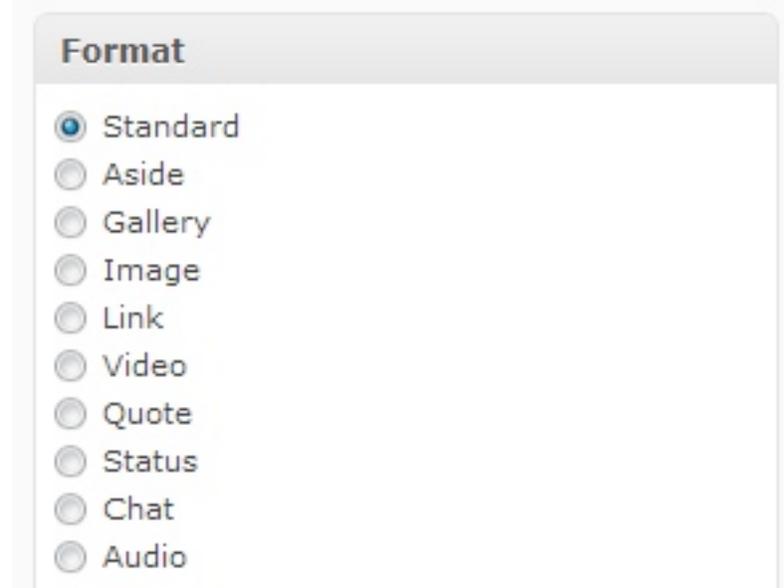


# WordPress 3.1

## *New Features and Functionality*

### Custom Post Formats

This is probably the most talked about new addition to WordPress. But actually this functionality has been with WordPress for a while, but now its a little more accessible. These custom post formats allow a theme author to specify the styling of up to 10 standardized formats of posts. You can see the 10 formats in the image to the right.



These custom post formats are essentially just a taxonomy that

gets its own meta box in the post editor screen of WordPress. Two things to know about custom post formats:

1. You can't add additional formats other than the 10 preset formats listed above.
2. This must be enabled by the theme developer in the functions.php file of the theme and the styles must be added to the style.css file. This does not work "out-of-the-box".

These are not the same as Custom Post Types that were introduced with WordPress 3.0. And these custom post formats can only be used, when activated by the theme, in the regular post editor screen.

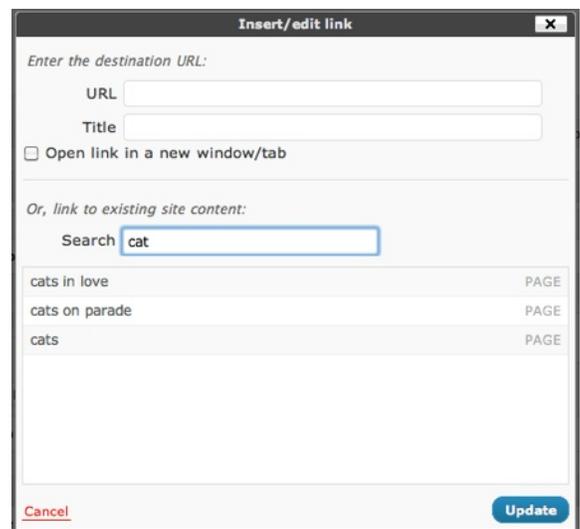
## Custom Post Type Additions

Custom Post Types were introduced in WordPress 3.0 and were quickly shown to have some issues missing. One such issue was the fact that when you created a custom post type it didn't contain an "index" page of all posts attributed to that custom post type. Now in WordPress 3.1, an "archive" is generated for each custom post type eliminating the need to create a custom template.

Also, there is now more control over where the custom post type admin menus appear in the dashboard.

## Internal Linking

Everyone knows that one of the keys to successful SEO is linking internally to your own pages. In order to do that we all used to have to have multiple browser tabs open to switch back and forth so we could find the correct URL and past it into our page/post. Now with this internal linking we can search for the post/page we want to link to in a simplified format.



## WordPress.com front admin bar

Like it or hate it, this is a new feature for WordPress.org users. It has been part of WordPress.com for a while but only made it over to the self-hosted region with this latest release.



If you don't like the front-facing admin bar you do have the option of removing it. In fact there are two ways of removing the bar.

1. You can go to your Users - Your Profile - and check/uncheck the box to activate and deactivate the admin bar.
2. You can add the following code to your active theme's function.php file to hide it from everyone. (Helpful if you have multiple users on your site)

```
add_filter( 'show_admin_bar', '__return_false' );
```

One thing to remember is that the new admin bar is extensible, so plugin and theme developers COULD possibly add functionality to the bar in the future.

## Network / Multisite Admin Dashboard

The “Super” Admin area now has its own dashboard with its own menus and pages. It removes the “clutter” that was created on each admin dashboard for individual sites residing in a multisite installation.

### Other things to take not of:

Custom taxonomy queries now support multiple queries. Example: Find all posts with about cars and trains AND not about accidents.

Sortable columns for pages, posts, etc.

Cleaned up TinyMCE and made it better looking

An optimized or streamlined (depending on how you look at it) writing interface. WordPress now makes greater use of the “Screen Options” drop down panel.

### Thoughts about upgrading...

[BackupBuddy](#) is your security blanket that provides the ultimate protection. Before doing an upgrade, press the “one-click” backup button and no matter what happens during the upgrade you can restore the site in seconds if needed.