

What's New in Blackboard 7.3?

We have highlighted some of the most useful new features of Blackboard 7.3 in this handout. Please note that it is not an all inclusive list of all the new features.

Discussion Board - Huge Improvements!

Forum	Total Posts	Unread Posts	Total Participants
What's New in Bb 7.3?	4	<u>4</u>	2

The Discussion Board has several newly improved features! Use this forum to post a message and reply to others to familiarize yourself with the improved format of the discussion board. You might even pick up a tip or two along the way!

Unread Posts
Collects all unread posts in one window.

Mark Read/Unread
You now have the ability to mark posts read or unread! Unread posts appear in bold.

Tree View
Return of the tree view! The tree view allows you to expand or collapse all postings. You can toggle between the tree and list views.

Course Discussions: What's New in Bb 7.3?

Thread Collect Mark Read Mark Unread

Search After Apr 28 2008 12:00 AM Before Apr 29 2008 12:00 AM

	Date	Thread	Author	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	4/28/08 11:44 AM	Marking read/unread	Susan Horton	Published
<input type="checkbox"/>	4/28/08 11:43 AM	Searching for posts	Susan Horton	Published
<input type="checkbox"/>	4/28/08 11:42 AM	Tree View	Susan Horton	Published

Select All Items Per Page 25 Display Published

Search Box
You can now hide the search box to free up screen space. Unhide when you need to search for posts.

Sorting - Improved!

Sorting actually works in this version! You can now sort by thread order to keep the thread intact.

Lock Forums

Instructors can once again lock threads to prevent new postings, but still allow users to review existing postings.

NOTE: Threads can only be locked when in the **List View**.

Forum Availability - Improved!

When you make discussion forums unavailable a note now appears letting you know the forum is unavailable. Choose date/time restrictions to automatically display the forum for a specific amount of time.

2 Forum Availability

Available Yes No

Choose date and time restrictions Display After Display Until

Apr 28 2008 12 20 PM Apr 28 2008 12 20 PM

Instructor Forum Settings

3 Forum Settings

- Allow anonymous posts
- Allow author to remove own posts
 - All posts
 - Only posts with no replies
- Allow author to modify own published posts
- Allow post tagging
- Allow users to reply with quote
- Allow file attachments
- Allow members to create new threads
- Subscribe** Do not allow subscriptions Allow members to subscribe to threads Allow members to subscribe to forum
 - Include body of post in the email
 - Include link to post
- Allow members to rate posts
- Force moderation of posts
- Grade No grading in forum Grade Forum: Points possible: Grade threads

Subscribe - New Feature!

You can allow students to subscribe to threads or a forum. Students who choose to subscribe will receive email notification of new posts.

Announcements - New Feature! (Step 4)

Email an Announcement

Step 4 of the new announcement setup process allows you the option of emailing a course announcement to all course users.

4 Email Announcement

Email will be sent immediately to all course users. Note that Course Links will not be included in the email.

Email this announcement to all course users.

Email Format

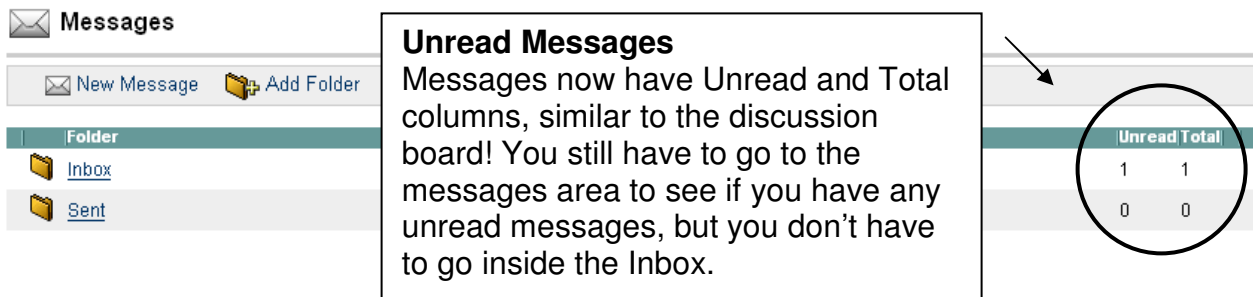
The format of the email that the user will receive is:

Subject of email = course name: announcement title

Body of email = announcement

Note: Course Links will not be included in the email

Messages - Improvements!



The screenshot shows a 'Messages' interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'Messages' at the top, followed by 'New Message' and 'Add Folder' buttons. Below these are folders for 'Inbox' and 'Sent'. The main area shows a table with two columns: 'Unread' and 'Total'. The first row has values '1' and '1', and the second row has '0' and '0'. A callout box titled 'Unread Messages' points to the 'Unread' column, explaining that messages now have 'Unread' and 'Total' columns, similar to the discussion board, and that users can check for unread messages without going into the 'Inbox'.

Unread	Total
1	1
0	0

Selecting Users – Time savings tip!

You can now select multiple message recipients by holding down the Shift or Ctrl keys!

Send Email - Additions!

New Category

All Student Users (Send email to all of the Student users in the Course)

Sender

The send email feature now includes the sender's name as well as the sender's email address in the From field