

Just the FAQs – WordPress.com RSS Feeds Look Inside

This is a PDF. Use your browser's Back button to return to the JTF site.

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Creating an RSS Feed – Method 1

This method uses the built-in feed that WordPress provides. Your feed URL is:
<http://mysite.wordpress.com/feed>
(Where "mysite" is the name of your actual site.)

To complete the installation of your feed, you will need to:

- Choose an RSS feed icon.
- Sign in to your WordPress.com site.
- Have your feed URL handy.
- Have a text editor open. Use a program like Notepad for this instead of Word or another complicated document processor. The bigger programs tend to insert hidden formatting characters in the content.

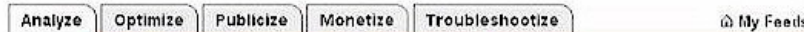
Colorful headers help you identify sections easily

In this tutorial, we will choose an RSS feed icon and copy the link to it. We'll then create code for an RSS feed icon and a text link to the URL of your feed. In the last step we'll create a Text widget for your sidebar and insert the new code. This tutorial will require you to have two browser windows, or tabs, for two different sites open simultaneously. You may want to read through the full tutorial before actually going through the steps.

Choosing Your Icon



To display an RSS icon in your sidebar, you will first need to find one on the Web that you can link to or copy to your site. There are lots of free icons available on the Web. In this tutorial, we'll use those available from WordPress to which you can link. You are welcome to use any other icon you like, but be sure they are free to use and that you can link to them or download them. (This tutorial only covers icons that can be linked. It does not cover uploading an image to your site. Instructions on uploading a custom image and using it in the Text widget can be found [here](#).)



Let's have a look at the main navigation tabs. Don't click on them yet. We'll cover them all in detail below. They are:

- **Analyze** - Used to check the stats on your feed.
- **Optimize** - Used to add whistles and bells to your feed.
- **Publicize** - Tips and suggestion about how to publicize your feed.
- **Monetize** - Used to configure ads for your feed.
- **Troubleshootize** - Troubleshooting tips if you have problems with your feed.
- **My Feeds** - Gray house icon to the far right of the tabs. Redirects you to your main home page.

Colored words help you keep your place


Next, we'll examine each of the main tabs in detail.

Note: As you click between tabs, the links down the left column of the page change in accordance with the page options.

To help you quickly optimize the settings in each tab, you'll find highlighted click symbols next to the items you will most likely need.

Multiple screen shots

Analyze

 Click the **Analyze** tab. This is the page you will use most often to check the stats on your feed.