

## Blogger Setup

Here are some quick instructions for how to set up your individual class blogs on Blogger.

1. Create blog:

- (a) Navigate to Blogger: <https://www.blogger.com>
- (b) Log in or create a new account using your college.harvard.edu gmail account
- (c) Once you are signed in, click the down arrow on the left and click **New blog**. Title it **ay16-(your first initial)(your last name)**, e.g. ay-asixteen for Astro Sixteen
- (d) Enter **ay16-(first initial)(last name)** into **Address** and click **Create blog**. Your blog will now be visible at [www.ay16-\(first initial\)\(last name\).blogspot.com](http://www.ay16-(first initial)(last name).blogspot.com)!

2. Enable  $\LaTeX$  support using MathJax:

- (a) Select **Layout** in the sidebar
- (b) Click on any of the **+ Add a Gadget** links (it doesn't matter if you click the link in the "Sidebar (Top)" or "Sidebar (Bottom)" sections)
- (c) Select **HTML/JavaScript** in the pop-up window
- (d) Give the new gadget a title, like **mathjax**, and paste the javascript from this GitHub gist into the **Content** window.
  - i. Extra information: this script configures MathJax (e.g. it specifies that  $\LaTeX$  inline math should be written as  $\$$  (equation)  $\$$ ) and loads the MathJax code from a content delivery network (CDN).
- (e) Optional: If you don't want the gadget title to be visible in the sidebar of your blog, you can toggle the "Show this widget" option to off.
- (f) Click **Save** and then click the **Save** icon on the bottom right side of your screen.

3. Make a test post:

- (a) Select **Posts** from the sidebar
- (b) Click **New post** or Create a new post
- (c) Make sure editor is set to **Compose view** (the leftmost icon under the title will be a pencil when in "Compose view" and will be a pair of angle brackets,  $< >$ , when in "HTML view")
- (d) Type away!
- (e) Start new sections with the **Heading** selection from the toolbar and then type within a section with the **Normal** setting
- (f) To save your work, click the dropdown arrow next to the **Preview** button and click **Save**
- (g) Click the **Preview** button to autosave your work and open/refresh a separate window to show what your post will look like once it is published
- (h) When you are ready to post your blog post for everyone to see, hit **Publish**

Feel free to play around with different color palettes, layouts, Gadgets, mobile theme support, and other customizations available in the sidebar to really personalize the look and feel of your posts.

**Note:** Some of the Blogger themes (particularly the ones under "**Dynamic Views**") can break your  $\LaTeX$  implementation. If you run into this issue, try re-applying a static theme (one without dynamic elements like slideshows, etc.) and refreshing your blog.

### Typesetting Tips

Blogger (and other services using MathJax) only has support for a stripped down version of  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , so not all of the usual commands will work. Most importantly, to tell Blogger that you want to typeset inline math, you need to wrap your commands with  **$\text{\$ (equation) \$}$** . Likewise, to typeset blocks and use the align environment, wrap your commands with  **$\text{\$\$ (equation) \$\$}$** .

If you have any questions about how to set up your Blogger account or about frequently used commands in  $\text{\LaTeX}$ , let us know! Feel free to ask the TFs in TALC, by email, or on the course Slack.