

ArtfulBits Blog

For Microsoft® SharePoint®



User Guide

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Overview

ArtfulBits Blog web part is intended to enhance the standard SharePoint blog functionality. It complements and extends its features by the possibility to add a video or a zoomable image, and preview it. Also, it provides tags for the blog entries, supports the categorization and tags cloud, filters the entries by category or tag, allows for the configurable global settings (i.e. item count on page, tag cloud limit, etc.) and many more.

General view:

The screenshot displays a SharePoint blog page with a dark blue header containing 'Site Actions' and a user profile 'spuser'. A search bar is located in the top right. The left sidebar features a navigation menu with 'Articles' (containing 'SharePoint How-to Articles', 'SharePoint4Business', and 'Fun jokes about SharePoint'), 'Settings', 'Archive', and 'Links'. Below the menu is a tag cloud with categories like 'Tips', 'MS_Office', 'Advantages', 'Fun', 'SharePoint Services', 'Authentication', 'Design', and 'Document Recovery'. The main content area shows two blog posts. The first post, 'Integrated Document Management and Sharing', dated 5/30/2014, includes a video thumbnail and a comment from 'spuser' dated 6/10/2014. The second post, 'Server-to-server authentication in SharePoint 2013', dated 5/30/2014, includes a globe image and a comment from 'System Account' dated 6/13/2014. Both posts have 'Read more' links and comment counts.

ArtfulBits blog provide a lot of comfortable features that would benefit both - an author and a reader. Configurable menu, tag cloud, article entries, comments, fan counter, reply comment option, image and video preview. Each article is prescribed a certain category and the keywords, that provide a simple and intuitive method for browsing through different topics, and finding the information.

General look for anonymous users:

The screenshot displays a SharePoint site interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Site Actions' and a 'Sign In' link. A search bar is located on the right side of the page. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main article area. The sidebar contains a list of articles under the 'Articles' section, including 'SharePoint How-to Articles', 'SharePoint4Business', and 'Fun jokes about SharePoint'. Below the articles, there are sections for 'Settings', 'Archive', and 'Links'. The main article area shows three articles. The first article is 'Integrated Document Management and Sharing' by System Account, dated 5/30/2014. The second article is 'Server-to-server authentication in SharePoint 2013' by System Account, dated 5/30/2014. The third article is 'Sharepoint jokes' by System Account, dated 5/30/2014. Each article includes a title, a date, a byline, a short description, and a 'Read more' link. The first article also has a comment from 'spuser' dated 6/10/2014. The second article has a comment from 'System Account' dated 6/13/2014. The third article has a comment from 'System Account' dated 5/30/2014. The sidebar also features a 'Links' section with various categories and counts, such as 'Tips 3', 'MS_Office 2', 'Advantages 2', 'Fun 1', 'SharePoint Services 1', 'Authentication 1', 'Design 0', and 'Document Recovery 0'.

Site Actions Sign In

Search this site...

Articles

- SharePoint How-to Articles
- SharePoint4Business
- Fun jokes about SharePoint

Settings

Archive

Links

Tips 3 MS_Office 2

Advantages 2 Fun 1

SharePoint Services 1

Authentication 1 Design 0

Document Recovery 0

Integrated Document Management and Sharing

5/30/2014 8:46:46 PM by System Account

Document management and sharing are the most important features of Windows SharePoint Services. You can use these features to create, manage, and share documents easily. Because these features are integrated with Office 2007, you can easi ...

[Read more](#)

Show all comments (4)

spuser 6/10/2014 7:18:01 PM

Support of categorization and tagging for blog entries
Configurable global settings (i.e. item count on page, tag cloud limit, footer text, branding theme, etc.)
Comments system (including likes, replies)
Use of SharePoint profile service to display commenter's profile picture
Anonymous access support
Possibility of adding video/zoomable image to blog entry view & preview
Rich blog entry body text editor (supports standard SharePoint html editor)

0 + | - 0

Server-to-server authentication in SharePoint 2013

5/30/2014 8:29:55 PM by System Account

Server-to-server authentication is the validation of a server's request for resources that is based on a trust relationship established between the STS of the server that runs SharePoint 2013 and the STS of another server that supports the OAuth ...

[Read more](#)

System Account 6/13/2014 5:16:08 PM

Server-to-server authentication is the validation of a server's request for resources that is based on a trust relationship established between the STS of the server that runs SharePoint 2013 and the STS of another server that supports the OAuth server-to-server protocol, such as on-premises running SharePoint 2013, Exchange Server 2013, Lync Server 2013, or Azure Workflow Service, and SharePoint 2013 running in Office 365. Based on this trust relationship, a requesting server can access secured resources on the SharePoint server on behalf of a specified user account, subject to server and user permissions.

1 + | - 0

Sharepoint jokes

5/30/2014 8:17:45 PM by System Account

What do you call a smiling, SOBER courteous person at the SharePoint 2014 conference? A: The caterer

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some SharePoint consultants appear bright until you hear them speak.

A good SharePoint c ...

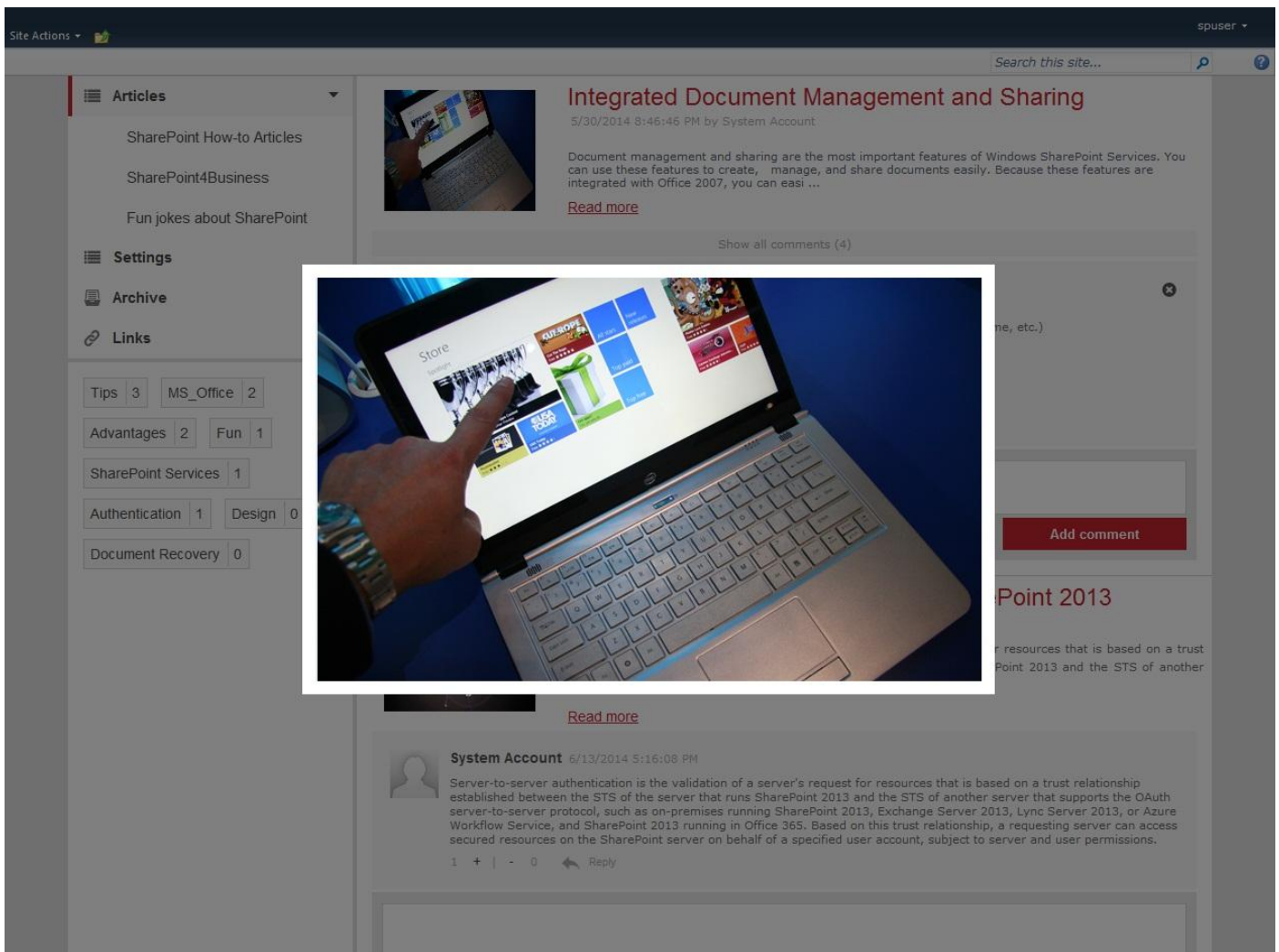
The registration is not required for reading ArtfulBits Blog on SharePoint site. Any unregistered user can view the articles and comments, click images and view videos. Certainly, leaving the comments is available only for the registered users.

General look for blog administrator:

The screenshot displays the SharePoint blog administrator interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Site Actions' and 'Browse' buttons, and a search bar labeled 'Search this site...'. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a right main area. The sidebar contains a menu with 'Articles' (expanded to show 'SharePoint How-to Articles', 'SharePoint4Business', and 'Fun jokes about SharePoint'), 'Settings', 'Archive', and 'Links'. Below the menu are several filter buttons: 'Tips 3', 'MS_Office 2', 'Advantages 2', 'Fun 1', 'SharePoint Services 1', 'Authentication 1', 'Design 0', and 'Document Recovery 0'. The main area features an 'Add article' form with a category dropdown set to 'SharePoint How-to Articles' and a 'Tags' field. Below the form is a large text area with a link that says 'Click here to add new content'. Underneath the form is an 'Attach video/picture' button and a 'Publish' button. The main area also displays a list of articles. The first article is titled 'Integrated Document Management and Sharing' by 'System Account' on 5/30/2014. It includes a thumbnail image of a laptop and a 'Read more' link. Below the article is a comment section with a 'Show all comments (4)' link. A comment from 'spuser' on 6/10/2014 is visible, listing several features like 'Support of categorization and tagging for blog entries' and 'Configurable global settings'. At the bottom of the comment section is a 'Reply' button and a '0' count. At the very bottom of the main area is an 'Add comment' button.

An administrator of the blog is provided with a simple and comfortable method of adding new articles. A text in the article can be easily edited, so that the users were entertained when reading through it.

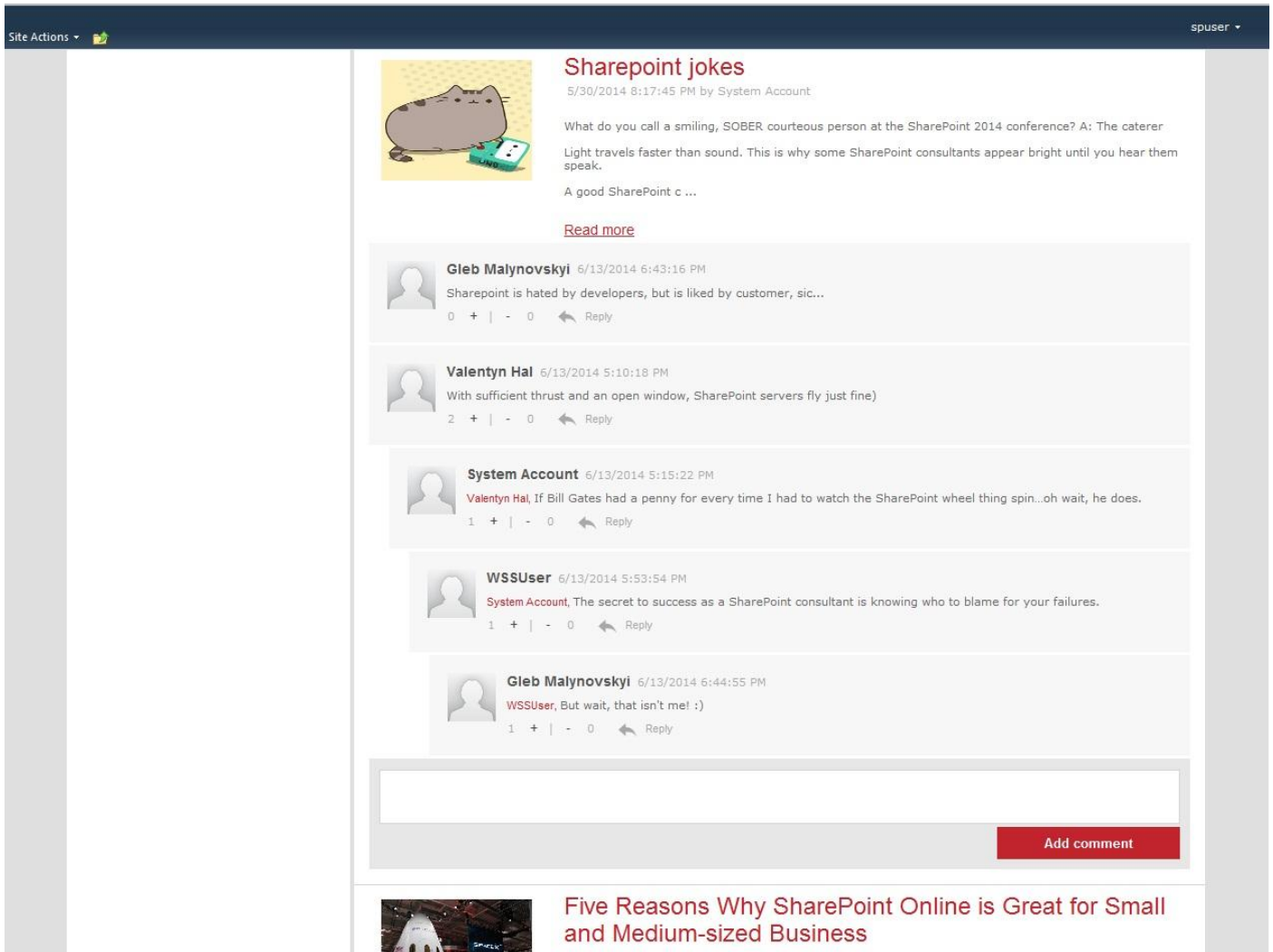
Zoomable preview image:




The image shows a screenshot of a SharePoint article page. The article title is "Integrated Document Management and Sharing" by System Account, dated 5/30/2014. The article text discusses document management and sharing features in Windows SharePoint Services. A zoomed-in image of a laptop screen is overlaid on the article, showing a hand pointing at a "Store" tile on the Windows Start menu. The background page includes a left-hand navigation menu with sections like "Articles", "Settings", "Archive", and "Links". There are also comment sections with "Add comment" buttons and a "Read more" link.

Picture preview provides an additional insight before diving into an article.

Comment system:



The screenshot displays a SharePoint page with a dark blue header. On the left, there is a 'Site Actions' menu with a plus icon. On the right, the user 'spuser' is logged in. The main content area features a post titled 'Sharepoint jokes' by 'System Account' from 5/30/2014. The post includes a cartoon image of Pusheen the cat with a smartphone and a text-based joke. Below the post, there are five comments from users: Gleb Malynovskiy, Valentyn Hal, System Account, WSSUser, and Gleb Malynovskiy. Each comment shows the user's profile picture, name, timestamp, and the text of the comment. Below each comment are icons for liking (+), disliking (-), and replying (Reply). At the bottom of the comment section, there is a text input field and a red 'Add comment' button. Below the comment section, there is a promotional banner for 'Five Reasons Why SharePoint Online is Great for Small and Medium-sized Business' with a small image of a server rack.

Site Actions  spuser

Sharepoint jokes


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Light travels faster than sound. This is why some SharePoint consultants appear bright until you hear them speak.


A good SharePoint c ...


[Read more](#)

 **Gleb Malynovskiy** 6/13/2014 6:43:16 PM
Sharepoint is hated by developers, but is liked by customer, sic...
0 + | - 0 [Reply](#)


 **Valentyn Hal** 6/13/2014 5:10:18 PM
With sufficient thrust and an open window, SharePoint servers fly just fine)
2 + | - 0 [Reply](#)

 **System Account** 6/13/2014 5:15:22 PM
Valentyn Hal, If Bill Gates had a penny for every time I had to watch the SharePoint wheel thing spin...oh wait, he does.
1 + | - 0 [Reply](#)

 **WSSUser** 6/13/2014 5:53:54 PM
System Account, The secret to success as a SharePoint consultant is knowing who to blame for your failures.
1 + | - 0 [Reply](#)

 **Gleb Malynovskiy** 6/13/2014 6:44:55 PM
WSSUser, But wait, that isn't me! :)
1 + | - 0 [Reply](#)

[Add comment](#)

 **Five Reasons Why SharePoint Online is Great for Small and Medium-sized Business**

The users can leave comments, reply each other and rate comments.

Archive page:

The screenshot shows a SharePoint site's archive page for May 2014. The page is divided into a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains navigation links for 'Articles', 'Settings', and 'Archive'. Under 'Archive', it shows the month 'May 2014' and a 'Links' section with various category counts: Tips (3), MS_Office (2), Advantages (2), Fun (1), SharePoint Services (1), Authentication (1), Design (0), and Document Recovery (0). The main content area displays a list of five blog entries, each with a thumbnail image, a title, a date and time, the author, and a brief description. Each entry includes a 'Read more' link.

Site Actions spuser

Search this site...

Articles

Settings

Archive

May 2014

Links


Tips 3 MS_Office 2


Advantages 2 Fun 1


SharePoint Services 1


Authentication 1 Design 0


Document Recovery 0

 **Integrated Document Management and Sharing**
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[Read more](#)

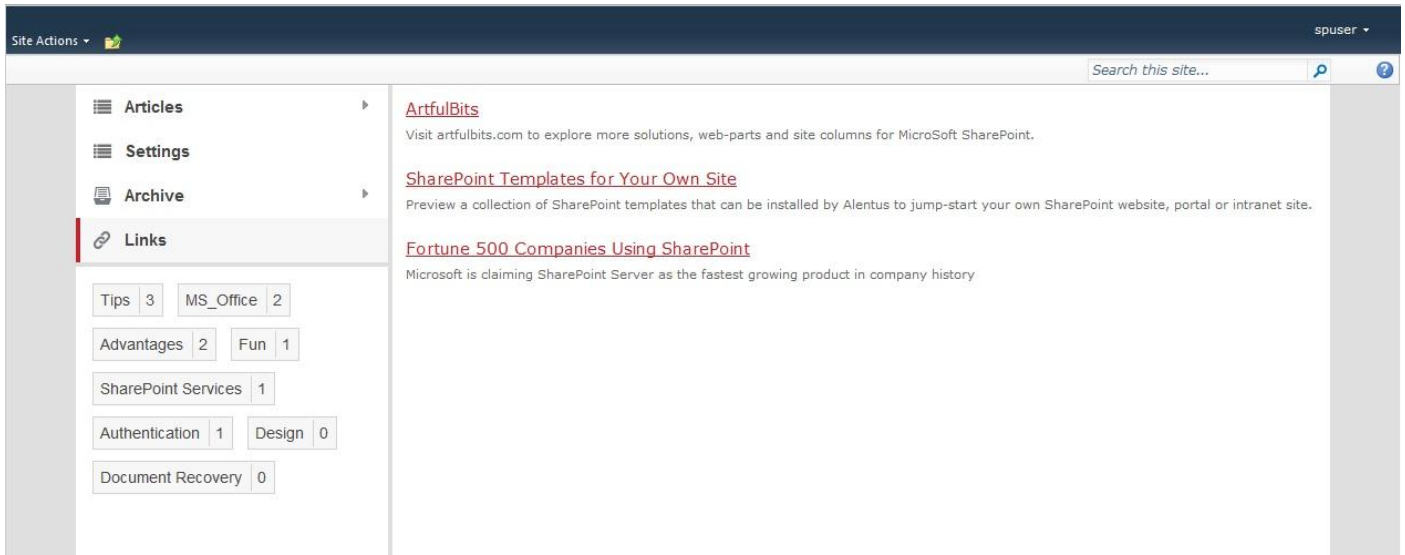
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Light travels faster than sound. This is why some SharePoint consultants appear bright until you hear them speak.
A good SharePoint c ...
[Read more](#)

 **Five Reasons Why SharePoint Online is Great for Small and Medium-sized Business**
5/19/2014 6:17:57 PM by System Account
Recently over the last months I have been trying to persuade Small Medium-sized Businesses (SMBs) to try out SharePoint Online, and upon using it they all loved it. It intrigues me that a solution that has been noted as an Enterprise Solution, becam ...
[Read more](#)

 **Benefits of SharePoint Intranet**
5/19/2014 4:23:29 PM by System Account
Today more than ever, organizations need to **increase their competitiveness**, which implies the need to promote innovation, improve productivity and reduce costs.
To this end, **improve and promote collaboration** among the members of ...
[Read more](#)

Archive page is configurable, and it displays all blog entries without the comments. All entries are sorted by the month of publishing.

Links page:



The screenshot shows a SharePoint interface with a dark blue header. On the left, there is a navigation menu with the following items: Articles, Settings, Archive, and Links (which is highlighted with a red bar). Below the menu, there are several buttons representing different categories and their counts: Tips (3), MS_Office (2), Advantages (2), Fun (1), SharePoint Services (1), Authentication (1), Design (0), and Document Recovery (0). The main content area on the right displays a list of links:

- [ArtfulBits](#)
Visit artfulbits.com to explore more solutions, web-parts and site columns for MicroSoft SharePoint.
- [SharePoint Templates for Your Own Site](#)
Preview a collection of SharePoint templates that can be installed by Aletus to jump-start your own SharePoint website, portal or intranet site.
- [Fortune 500 Companies Using SharePoint](#)
Microsoft is claiming SharePoint Server as the fastest growing product in company history.

ArtfulBits Blog users will benefit from the helpful information that can be placed by administrator on the link page.

Feature List

Feature	SharePoint Server 2010	SharePoint Server 2013
Support of categorization and tagging for blog entries	✓	✓
Configurable global settings (i.e. item count on page, tag cloud limit, footer text, branding theme, etc.)	✓	✓
Comments system (including likes, replies)	✓	✓
Use of SharePoint profile service to display commenter's profile picture	✓	✓
Anonymous access support	✓	✓
Possibility of adding video/zoomable image to blog entry view & preview	✓	✓
Rich blog entry body text editor (supports standard SharePoint html editor)	✓	✓
Rich pagination	✓	✓
"Read more/less" & "Show more comments" blog entry preview functionality	✓	✓
Filtering by category/tag	✓	✓
Archive page (supports filtering by month)	✓	✓
Links page (supports adding custom links)	✓	✓
Configurable menu (supports adding custom menu links or changing existing)	✓	✓
Easy to install (site template)	✓	✓
Expandable (features may be added by request)	✓	✓
Language pack support (desired localization can be added by request)	✓	✓

Why ArtfulBits Blog?

ArtfulBits Blog is a powerful solution that significantly enhances the standard SharePoint functionality and provides free additional features – Image Column and Video Column.

Configuration

In order to configure **ArtfulBits Blog** you need to complete several steps:

1. Install ArtfulBits Blog, ArtfulBits Video column and ArtfulBits Image Upload column (all required setup files are included into the ArtfulBits Blog package)
2. Activate ArtfulBits Blog Template feature (site collection features)
3. Create new site (new site -> Artfulbits Blog)
4. In order to view blog entries users must have read permissions for “NewsItems”, “Tags”, “Categories”, “Settings” Lists (by default – all authenticated).
5. In order to post comments users must have write permissions for “Comments” and “Likes” List (by default – all authenticated).

How to Use

Solution consists of:

1. Main page:
servername/sitename/_layouts/ABBlog/news.aspx
2. Lists:
 - a. Blog Entry Categories:
servername/sitename/Lists/Categories/AllItems.aspx
 - b. Links:
servername/sitename/Lists/ULinks/AllItems.aspx
 - c. Blog Entry Tags:
servername/sitename/Lists/Tags/AllItems.aspx
 - d. Comments:
servername/sitename/Lists/Comments/AllItems.aspx
 - e. Blog Entries:
servername/sitename/Lists/NewsItems/AllItems.aspx
 - f. Settings
servername/sitename/Lists/Settings/AllItems.aspx
 - g. Likes
servername/sitename/Lists/Likes/AllItems.aspx

How to add blog administrator?

Any SharePoint user which has **full control** on this site/site collection can manage blog entries and comments.

How to add new blog entry?

1. Log in as a blog administrator
2. Go to the main page
3. Insert the following data into edit form on the top of the page:
 - a. Blog Entry Title

- b. Blog Entry text
- c. Choose category
- d. Choose tags (if needed)
4. Click “Attach video/picture” to set main page video/image for the blog article (if needed)
5. Click “Publish”

Add article

Category: **Category 1** Tags:

Click here to add new content

Attach video/picture **Publish**

How to add new blog entry category?

Navigate to the **Blog Entry Categories List**, add new item and fill in **title** field value (category name).

b > Categories > All Items

My List Instance

ID	Title
1	Category 1
2	Category 2

+ Add new item

How to add new blog entry tag?

Navigate to the **Blog Entry Tags List**, add new item and fill in **title** field value (tag name).

b > Tags > All Items

My List Instance

ID	Title
1	Tag 1
2	Tag 2
3	Tag 3

+ Add new item

How to adjust Artfulbits Blog settings?

Navigate to the **Blog Entry Settings List** and change one of the following item values:

CountNewsPerPage: How many blog entries show on the main page.

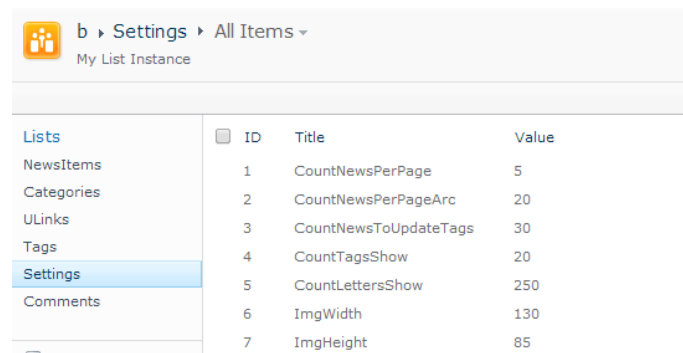
CountNewsPerPageArc: How many blog entries show on the archive page.

CountNewsToUpdateTags: How many blog entries use for recalculating tag cloud.

CountTagsShow: How many tags to show in tag cloud.

CountLettersShow: How much letters to show for blog entry preview.

ImgWidth, ImgHeight: width and height of the image that is used as preview on the main page (pixels).



The screenshot shows the 'Settings' list in a SharePoint environment. The breadcrumb path is 'b > Settings > All Items'. Below the breadcrumb is a table with columns 'ID', 'Title', and 'Value'. The 'Settings' menu item is highlighted in the left-hand navigation pane.

ID	Title	Value
1	CountNewsPerPage	5
2	CountNewsPerPageArc	20
3	CountNewsToUpdateTags	30
4	CountTagsShow	20
5	CountLettersShow	250
6	ImgWidth	130
7	ImgHeight	85

PageTitle: Page title that will be displayed on the browser tab

PageFooter: Footer text

EnableLikes: Possibility to switch off comment likes system

EnableAnonymous: Allow/Disallow anonymous access to the blog

Branding: Possibility to change branding theme for the site. Default branding color is **C2242E**, you are free to change this value to set individual color for each branding piece:

- BrSubmitButtonText, BrSubmitButtonBackground: add comment or publish button background
- BrMenuMarker: selected menu highlighter
- BrNewsTitle: Article item title color
- BrReadMore: Article "read more" & "read less" color
- BrPager: Selected page highlighter
- BrUsefulLinksTitle: External link title color (links page)
- BrCommentLiked: Liked/Disliked highlighter
- BrCommentReplyTo: If comment is a reply to some other comment - source comment author name color

11	EnableLikes	True
12	EnableAnonymous	True
13	PageTitle	Artfulbits Blog
14	PageFooter	Lightweight and simple newsblog template for your Sharepoint site
15	BrSubmitButtonText	C2242E
16	BrSubmitButtonBackground	FFFFFF
17	BrMenuMarker	C2242E
18	BrNewsTitle	C2242E
19	BrReadMore	C2242E
20	BrPager	C2242E
21	BrUsefulLinksTitle	C2242E
22	BrCommentLiked	C2242E
23	BrCommentReplyTo	C2242E

[+ Add new item](#)

How to configure ArtfulBits Blog menu?

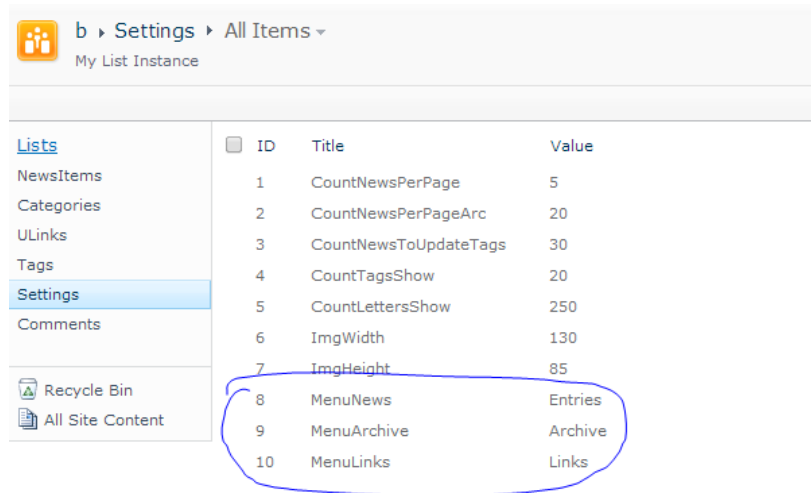
To rename any of the main menu sections navigate to the **Blog Entry Settings List** and change one of the following item values:

MenuNews – “Entries” menu

MenuArchive – “Archive” menu

MenuLinks – “Links” menu

To hide any menu sections from the main page delete its respective item from the list.



ID	Title	Value
1	CountNewsPerPage	5
2	CountNewsPerPageArc	20
3	CountNewsToUpdateTags	30
4	CountTagsShow	20
5	CountLettersShow	250
6	ImgWidth	130
7	ImgHeight	85
8	MenuNews	Entries
9	MenuArchive	Archive
10	MenuLinks	Links

To add menu section with the custom link create new item in the list:

Title: CustomMenu<name>

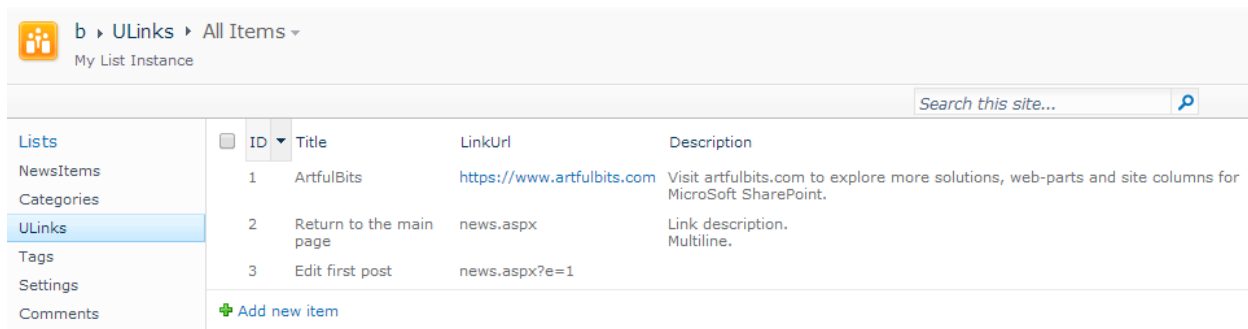
Value: MenuTitle #; ShowOrder #; CustomUrl

For instance:

11	MenuCustom1	Custom Menu 1 #; 2 #; http://srv2008:1005/sites/blog/b/Lists/Settings/AllItems.aspx
12	MenuCustom2	Custom Menu 2 #; 1 #; http://srv2008:1005/sites/blog/b/Lists/Settings/AllItems.aspx

How to add new link to links page?

Navigate to the **Blog Entry Links List** and add new item:



ID	Title	LinkUrl	Description
1	ArtfulBits	https://www.artfulbits.com	Visit artfulbits.com to explore more solutions, web-parts and site columns for MicroSoft SharePoint.
2	Return to the main page	news.aspx	Link description. Multiline.
3	Edit first post	news.aspx?e=1	

[Add new item](#)

Release Notes

Version	Notes
v1.0 (July 25, 2013)	Initial Release

See Also



[Cascaded Lookup Column](#)

Cascaded Lookup Column allows building relationship between parent and child columns, the data selected in one field will determine the options presented in another.



[Category Column](#)

Category Column allows tracking, organizing and grouping list items. Outlook 2007 approach for elements categorization, easy indicator color changing and using of advanced tooltip, provide a high professional component style.



[Column Data Adapter](#)

Column Data Adapter is an extension component providing ability to use ArtfulBits Columns in Microsoft Access forms, reports and Microsoft Excel.



[Column Permissions](#)

Column Permissions allows you to manage access to list content on column level. Permissions can be assigned for individual users and for SharePoint groups as well and are effective in forms and list views, as well as in the SharePoint Alerts, RSS, Datasheet and even during exporting to Excel and opening with Access.



[Cross-Site Lookup Column](#)

Use Cross-Site Lookup Column for getting data from any site within site collection. Component includes a powerful function of searching over lookup list. This function provides substring matching in selected column which is very useful for large lists (over 50-100 items).



[Discussion Column](#)

Need to organize well formatted conversation in the list item without enabling list versioning? Discussion Column is the right choice. Component allows entering rich text with formatting, images, tables, hyperlinks and other features.



[Follow-Up Column](#)

Follow-Up Column enables due date flags similar to Outlook follow-up functionality. Applying of flags to the list item allows adding of visual reminder in a natural way.



[Image Upload Column](#)

Quick and simple way of uploading pictures. Image Upload Column provides with ability to select a picture using file browsing dialog, upload and display it in the list view.



[KPI Column](#)

KPI (Key Performance Indicator) Column is simple graphical scorecards that can be used to evaluate business data against business goals. With this column you reduce risk to overlook information about the status of value.



[Link to Document Column](#)

Link to Document Column allows referencing files and folders placed at Document Library and provides easy and intuitive way to download files directly from column. Use this column to provide a browsing interface that allows users to browse to an object to link to instead of typing a URL.



Parent Selector Column

Parent Selector Column is used for organizing hierarchical relations in SharePoint list. Picker dialog allows choosing data from large lists. Standard Lookup column can be easily converted to Parent Selector column and vice versa.



Password Change Web Part

Password Change Web Part allows users to change their own passwords from within the SharePoint environment using standard text box interface (current password, new password and confirm new password).



Password Expiration Web Part

Password Expiration Web Part enables Active Directory users to be notified via Web Part interface that their passwords are about to expire. It also automatically sends out email notifications to users before the password expiration date.



Professional Calendar Web Part

Professional Calendar Web Part provides following key benefits: it allows combining events from different SharePoint Lists, from any SharePoint Site, in one Calendar view; allows specifying different color sets for different event sources; supports on-the-fly AJAX-enabled editing features in Outlook like style; and other enhanced functionalities.



Progress Column

Progress Column provides users with the ability to make SharePoint lists more visualized by displaying numerical data on the page using percentage-based progress bar. Professional progress bar style will make your SharePoint list really modern and stylish.



Video

Video Column and Video Web Part are powerful controls made for uploading, managing, linking and playing video files. These controls support variety of video files that can be uploaded from computer, or linked from SharePoint library or streamed from direct URL.

Remarks

Information in this document may be outdated. Please, visit www.ArtfulBits.com for the latest product version.