



How-to Instructions for Ellen's Picks Monthly Link-up

Welcome to the Ellen's Pick's monthly link-up! I'm so glad to invite my Ellen's Picks community of friends to share their reviews, thoughts, epiphanies, challenges, or encouragement about our pick of the month.

If you're new here or haven't participated before in a blog linkup before here are some easy-peasy how-to steps:

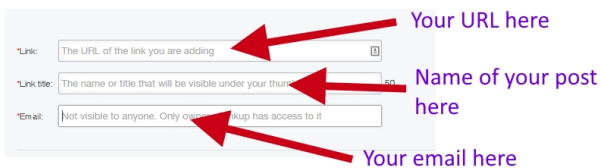
Step 1:

- Scroll to the bottom of this month's Ellen's Picks post to find the blog linkup (see an example here: <http://www.ellengrafmartin.com/fringe-hours-oct-29-linkup>)
- At the bottom there will be a button that says "add your link".



Step 2:

- Click on the "add your link" button and the following screen will appear, with areas for you to add your own blog information.



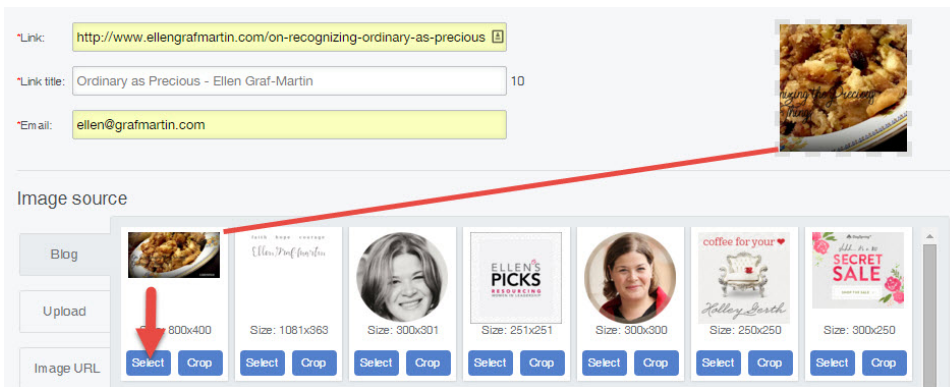
Step 3:

- Add your information
- The section with "URL" is the area where you will paste the link to your blog post you are adding to the monthly link-up
- It is important you ensure the link you add here, is the one to your **specific Ellen's Picks post** and not just a link to your main blog. So, for Ellen, it would be ellengrafmartin.com/fringehours NOT ellengrafmartin.com
- The section with "link title" is asking for the title of your post

Step 4:

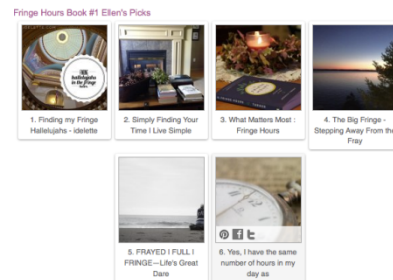
- Choose an image for the blog link up. You are able to select an image from your blog site, upload a new image or even use an instagram image!

- You are choosing a photo to display in the blog link-up thumbnail gallery. Click “select” on the image you want to show up in the blog link-up



Step 5:

- You're almost there! Make sure that your header fits within the prescribed link-up character limit.
- Also, double check that your photo is cropped as you would like it. All that's left to do at this point is hit “done”! You've linked up!



Step 6: Connect with each other!

While you're here, would you visit your link-up neighbours? This is what makes a true community. Take a look at who is linked up before and after you, and take a moment to hop on over to their blogs and leave a comment. Thanks so much for joining this community of friends from coast to coast, across Canada! Leaders are readers, and readers are leaders!

Bonus!

Include the Ellen's Picks button in your blog post.

To do this, copy the html code found in the right sidebar, underneath the button. Once you've copied that code, you can scroll to the bottom of your post in the “plain text” view of your blog, and paste it into your post! Most blogging platforms have both a visual and a text option for posting. Refer to your blog host on how to access the text posting option.



PLACE THIS CODE ON YOUR WEBSITE

```
<a href="http://www.ellengrafmartin.com/c
```

*Note: The different blogging platforms (Wordpress, Squarespace, etc.) have various terms for the “text” option. On your blog, it could be known as any of the following: html, plain-text, text, backend, or insert code

If you don't have a blog:

We realize that not everyone has a blog - and for those that don't, we still want to hear your voice, your review and your insights from the books. We would love if you could give your review the following ways:

1. Comment on the actual post on Ellen's blog
2. Share the main post on your social media feeds (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) with your reviews, thoughts and insights on the book
3. Use the hashtag #EllensPicks to share quotes or thoughts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram

I want to resource and equip you to be involved in our link up and reviews. Hearing your feedback and learning from one another is so important. I've asked my team at work to plan for more step-by-step guides to help you launch a blog (if you desire) and provide snap shot summaries for those who want to share their review, but have limited time. Look for more resources and information in the coming year.