



The Handbook

Codex

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Update Services](http://codex.wordpress.org/Update_Services)

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Update Services

Common Update Services are tools that you can use to let other people know that you have updated your blog. WordPress automatically notifies popular Update Services that you have updated your blog by sending an [XML-RPC](http://www.xmlrpc.com/) (<http://www.xmlrpc.com/>) [ping](#) each time you create or update a post. In turn, Update Services process the ping and update their proprietary indices with *your* update. Now people browsing sites like Technorati or DayPop can find your most recent posts!

Common Usage

Most people use [Ping-o-Matic](http://www.pingomatic.com) (<http://www.pingomatic.com>) which, with just one "[ping](#)" from you, will let many many other services know that you've updated. As for why, Ping-O-Matic puts it best:

So why would you want to be on these sites? One word: traffic. Blogrolling scripts like blogrolling.com and WordPress check update services to see if you've updated and then they reflect that on everyone's site, usually by moving you to the top of people's blogrolling list or putting a recently updated indicator by your link. Services like [Technorati](http://technorati.com) (<http://technorati.com>) spider your links to tell who is linking to you and who you're linking to, almost in real time. If you show up on someone's Technorati link list for their site (often called an "egorati search") they're likely to visit your site to see what you said, increasing your exposure. Other sites like weblogs.com and blo.gs list the most recently updated blogs and many people browse these to find something new when they're bored. Many of the different services offer their own forms for pinging just that service, but keeping track of all those and hitting each one whenever you update would be a hassle.

WordPress makes this all easy for you by listing ping-o-matic's server (rpc.pingomatic.com) by default. All you need to do is sit back and let it do the work for you!

If you do not want the update services to be pinged, remove all the update service URLs listed under "Update Services" on the Options->Writing administration screen of your WordPress installation.

Alternatives

However, if you're interested in manual configuration, [Elliott Back](http://elliottback.com/wp/archives/2004/11/21/a-list-of-rpc-and-rpc2-to-ping/) (<http://elliottback.com/wp/archives/2004/11/21/a-list-of-rpc-and-rpc2-to-ping/>) has a long list of Update Services, and [Master New Media](http://www.masternewmedia.org/news/2004/11/10/increase_visibility_in_blog_and.htm) (http://www.masternewmedia.org/news/2004/11/10/increase_visibility_in_blog_and.htm) offers advice on usage.

For bloggers who want to notify services of new posts, but not send any notification when editing already published posts, there is a [a simple, user-friendly plugin](http://www.daven.se/english/wp-plugins.html) (<http://www.daven.se/english/wp-plugins.html>).