



How to: Write and Publish a Twitter Message, a “Tweet”

1. Sign on to Twitter.com
2. In the Box under “What are you Doing?” enter in a tweet that is 140 characters or less.
 - a. Make sure that you have a purpose to your tweet message – if you are only tweeting to tweet – then don’t. Examples of reasons to tweet – Action Alert, tell people about upcoming events, call attention to news articles or new blog posts, or support causes. . .
3. If you are including a link in your tweet (most often, you should) make your hyperlink much shorter by using a “tiny url” or “bit.ly” generator. Simply google “tiny url” and follow the directions to turn a long web address into a much shorter one. (in order for the address to become a hyperlink, it must include the <http://> at the beginning)
4. Enter your message in the “what are you doing” box and include the new, shorter hyperlink. Your message must be 160 characters or less, including spaces!
5. Click “Update.”
6. To get your tweets more visibility, include the hash-tag (#) language. For example, if you are tweeting about HIV and Queer youth, your tweet might look like this
“Get real, get tested, get your results - June is Natl HIV Testing month <http://tinyurl.com/lo2xcv>
#HIV #queer #lgbt #youth”.
 - a. By including the # before the topics you are talking about, other twitter-ers are able to search for “#queer” and find all tweets that include that tag.
7. To direct a tweet at a certain twitter user, use the @ sign before the username. If I wanted to direct a message to jenniebug10 about her current tweet or respond to one of her tweets, it might look like this,
 - a. @jenniebug10 you are right about racism in the lgbtq community! <http://tinyurl.com/n3d4xr>
8. If you want to repost something that others have tweeted, it is called a “retweet” and is posted with a “RT.” If you wanted to repost a tweet that @bigqueer has posted you would do the following:
 - a. RT @bigqueer Is Bruno ammunition for bullies? <http://bit.ly/TZFFh> #lgbt #gay #youth
9. And, last, but not least, you must tweet often – the more you put into Twitter, the more you will get out of it!