

Using A Blog to Demonstrate iGoogle Gadgets EDM 310

To use a blog to demonstrate iGoogle Gadgets we must make a few changes to Blogger's Template. Follow these instructions:

1. Go to your Dashboard.
 - a. Create a NEW BLOG for the iGoogle gadgets. The name could be like this: Your First Name Space Your Last Name Space Google Gadget's Blog, e.g. John Strange's Google Gadgets Blog
 - b. For the URL: your first initial your last name iGoogleGadgets.blogspot.com, e.g. jstrangegooglegadgets.blogspot.com (Blogger adds the .blogspot.com automatically).
 - c. Fill in the magic letters and Continue
 - d. Start Posting
 - e.
2. Click on the Layout Tab
3. Near the top of the Layouts window, click on Pick New Template
4. Select Minima as your new template. This is the BEST template for demonstrating Google Gadgets even though you may not like it as a general template for a Blog!
5. Click on Save Template
6. In the TAB area, click on Edit HTML
7. Click on Download Full Template
8. You will be asked what you want to do.
9. Select Save to a File.
10. Close the Download window after it appears.
11. Scroll all the way down on the right
12. Scroll about 95% of the way down using the scroll bar that controls what you can see of the Template's HTML
13. In the Template's HTML look for the following:

```
<div id='header-wrapper'>
  <b:section class='header' id='header' maxwidgets='1' showaddelement='no'>
<b:widget id='Header1' locked='true' title='iGoogle As a Teaching Tool (Header)' type='Header'/
>
</b:section>
</div>

<div id='content-wrapper'>

  <div id='crosscol-wrapper' style='text-align:center'>
    <b:section class='crosscol' id='crosscol' showaddelement='no'/>
  </div>

  <div id='main-wrapper'>
    <b:section class='main' id='main' showaddelement='no'>
<b:widget id='Blog1' locked='true' title='Blog Posts' type='Blog'/>
</b:section>
```

</div>

14. The specific line of code that must be changed is shown above in bold. Change true to false.

Your line should now look like this:

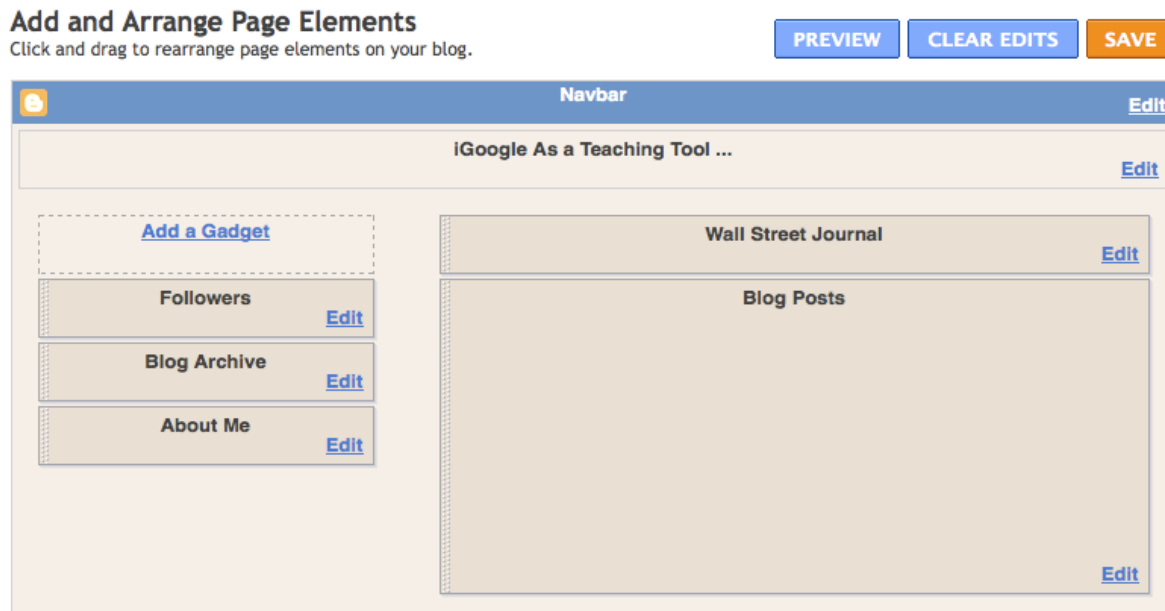
<:widget id='Blog1' locked='false' title='Blog Posts' type='Blog'/>

15. Save Template

16. Click on the Layout Tab to go back to the Layout.

17. Add a Gadget and this gadget MUST be The Wall Street Journal. To get it, Click News on the left. Then choose The Wall Street Journal.

18. Move this Gadget immediately above the Blog Posts Element. Your layout should look like this:



19. Remove the Followers Element and the Blog Archive Element. You remove elements by clicking on Edit in the element's space and then click Remove in the lower left of the window.

20. Drag the Blog Posts above About Me.

21. Drag About Me above Blog Posts. Yes, it must be done in this order!

22. Your Layout should now look like this:

Add and Arrange Page Elements

Click and drag to rearrange page elements on your blog.

PREVIEW

CLEAR EDITS

SAVE



23. Now you are ready to add the gadgets you wish to display on your blog. Select Gadgets that would be useful to you as a TEACHER.
24. ALWAYS LEAVE AT LEAST ONE GADGET IN BOTH COLUMNS OF THE LAYOUT!
Gadgets can be dragged on top of an EXISTING gadget, not into an area below the last gadget or where there is no gadget. You can rearrange gadgets AFTER you add them. That's why we moved the Blog Posts above the About Me element and then moved the About Me element above the Blog Posts Element.
25. When you have finished, add a link to your iGoogle Blog under the Important Links heading on your Master Blog.
26. I may have you make one post indicating why you have selected the gadgets on your blog. If I decide to do this I will inform you through a post on the class blog.
27. If you have trouble, email me.