

# Blog Application – User Manual

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## 1. Introduction

Welcome to the Blog Application! This platform allows you to read blog posts, interact with the community by leaving comments, and manage your own content. Administrators have additional powers to create, edit, delete, and pin posts, as well as view all users and their comments.

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## 2. Getting Started

### 2.1 Registration

1. Click **Register** in the top navigation bar.
2. Fill in your **First Name, Last Name, Email, Password, and Confirm Password**.
3. Click **Register**. You will be redirected to the login page with a success message.

### 2.2 Login

1. Click **Login**.
2. Enter your **Email and Password**.
3. Complete the **reCAPTCHA** verification.
4. Click **Login**. On success, you will be taken to the homepage.

### 2.3 Password Reset

If you forget your password, click **Forgot your password?** on the login page. Enter your email address; if it exists in the system, you will see a message indicating that an account was found (no email is actually sent in this demo). Contact an administrator for a manual reset.

## 3. User Guide (Regular Users)

### 3.1 Browsing Blog Posts

- The homepage displays blog posts with pagination (5 per page). Use the **Previous/Next** buttons or page numbers to navigate.
- Use the sorting buttons above the posts to sort by **Newest First, Oldest First, Title A-Z,** or **Author A-Z.**
- Each post card shows a preview, author, date, and comment count.

### 3.2 Viewing a Post and Comments

- Click **View Post & Comments** on any post to see the full content and all comments.
- Comments are listed newest first. If you are logged in, you will see **Edit** and **Delete** buttons on your own comments.

### 3.3 Adding a Comment

- While viewing a post, click **Add Comment** (or use the dropdown in the navbar).
- Enter your comment in the textarea and click **Submit Comment.**

### 3.4 Editing Your Comment

- On a post page, click **Edit** on your comment.
- Modify the text and click **Update Comment.**

### 3.5 Deleting Your Comment

- Click **Delete** on your comment.
- Check the confirmation checkbox and click **Delete Comment**.

### 3.6 Changing Your Password

- Click **Change Password** in the navbar.
  - Enter your current password, new password, and confirm. Click **Change Password**.
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## 4. Administrator Guide

### 4.1 Logging In as Admin

- Use the admin credentials: admin@example.com / AdminPass123. (Admin ID is 9.)
- After login, you will see an **Admin** badge and additional navigation links: **Create Blog Post** and **View Users**.

### 4.2 Creating a Blog Post

- Click **Create Blog Post**.
- Enter a title and the post body. Check **Pin this post to the top of the blog** if desired.
- Click **Create Blog Post**.

### 4.3 Editing a Blog Post

- On the homepage, click **Edit** on any post (visible only to admin).
- Modify the title, body, or pin status, then click **Update Blog Post**.

#### 4.4 Deleting a Blog Post

- Click **Delete** on a post.
- Read the warning, check the confirmation box, and click **Delete Blog Post**. All associated comments will also be deleted.

#### 4.5 Pinning/Unpinning a Post

- Click **Pin** or **Unpin** on a post. Pinned posts always appear at the top of the list regardless of sort order.

#### 4.6 Viewing Users and Their Comments

- Click **View Users**.
  - The left column lists all registered users. Click a user to see their details and all comments they have made, with links to the original posts.
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## **5. Troubleshooting and FAQ**

### **Q: I can't log in.**

A: Ensure your email and password are correct. If you've forgotten your password, use the "Forgot your password?" link or contact an admin.

### **Q: I don't see the "Add Comment" button.**

A: You must be logged in to comment. If you are logged in and still don't see it, ensure you are viewing a valid post.

### **Q: I tried to edit someone else's comment, but I got an error.**

A: Only the comment owner or an admin can edit comments.

### **Q: How do I know if a post is pinned?**

A: Pinned posts have a blue thumbtack icon and a "Pinned" badge on the homepage.

### **Q: What happens when I delete a blog post?**

A: All comments on that post are also deleted permanently.

### **Q: The page doesn't look right on my phone.**

A: The site is fully responsive. If you encounter layout issues, try refreshing or clearing your browser cache.