODE:

<center>

<img src="http://

i493.photobucket.com/albums/rr300/blogsbyheather/CustomerArtwork/

twitter-1.png" />

<a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/Blogs-By-Heather/295037003685"

target=_blank>

<img src="http://i493.photobucket.com/albums/rr300/

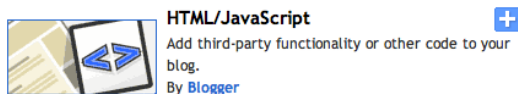blogsbyheather/CustomerArtwork/Facebook-2.png" />

</center>

You will be adding this HTML code in your sidebar with links to your business/personal Twitter and Facebook accounts.
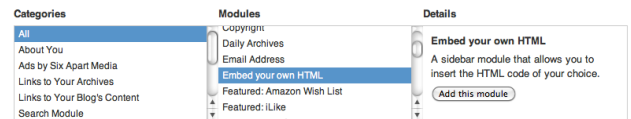
Blogging should be fun...let me help you!

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Blogger:

1. Login to Blogger and from the Dahsboard, click on Design.

2. Click on Page Elements.

3. Click on Add a Gadget and choose HTML/JavaScript.

HTML/JavaScript
Add third-party functionality or other code to your blog.
By Blogger

4. Enter a Title such as Follow Me.

5. Copy and paste in the HTML CODE referenced in this article.

6. Click Save.

7. Drag and drop where you would like this shown in your sidebar.

8. Save Changes.

TypePad:

1. Login to TypePad and click on Design.

2. Click on Content.

3. From the middle box at the top, Modules, click on Embed Your Own HTML.

4. Then on the right, under Details, click Add This Module.

5. It is then added to your layout.

6. You can enter a Label, however it will not appear when viewing your blog.

7. Therefore, in the larger text box, write "FOLLOW ME
" which is the word "FOLLOW ME" capitalize and then followed by a hard return.

8. Then copy and paste the HTML CODE provided in this article.

9. Click OK.

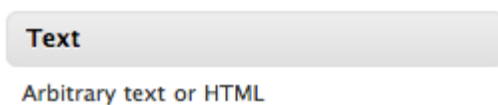10. Click and drag where you desire and remember to Save Changes at the bottom.

WordPress:

1. Login to WordPress and go to the Dashboard.

2. Click on Appearance and then Widgets.

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3. Then click and drag a Text Widget to your sidebar.

Text

Arbitrary text or HTML

4. Enter a Title.

5. Copy and Paste the HTML CODE provided in this article.

6. Save.

7. Close.

8. Drag and drop where you would like in the sidebar.

A Little on HTML

So what does this HTML CODE provided mean anyway? Well, let's review it and a little HTML lesson.

First, most of the HTML tags comes in pairs, opening and closing tags. In this example you will notice <CENTER> and </CENTER> and <A> and </A>

The <IMG> tag is not paired and neither is the <BR> if you need to use that (which is a hard return, line break). Instead a "/" is used before the closing bracket. So it would be <IMG…/> and

Furthermore the <CENTER> tag is depreciated however without going into a CSS lesson, and since it still works and read by many popular browsers (Internet Explorer, FireFox, Safari), I used it here in this example.

Center Text or Image

It simply means to center any image or text between the opening <CENTER> tag and the closing </CENTER> tag.

So, as you can see in the opening image, the Twitter and Facebook images are centered.

Creating a HyperLink

Next, when you need to create a link, whether it be text or an image, you need to use the ANCHOR tag, which is denoted by the <A HREF…. > text or image here</A>.

In this example, the HREF is the hyperlink to your Twitter or Facebook account. TARGET is set to _blank to force Twitter and Facebook to open in a new Internet window.

Inserting an Image

To insert an image using HTML code you use the IMAGE tag denoted by <IMG…/>.

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In this example, you will see two sets of IMAGE tags where the SRC is a location in my public Photobucket account, and free for you to use!

To Learn More on HTML

I go over HTML and CSS for blogging in my new book, [Creative Blogging](#) due to begin shipping today, March 15th. I will also be offering HTML for Bloggers as a webinar series. Be sure to visit [my blog](#) for my webinar schedule and to read more "how-to" articles on blogging.

I hope you enjoyed this month's article and encourage you to experiment with HTML. To download this article as a PDF:
http://www.BlogsByHeather.com.

For more tips and free tutorials on blogging, please visit www.BlogsByHeather.com.

Feel free to contact me if you get stuck, heather@blogsbyheather.com or blogsbyheather@att.net.