

A photograph of a desk setup. In the foreground, a laptop is open, displaying a website with a landscape image. To the left of the laptop is a black pen holder containing several pens and a pair of scissors. A smartphone is also on the desk. In the background, there is a window with white horizontal blinds. The text 'Blogger Template Design' is overlaid in large white letters, and 'By Abhishek Bagul' is overlaid in smaller white letters below it. At the bottom, 'SAMPLE COPY – NOT FOR SALE' is written in red.

# Blogger Template Design

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By Abhishek Bagul

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## **Blogger Template Design [SAMPLE COPY]**

<https://leanpub.com/blogger-template-design>

Learn to create custom blogger templates. Learn to create custom post layout, pagination, related post and template layout.

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**Dedicated to,**  
All Curious People.

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## Introduction:

Blogger was originally created by Pyra Labs in 1999. It was mainly launched for the same purpose as it is for today. In 2003 Google owned Pyra Labs. When Google owned Blogger it was not as much user friendly and beautiful as it is today. So, in 2006 Google redesigned all the pages of it and launched it in the BETA version. The update was very effective and many people preferred to use blogger. But as time passed blogger has started to suffer from the unauthorised, sexual content problems. To avoid such problems in 2015 Blogger updated their policies and banned those content. That is what the history of blogger. But our main aim is to *create the blogger theme*.

Creating a blogger theme when you have no knowledge of it is a challenging task. That's why it has provided with the inbuilt theme builder. But as we look at it, the theme builder tends to have some limitations in it. So, creating the custom template is always best then the provided one. The customization allows us to create the website as per our need. For creating a blogger template you must have the knowledge of HTML, CSS, JavaScript and jQuery. These are the main structure as well as functional components of blogger theme. Creating the blogger template is similar as we solve the puzzle game. We need to arrange all the pieces at perfect position to create a beautiful picture. We will look further about it.

This book will help you to create the various parts of blogger template as well as to customize them. We will go from the start of creating a blog on blogger and solving each and every parameter in it. At last you will have a beautiful blogger template along with the satisfaction of creating it on your own.

## 1. Working of Blogger

Understanding of how blogger works is important for creating a blogger template. Blogger mainly a XHTML platform. When we try to open the blog on blogger it sends request to the blogger page. Then blogger checks on its database where there is such blog available or not. If the blog is available it gets the content of the blog and its styles. So getting content in return is not enough as it is almost unreadable and mixed. So blogger arranges the content perfectly and generates the html code for the same. The same html code is displayed on our device.

The process of working of blogger can be simply understood by the figure 1.1 (Working of blogger).

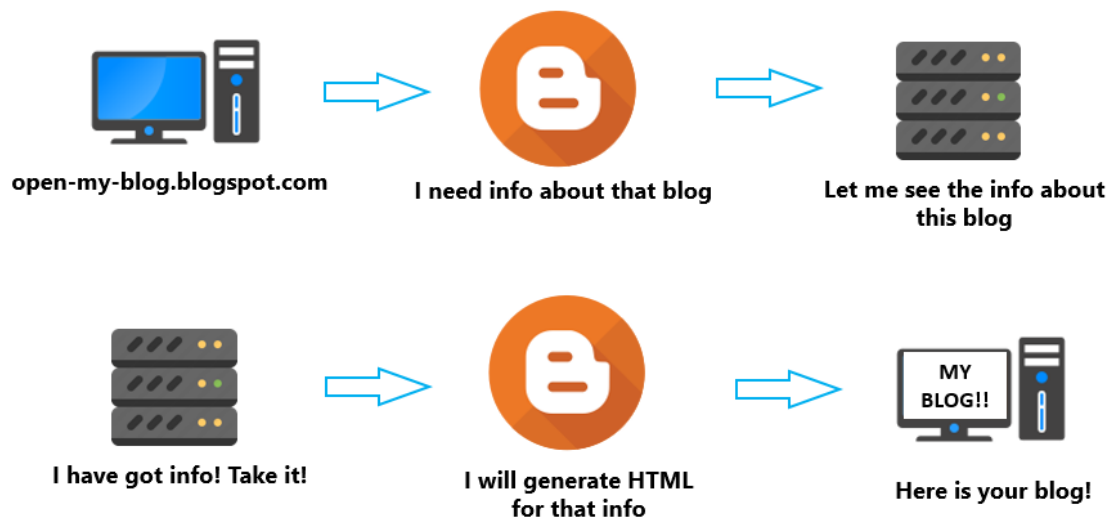


Figure 1.1 : Working of blogger

Blogger is the intermediate platform between our device and the database. It sends the request to server and also creates the HTML for the received data.



### Why understanding the process is necessary?

When blogger gets data from the database it don't know where he has to place that data. So we need to define the positions of the data places so that it become easy to place the data to blogger and to get the results we want.

## 2. Basic Terms

### 2.1 XML Namespaces:

I hope you have a blogger account with you. If you don't have your blogger account then you have picked up the wrong book. To create a blogger template first we will create a blog in our blogger account. After creating the blog go to the **Template** section of your blog. Select the simplest theme from there. So, it will be become much easy for you to create the template of your own. After selecting the template click on

the **EDIT HTML** button. Which will show you the result as shown in Figure 2.1 (EDIT HTML Result).

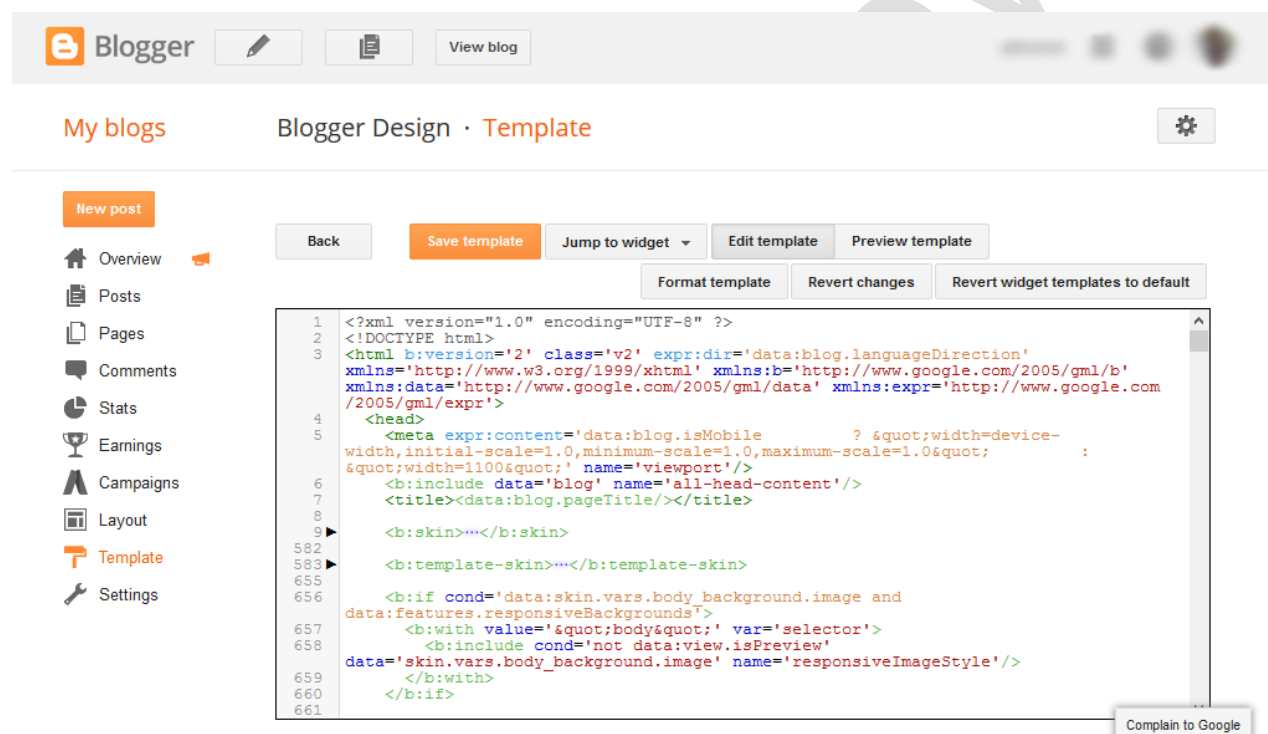


Figure 2.1 : EDIT HTML result

As we see the template itself is coded in XHTML as well as with some of blogger code is also there. For example if we take the html tag from the code it is like:

```
<html b:version='2'
class='v2'
expr:dir='data:blog.languageDirection' xmlns='http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml'
xmlns:b='http://www.google.com/2005/gml/b'
xmlns:data='http://www.google.com/2005/gml/data'
xmlns:expr='http://www.google.com/2005/gml/expr'>
```

In this code there are some XML namespaces (xmlns:b, xmlns:data, xmlns:expr) which and some XML namespaces (expr:dir) are defined by Google and these name tells blogger about what values should be there. i.e. As we have seen earlier the blogger database sends some data in return this data is placed at this locations.

To access those data which we get from server side can be accessed by various methods. If you have to just call the data as a text you can simply use `<data:*/>` but if you want this data in the attribute format you need add `expr:*` to the attribute. And then you can access the data inside the quote. For example:

```
<!-- It will directly show the title -->
<data:blog.pageTitle/>

<!--It will set the title as value for input -->
<input expr:value="data:blog.pageTitle"/>
```

Those two are the example to access the data of blog title. In the first case it will directly show up the title. But in second case it will set the data as input value. You can try putting above code in body section of your blogger template to easily understand the output. There are various data which we get from the server and we will discuss about it further. You can look on various name spaces in Appendix-I.

## 2.2 Sections

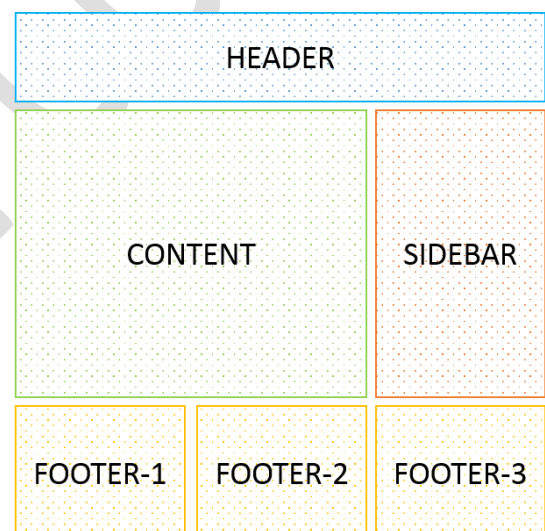
Sections is the syntax defining the group of widgets. Blogger template is divided into many sections like header, footer, main body content, sidebar etc. These sections contains various widgets in it. Figure 2.2 (Sections in blogger template) will help you to understand the sections.

Not necessary that the section layout will be same for all templates. You can customize it as per your need. The section element may be expandable or nonexpandable depending on the values we set in its attributes.

Code of sections:

```
<b:section id='' maxwidgets='' name=''
showaddelement=''>

</b:section>
```



*Figure Error! No text of specified style in document.Error! No text of specified style in document.Error! No text of specified style in document.-2.2 : Sections in Blogger Template*

In above code example *maxwidgets* defines the maximum size of widget the section contain. If the value of *maxwidgets* is set for 3 then the section can contain maximum 3 widgets in it. *Name* defines the text to be displayed in the layout section. This attribute is not necessary but It clears in layout that which section we are dealing with to add the widget. *Showaddelement* used for defining that we can add elements to the section or not. If the value is set to true then we can add the elements into the section. If it is set to no then it won't show the add element option on the layout page. If there

are less than two sections then blogger assumes the template is broken and provides the error. So it must to have minimum two sections in your template.

## 2.3 Widgets

Widgets, are placed inside the section. Widgets may be of various type. It may be locked one (which user cant remove) like Blogger Credit Link or Header Title. Some of the widgets are removable by user. A section can contain number of widgets if *maxwidget* count is not defined for the section.

As we see in the figure 2.3 (Widgets in a section) it makes us clear that what section dose. As we seen earlier about `data:blog.*` widget has different way to call the widget data. This widget data can be accessed only inside `b:widget`.

There are some additional data name spaces for each blogger widget. The same you can do with data. Data in short can be defined using 'd'. We will look about it in Appendix-II.



Figure 2.3 : Widgets in a section

```
<b:widget id='' locked='' title='' type='' visible=''>
</b:widget>
```

Above is the example of `<b:widget>`. For a widget it must have a id which consist of letters and numbers only. This widget id cannot be used by other elements on the page. Without the id the blogger will show you error. The next attribute is *locked* which defines that whether the element is removable by the user or not. If the value of locked is set to true it can't be removed by the user. If it is set to false then it can be removed by the user. Next attribute is *title* it is the optional attribute and it is used to show up the name of the widget on the layout page. "*type*" is the next attribute, It is used to define the type for the widget. The various types of widgets are Blog, Blog Archive, Feed, Header, Link, Single Image, Logo, Blog Profile, HTML, Navbar, Link List. The next attribute if *visible* it is used to define that the widget should be visible to user or not.

## 2.4 Include & Includable:

When we look at the widget in blogger it consists of the many *include* and *includable* elements. *Includable* element is a bunch of children elements having defined id. Where the *include* is used to define the various positions to place all the elements in *includable*. For example, if we had a code like shown below.

```
<b:include name="the_image"></b:include>
<b:includable id="the_image">
```

```
  
</b:includable>
```

The above code will result like,

```

```

In short, the code inside the includable element (for id *the\_image*) will be placed inside the includable element (for the name *the\_image*). The includable & include elements having same id and name will only show the above results.

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Author of [themedaddy.net](#) has created many blogger templates and also has many popular websites. His main talent is creating blogger templates and he had created many blogger templates.



- Bloggr Layout Design
- Blogger Widget system
- Custom post template design
- Pagination Script
- Related Post widget
- And much more..