

ENGAGING IN A #TWTBLOG TWITTER CHAT USING TWEETDECK

Tweetdeck (<https://tweetdecktwitter.com>) is a must-have to help you maximize your participation in a Twitter Chat (or on Twitter, in general) since it allows you to view multiple timelines and view your notifications in one place. Once you set up TweetDeck, <https://help.twitter.com/en/using-twitter/how-to-use-tweetdeck>, here's a tutorial on how to use it efficiently to participate in the next Two Writing Teachers (#TWTBlog) Twitter Chat.

TWEET A MESSAGE

When you open TweetDeck, you'll see a black vertical bar on the far left side. The tweet button is the blue feather with a plus sign at the top of that bar. All you need to do is click on it, type in the white box, and then click the blue tweet button under that box. If there's a red number with a minus to the left of the tweet button, you cannot tweet until you reduce your message to 280 characters (including spaces). Check out <https://www.lettercount.com/> if you want assistance counting characters.

CREATE ESSENTIAL COLUMNS

Tweetdeck is organized by customizable columns. When you look midway down the black vertical bar, you'll see a plus sign. Click on that to add a new column(s). Essential columns are *user* (shows everything you, or another user, have Tweeted), *notification* (anyone who includes your name), *message* (private message to you), and *schedule* (use this to pre-schedule tweets). Just click on the plus sign and get to the new columns by clicking on them in the white box.

CREATE CHAT COLUMNS

You can create columns for your favorite chats. Under the blue tweet button on the black bar is a magnifying glass. Just type the hashtag of the chat you're looking for (ie, #TWTBlog) and hit return. This adds the column at the far right so you can see anything that has that hashtag.

DELETE/MOVE COLUMNS

At the top right of each column are two horizontal lines with a circle on each side. Click this to see options below. Remove a column by clicking on X (remove). To move the column, click on the left-right arrows at the bottom left to move the column where you want it. This allows you to move columns to fit your needs.

Suggested sequence order for optimal chatting: notifications>chat hashtag>user>schedule. When the chat is over, you can move the chat/hashtag column out of the way.

Additional Notes:

- At the end of each chat, we create a chat archive Wakelet, <https://wakelet.com/@twowritingteachers>. Viewing the archive can help you revisit any portions of the chat that you might have missed, or have a record of the brilliant ideas shared by colleagues.
- You can view a recap of the blog series by checking out the “In Case You Missed It” post on Two Writing Teachers. This post goes live on the Monday morning of the Twitter Chat.

We look forward to having you join us for the next Monday night #TWTBlog Twitter Chat!