



## **The Handbook**

### **Codex**

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Writing\\_Options\\_SubPanel](http://codex.wordpress.org/Writing_Options_SubPanel)

### **Version Date**

9 August 2005

# Writing Options SubPanel

## Options → Writing

Using this Writing Options SubPanel, you can control the interface with which you write new posts. These settings control both WordPress' included [Write Post SubPanel](#) and the optional [Writing by e-mail](#) feature.

## Writing Options

When writing posts, show [    ]

Choose either **Simple controls** (the [Write Post SubPanel's Basic Post Editing](#) mode) or **Advanced controls** (the [Write Post SubPanel's Advanced Post Editing](#) mode).

Choosing **Simple controls** only sets the default behavior. You can still access the **Advanced controls** by clicking the "**Advanced Editing**" button in the [Write Post SubPanel's Basic Post Editing](#) mode.

Size of the writing box

Enter how large, in number of lines, you want the big text box where you enter the content of your post to be. This does *not* limit the size of the actual post; if you write a post that is longer than the size of the writing box, the text box will grow a scrollbar. A small writing box size means everything will fit nicely on your screen, a large writing box size means you won't have to scroll within the writing box as much when writing longer posts.

Formatting

You can use these two checkboxes to control some of your blog's formatting.

- **Convert Emoticons** - Checking this checkbox tells wordpress to convert all of the emoticons in your posts into graphical smilies. For more information on this feature, see [Using Smilies](#).
- **Correct invalidly nested XHTML** - Checking this checkbox helps make sure that what you write in your posts is valid [XHTML](#) code. You should probably check this box since invalid code sometimes causes problems with web browsers. Sometimes, though, certain plugins don't work well with WordPress when this feature is turned on.

Default post category

The category you select from this dropdown will be the default category checked when you write a new post. If you have several categories, but post to one more frequently, select that category here to make your life a little easier.

Newly registered members [    ]

This option determines with what writing privileges (if any) new users start. This is an especially important option to set if you allow [anyone to create an account](#) on your blog.

- **Cannot write articles** - New users cannot write posts. Newly registered users are assigned [User Level 0](#).
- **May submit drafts for review** - New users can write only [Draft](#) posts. Drafts are not published to your site until they are published. Only users at [User Level 2](#) and higher can publish a post. If this option is set, new users are

- assigned [User Level 1](#).
- **May publish articles** - New users have full publishing privileges and new users are created with [User Level 2](#).

## Update Services

To quote the SubPanel itself:

When you publish a new post WordPress can notify site update services. For more about this see [Update Services](#) on the Codex.

## Writing by e-mail

In this section of the Writing SubPanel, you can set up the feature that allows you to send e-mail messages to a specific address and have those messages be published on your blog as posts. You will need to set up a special e-mail address for this purpose. More than likely, you will need the help of your web host and/or your e-mail provider. This feature is 100% optional; you can still publish posts from the [Write Post SubPanel](#) if you don't want to use or don't want to bother with the Writing by e-mail feature.

### Mail server

A mailserver receives emails on your behalf and stores them for retrieval. Your mailserver will have a URI address, such as mail.example.com, which you should enter here.

### Port

Servers usually use port 110 to receive requests related to e-mails. If your mailserver uses a different port, enter that port number here.

### Login name

If the e-mail address that you will be using for the writing by e-mail feature is wordpress@example.com, then 'wordpress' is the **Login name**.

### Password

Enter the password for the above e-mail address here.

### Default post by mail category

WordPress will publish all of the posts it receives from this Writing by e-mail feature into the category you select here. If you want to create a new category for e-mailed posts, you should do so first at the [Manage Categories SubPanel](#). For example, if you have already created a category called "Fresh Mail" to which you want to publish all e-mailed posts, you should select that category here. By default, all e-mail posts are published in the General category; if that is the way you want it to be, then do not change this option.

### Update Options

Click this button to save all of configuration settings on the SubPanel. If you don't click the button, nothing will be saved.