

How to Add Social Media Icons to Your Website

Introduction

For this tutorial, I am assuming that you have a self-hosted WordPress website/blog. I will be using the Twenty Eleven Theme which ships with WordPress. It is the default installed theme. If you have installed a different theme, your screen may look slightly different than mine, but under the hood everything should be in the same place.

This tutorial will help you set up icons on your site that look like this:



Set up all of Your Social Media Accounts

Before you can add the icons to your site, you must have your accounts set up and have the links to your profiles. Once you have this information, you'll be good to go.

Select a set of Social Media Icons

If you haven't already, select a set of icons from one of these sites.

[60 Gorgeous Free Social Media Icon Packs.](#)

[The Best Social Media Icons All in One Place](#)

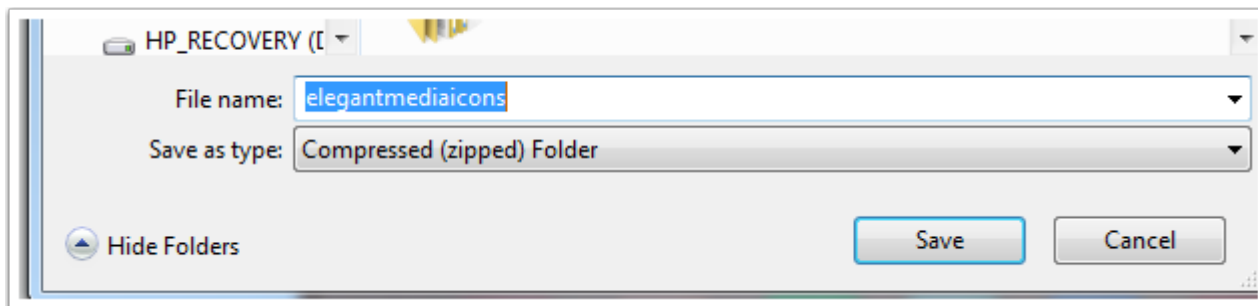
[44 Must Have Free Social Media Icon Packs](#)

I'm going to use [elegantthemes](#) for this tutorial.



Download Your Icons & Save Them

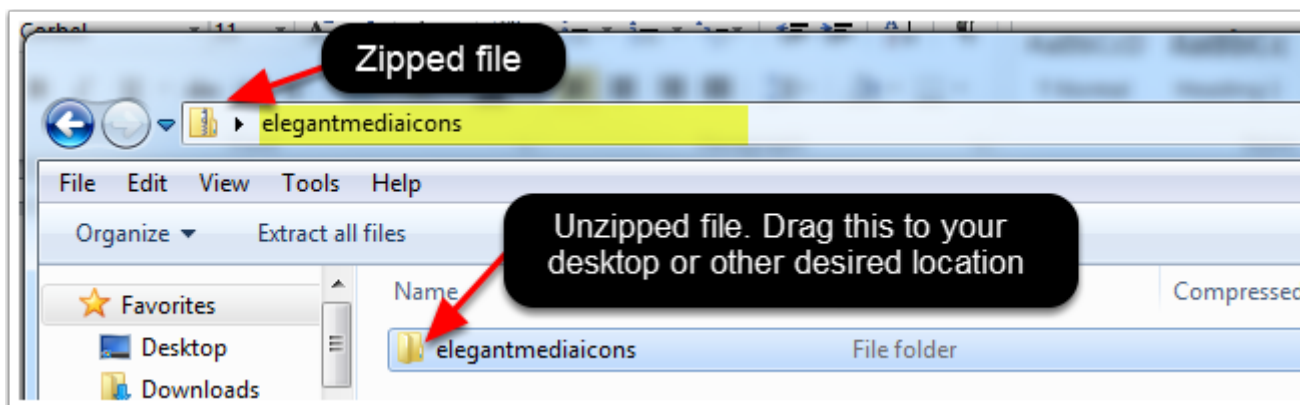
Download your icons and save them to your desktop or other location you have chosen. You'll be uploading them to Wordpress in a few minutes.



Double Click on the Zipped File to Open It

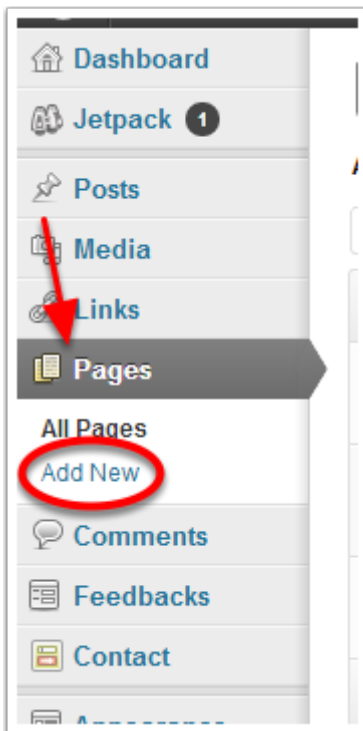
Once you click on your file, it will be unzipped so you can access the files inside of it. Double click on it. You should see contents like the file below. Please note, your files may differ if you downloaded a different icon package.

*You must move the files out of the zipped folder in order to upload them to WordPress. To do this, drag the folder to your Desktop (or other desired location.)



Login to Your WordPress Dashboard

Click **Pages**>**Add New**



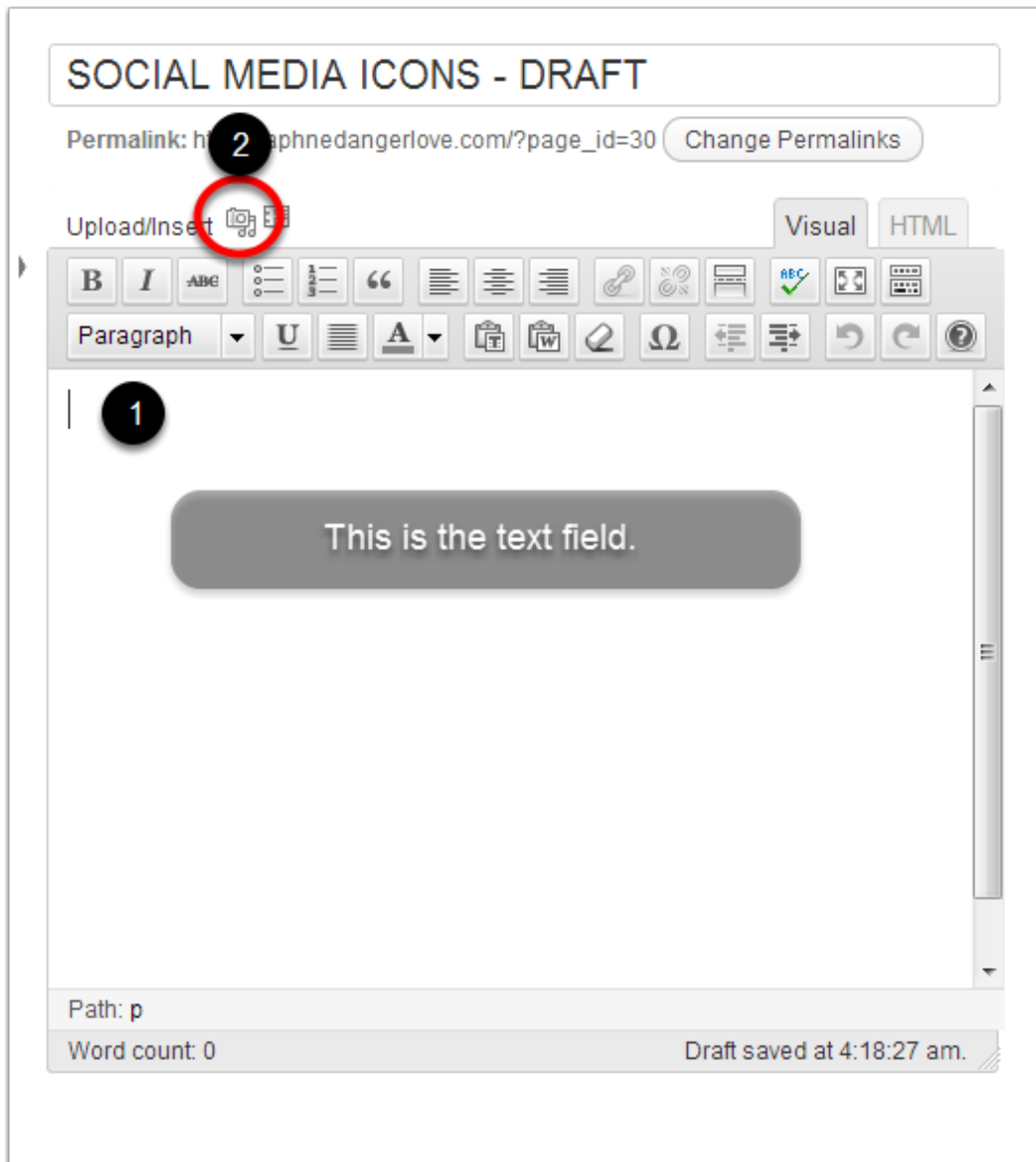
WordPress Displays a New Page

You're going to use the text field on this page to create the html you need for your buttons. You won't be publishing it. To minimize confusion, I label the page in CAPS to differentiate it.

The screenshot shows the WordPress 'Add New Page' editor. At the top, the title 'Add New Page' is displayed next to a document icon. Below it, the title field contains the text 'SOCIAL MEDIA ICONS - DRAFT', which is highlighted with a red rectangular box. Underneath the title field, the permalink is shown as 'http://daphnedangerlove.com/?page_id=30' with a 'Change Permalinks' button to its right. The main editing area features a toolbar with 'Visual' and 'HTML' tabs. The 'Visual' tab is active, showing various formatting icons such as bold (B), italic (I), text color (ABC), bulleted list, numbered list, quote, indent, outdent, link, unlink, insert link, checkmark, image, and table. Below the toolbar is a 'Paragraph' dropdown menu and a large text area for content. At the bottom of the editor, a status bar displays 'Path: p', 'Word count: 0', and 'Draft saved at 4:18:27 am.'

Adding Your Icons

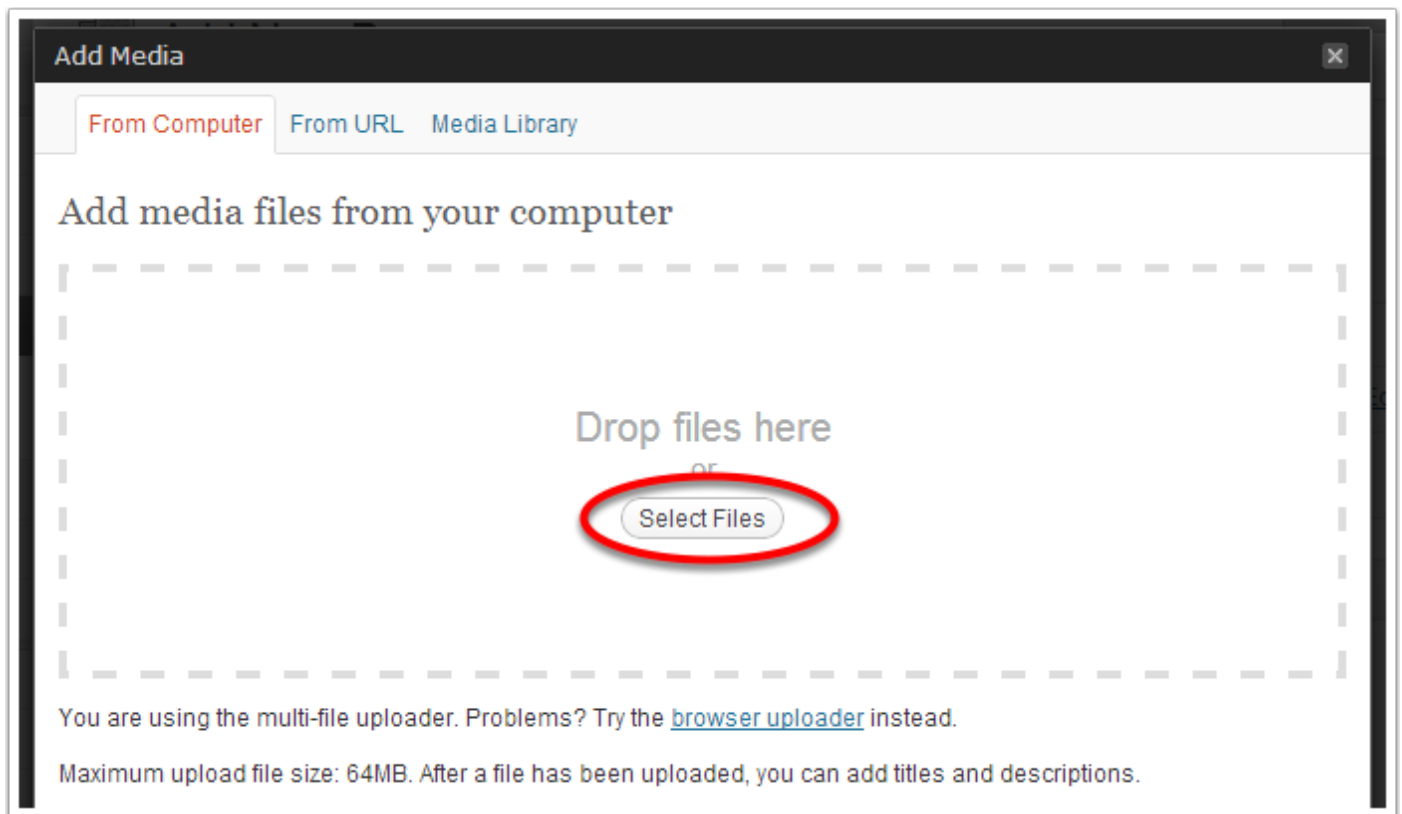
1. Click once in the text field so you are ready to work.
2. Click the **Upload/Insert Add Media** button.



The screenshot displays the WordPress editor interface for a draft titled "SOCIAL MEDIA ICONS - DRAFT". The permalink is "http://aphnedangerlove.com/?page_id=30". The editor is in "Visual" mode. The "Upload/Insert Add Media" button is circled in red and labeled with a "2". The text field contains the text "This is the text field." and is labeled with a "1". The status bar at the bottom shows "Path: p", "Word count: 0", and "Draft saved at 4:18:27 am."

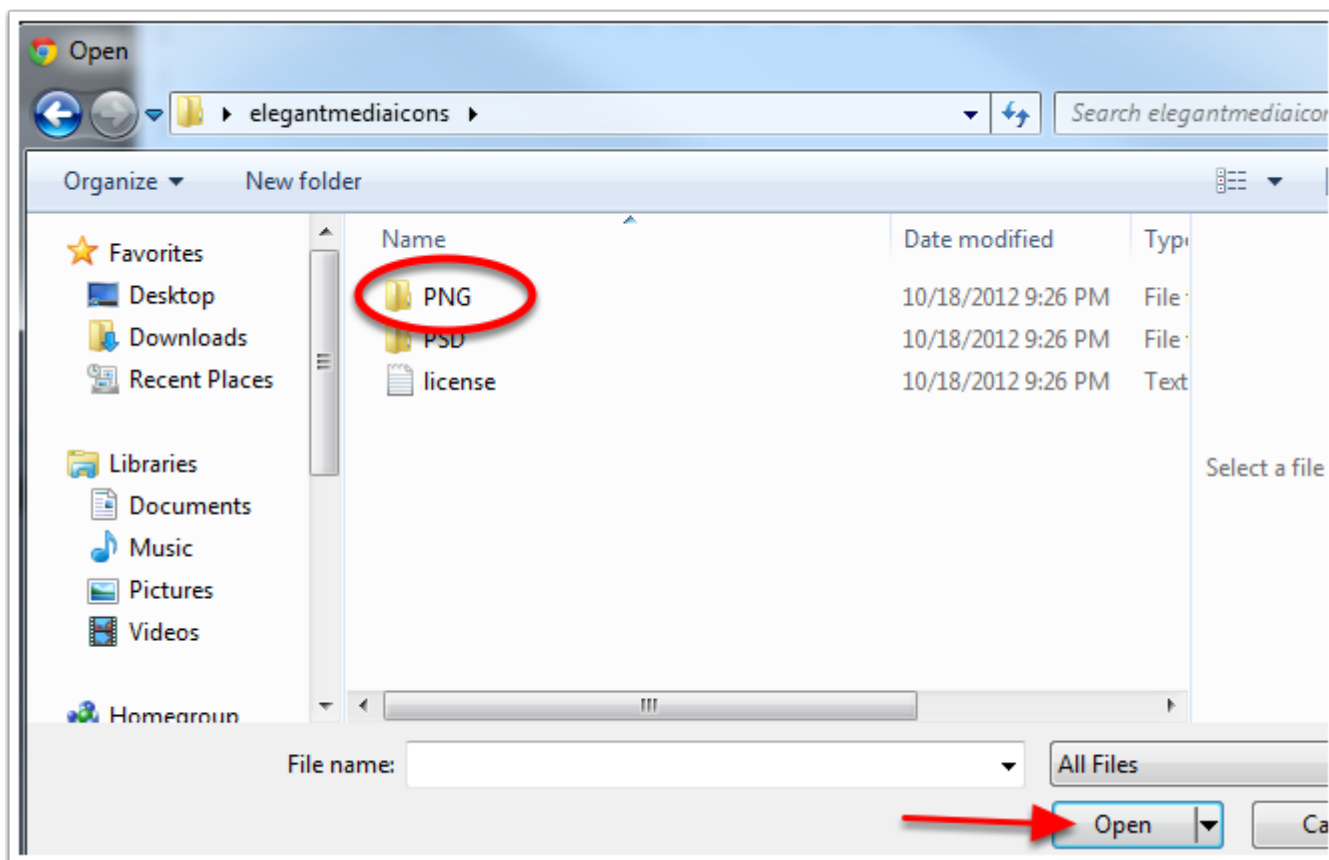
The Add Media Box

In the **Add media files from your computer** box, click **Select Files**.



Navigate to Your Icons

Browse to the folder that contains your Social Media Icons. Depending on the Icon Pack you chose, you may need to open an additional folder as shown in the screen cap below. If the icons do not display immediately, look for a folder labeled PNG like the one below. You'll find the icons inside that folder.



Select Your Icons

Select the icons you want to use from the list. I'm going to go with Facebook, Twitter and RSS. Hold down the CTRL key to make multiple selections at once.

Click open.






WordPress will upload your files.

Now we are going to edit each file to add the appropriate links.

Click **show** next to the Facebook Icon.

You are using the multi-file uploader. Problems? Try the [browser uploader](#) instead.

Maximum upload file size: 64MB. After a file has been uploaded, you can add titles and descriptions.

 facebook	Show
 rss	Show
 twitter	Show

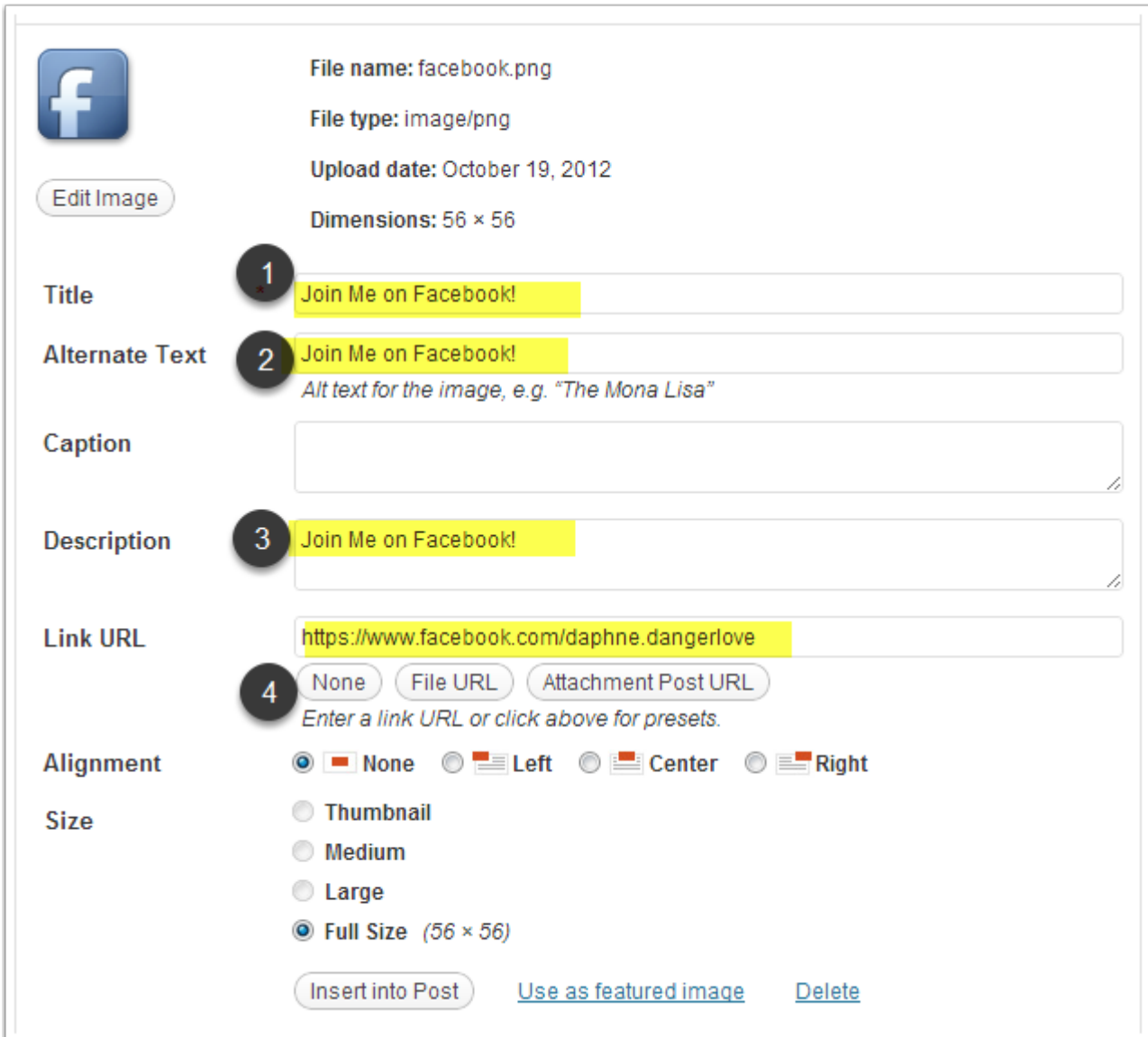
[Save all changes](#)

Enter the File Information

Fill in all of the fields highlighted:

1. This is the text that will display when a user hovers their mouse over your icon.
2. This is what will display if a user does not have images enabled on their browser or they cannot view images.
3. This appears in your Media Library to tell you what the file is.
4. This is the webpage the user goes to when they click on your icon.

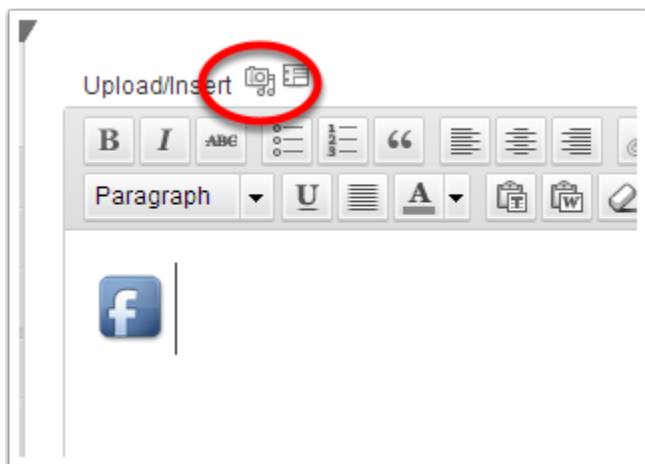
When you are done, click **Insert into Post**.



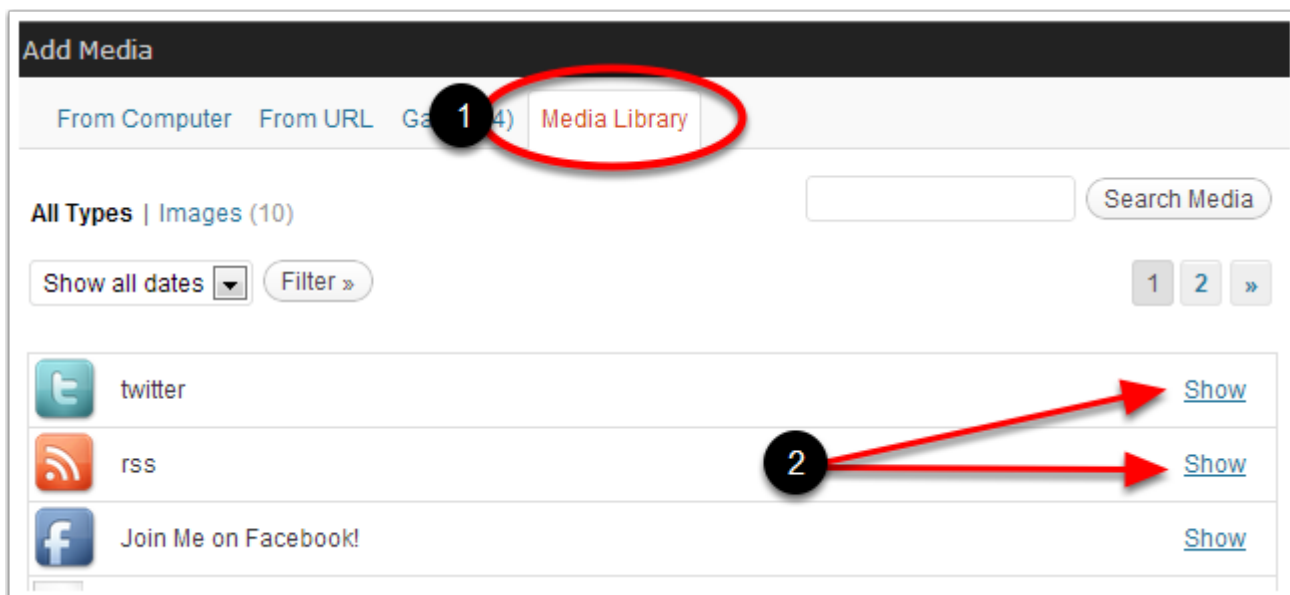
The screenshot shows the Facebook icon upload interface. At the top left is a blue Facebook 'f' icon. Below it is an 'Edit Image' button. To the right of the icon, the following information is displayed: File name: facebook.png, File type: image/png, Upload date: October 19, 2012, and Dimensions: 56 x 56. The form fields are as follows: Title: 'Join Me on Facebook!' (highlighted with a yellow background and a circled '1'); Alternate Text: 'Join Me on Facebook!' (highlighted with a yellow background and a circled '2'), with a subtext 'Alt text for the image, e.g. "The Mona Lisa"'; Caption: an empty text area; Description: 'Join Me on Facebook!' (highlighted with a yellow background and a circled '3'); Link URL: 'https://www.facebook.com/daphne.dangerlove' (highlighted with a yellow background and a circled '4'). Below the Link URL field are three buttons: 'None', 'File URL', and 'Attachment Post URL'. Below these buttons is the instruction 'Enter a link URL or click above for presets.' The Alignment section has four radio buttons: 'None' (selected), 'Left', 'Center', and 'Right'. The Size section has four radio buttons: 'Thumbnail', 'Medium', 'Large', and 'Full Size (56 x 56)' (selected). At the bottom of the form are three buttons: 'Insert into Post', 'Use as featured image', and 'Delete'.

Repeat this Step for All of Your Icons

Once you've inserted an icon, you'll have to click the **Upload/Insert Add Media** button so you can access your previously uploaded images.



- 1.They'll be located in the **Media Library**. (WordPress will default to the upload screen.)
2. Click **Show** to edit the icon's properties.



Your Icons

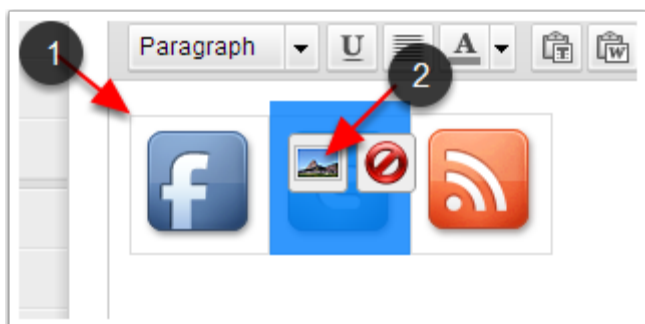
When you are done, you should have a row of icons like this:

*If you have a thin gray line around each of your icons, please see next step.



Troubleshooting Gray Box Around Icons

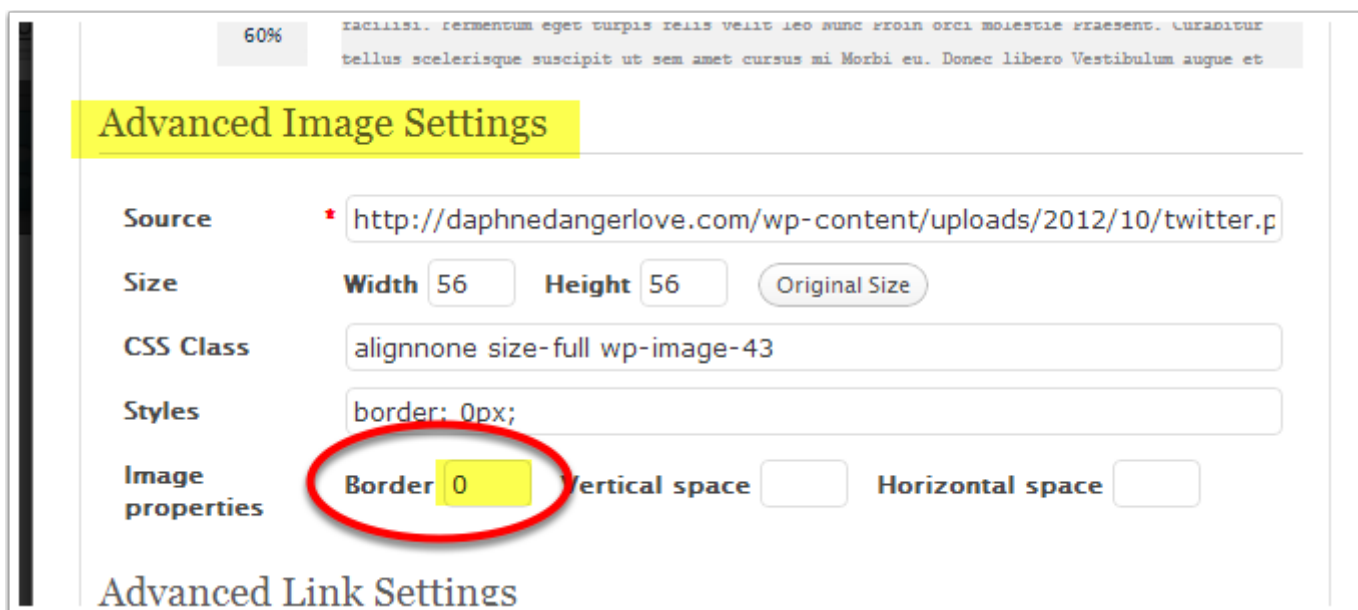
1. If you have a thin gray line around your icons, click the icon once.
2. Click on the picture icon. A dialog box will pop up that will allow you to edit the image's settings.



Under **Advanced Image Settings** put a 0 (zero) in the **Border** field.

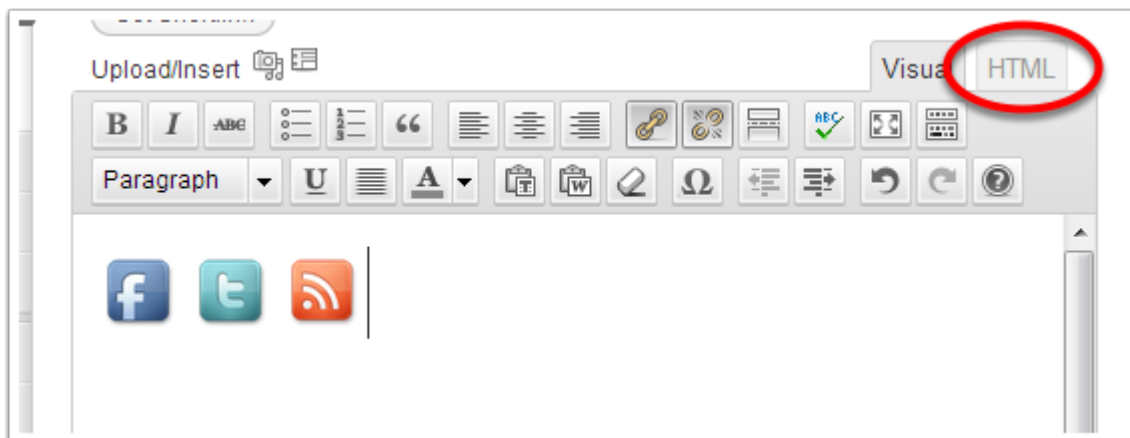
Click the **Update** button at the bottom of the dialog box.

Then click the **X** in the top right corner to close the dialog. The gray box around the image will be gone.



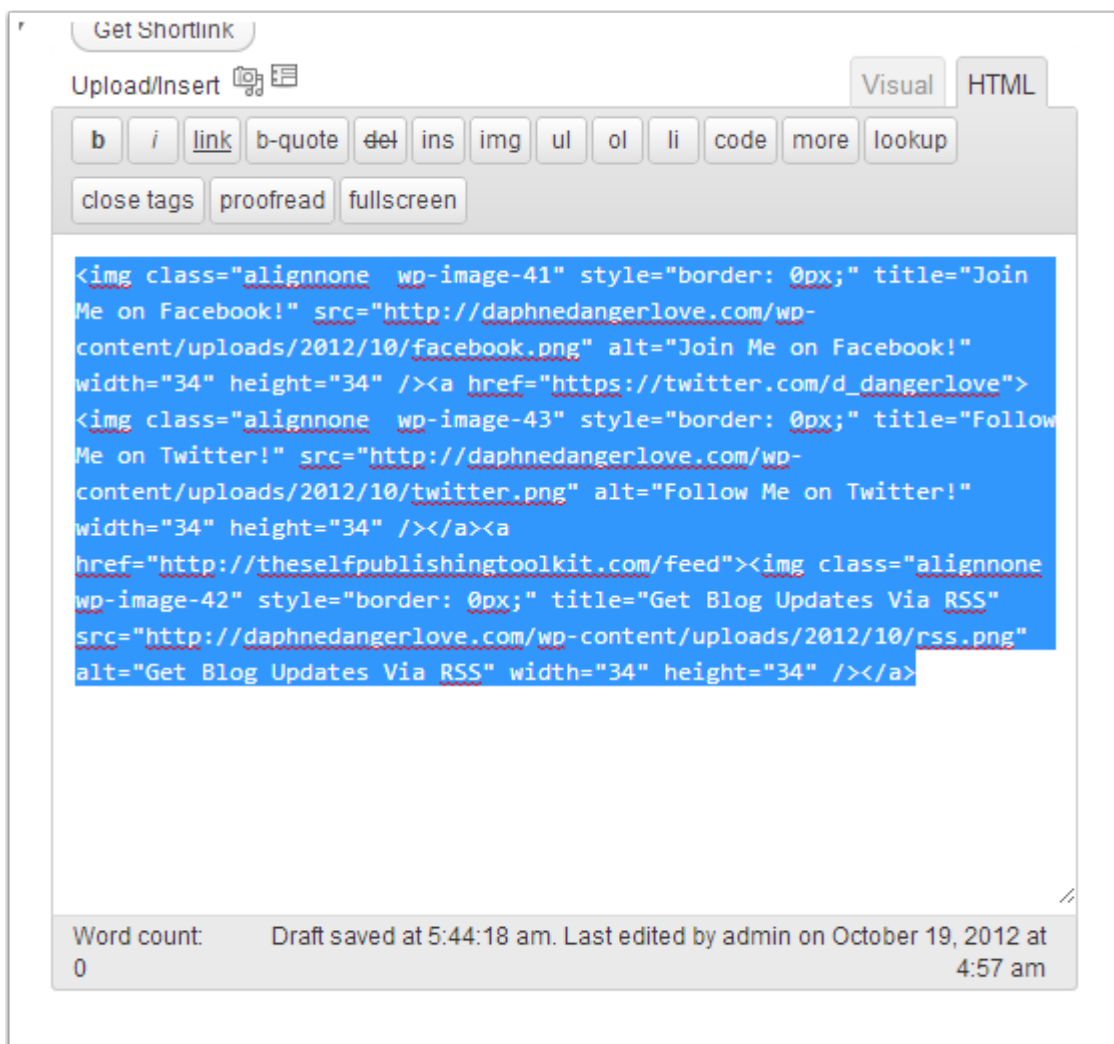
Copying Your Code

Click the HTML tab in the top right corner of the text editor.



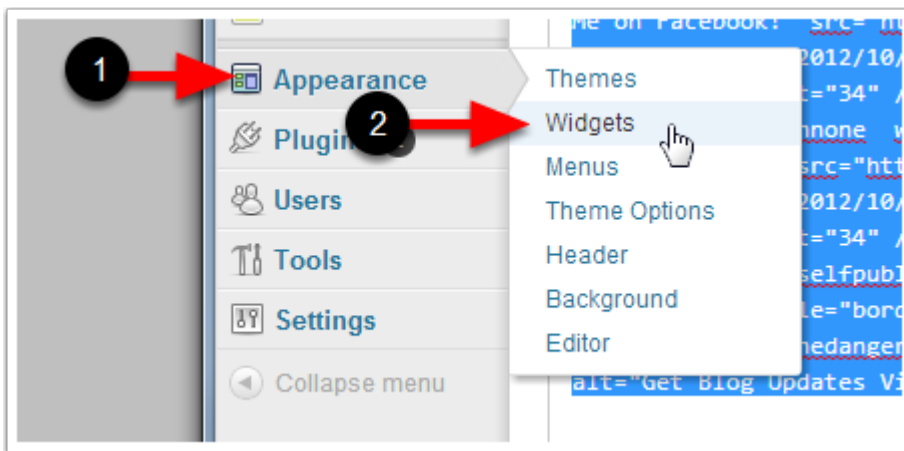
High-light Your Code

High-light your code, then right click to copy it.



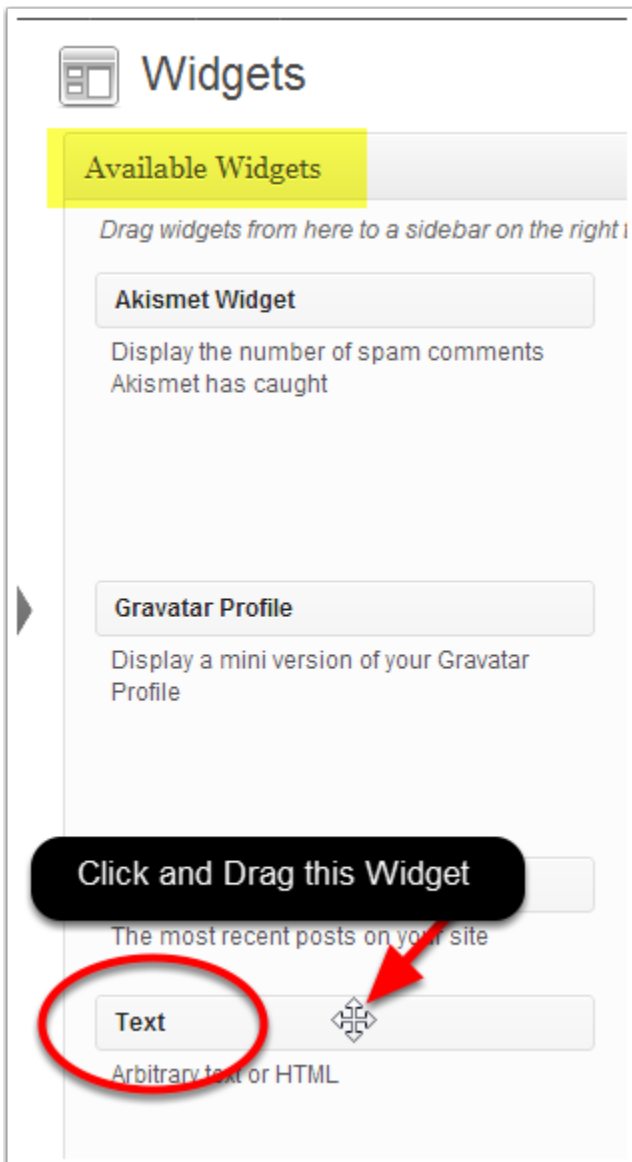
Widgets

1. In the Sidebar, hover your mouse over **Appearance** until you see the fly out menu.
2. Right click Widgets, then select open in new tab.



Adding a Text Widget

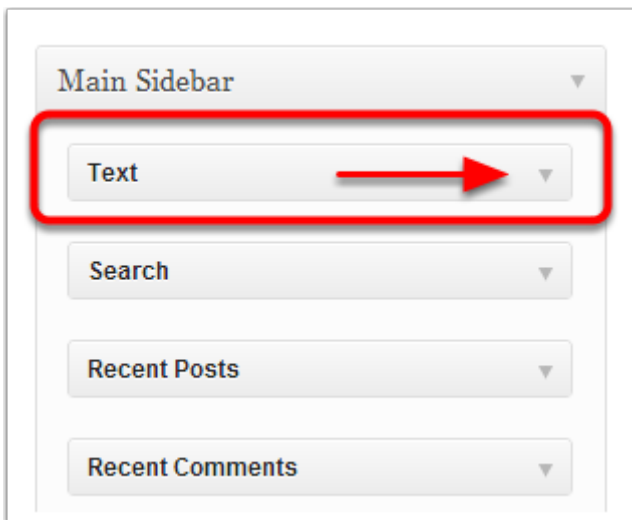
From **Available Widgets**, drag a text widget into the **Main Sidebar** column. The cursor will turn into a funky plus sign with arrows on it, indicating you can drag it.



The Text Widget

Your text widget should be at the top of the list of Widgets in your sidebar.

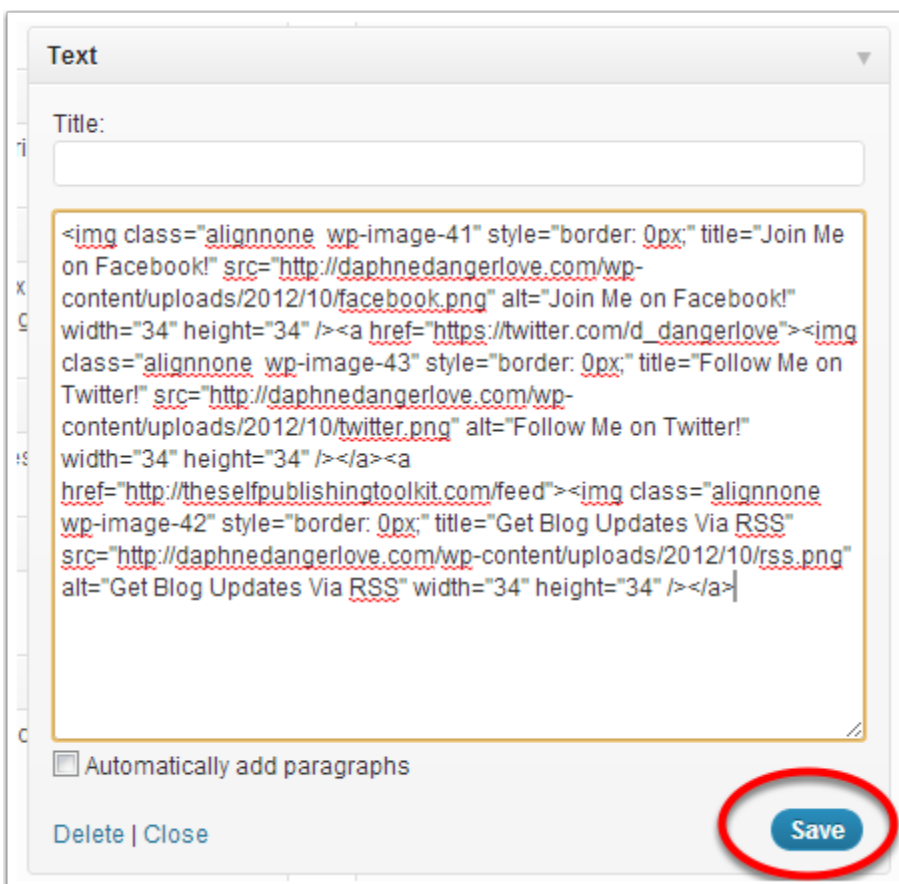
Click the drop down arrow to display the text area for the Widget.



Paste Your Code

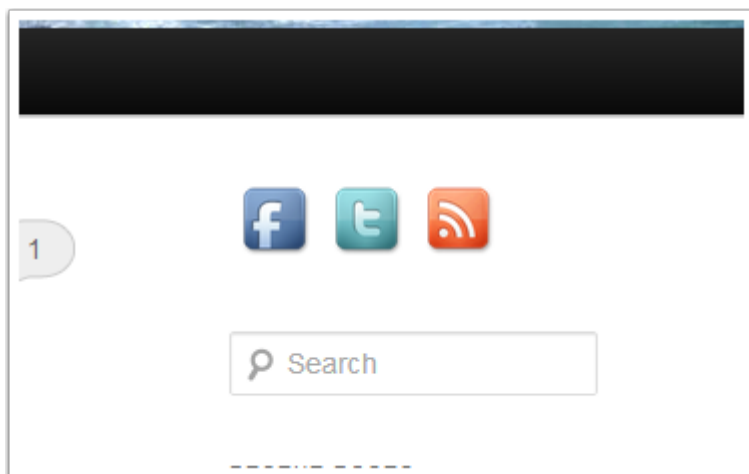
Click once in the text area to activate it. Then paste your code into the box.

Click **Save**. Click **Close**.



View Your Site

Check it out! Your icons should look just like this!



A Few Final Notes

This tutorial was made with Twenty Eleven--the theme that ships free with WordPress. Depending on the theme you are using, you may be able to locate your icons in different areas on your site.

On the Self Publishing Toolkit site, I am using the [Prose Theme by Studio Press](#). This theme allows me to locate the icons in the header.

Thanks for Reading!

This tutorial is a production of [the Self Publishing Toolkit](#).

If you have questions, please contact me at daphne@theselfpublishingtoolkit.com