



The Handbook

Codex

[http://codex.wordpress.org/Your Profile SubPanel](http://codex.wordpress.org/Your_Profile_SubPanel)

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Your Profile SubPanel

Users → Your Profile

This **Your Profile** SubPanel is the default SubPanel for the [User Administration Panel](#). Here you can specify your name and how it will be displayed on your site, your e-mail address (for administrative purposes) and other personal information.

Profile

The only pieces of information WordPress requires you to include in your profile are your **e-mail address** and a **nickname**. It should be noted that WordPress requires your email address only for your blog's administration purposes. The email address is never sent to any other site (not even to the people at WordPress headquarters), and it is never displayed on your site (unless you put it there manually). Only the other *registered* users of your blog have access to the e-mail address you provide.

Note: it is *possible* for a theme to display your e-mail address (and the e-mail addresses of your other registered users) on your site, since the [the_author_email](#) template tag can be used for such purposes. This would be a poorly conceived theme, however, if it didn't inform you of that before you downloaded it. Neither of the themes included with WordPress display any e-mail address anywhere on your site by default.

All of the other personal information asked for here is *optional*, and, again, it is never sent to any other site or person. It *may* be displayed on your site, however, depending on the theme you use, so you should test things out with your particular theme if you're at all paranoid (and a bit of paranoia regarding your personal information is healthy). See [the_author](#) and related template tags for information on how to display this information on your site (and, consequently, how to ensure the theme you use does/does not display any of this information). Typically, however, themes only display your "[preferred identity](#)".

Login

You cannot edit your own login name. Only the **admin** account (or some other user with a higher [User Level](#)) can change your login name. However, no one else ever needs to see your login name, so there's not much need to ever change it. See [below](#).

Level

Neither can you alter your own [User Level](#). However, you can see what it is by looking here.

Posts

This displays the number of posts you have written. You can't edit this number directly, but you can, of course, write more posts to increase it!

First Name

You may enter your first name in this text box. See [below](#).

Last Name

Likewise, you may enter your last name in this text box. See [below](#).

Profile

You may enter a short description of yourself here. This information is not displayed

by either the default [Kubrick Theme](http://boren.nu/archives/2004/10/10/kubrick-130-rc2/) (<http://boren.nu/archives/2004/10/10/kubrick-130-rc2/>) or the classic theme included with WordPress. However, either of these themes may be customized to display this description somewhere, and other [themes available for download](#) may automatically. See [the_author_description](#) template tag.

Nickname

A nickname is required for every user. It may be the same as your **login** name, or may be different. See [below](#).

E-mail

All users are required to list an e-mail address in their respective profiles. Your blog will use this address to notify you of new comments to your posts and for other administrative purposes. To reiterate what was said above, only other registered users of your blog will have access to this e-mail address. It is *never* sent anywhere.

ICQ

You may enter your [ICQ](http://icq.com/) (<http://icq.com/>) number here. For information on how to display this on your site, see the [the_author_icq](#) template tag.

AIM

You may enter your [AIM](http://www.aim.com/) (<http://www.aim.com/>) screenname here. For information on how to display this on your site, see the [the_author_aim](#) template tag.

MSN IM

You may enter your [MSN Messenger](http://messenger.msn.com/) (<http://messenger.msn.com/>) name here. For information on how to display this on your site, see the [the_author_msn](#) template tag.

Yahoo IM

You may enter your [Yahoo Messenger](http://messenger.yahoo.com/) (<http://messenger.yahoo.com/>) ID here. For information on how to display this on your site, see the [the_author_yim](#) template tag.

Identity on blog

Using this dropdown you can specify how you are cited on your blog. You can choose from several of the above pieces of information: **Nickname**, **Login name**, **First Name**, **Last Name**, "**First Last**", or "**Last First**". If you prefer "**Last, First**", insert a comma after your last name in the **Last Name** text box above and choose the last option from this dropdown.

New Password

You can change your password by entering it twice: once each in each of these two text boxes. Leaving these text boxes blank will keep the password you are currently using.

Update Profile

The most important item on this SubPanel. Clicking this button will save the changes you have made to your profile.

Sidebar

The WordPress SideBar is a narrow side-window that can be displayed in some web browsers by clicking a bookmark. To save that bookmark in your web browser, click the link provided in this box. Clicking your new bookmark will display the sidebar from which you can add new posts or load any of your blog's [Administration Panels](#) into your web browser's main window.

The sidebar does not function in all web browsers.