I’m sure you have created a few of your own posts and inserted a few images either as part of your posts or in your blog’s sidebar. Where are they being stored? What happens when you delete an image? How many images can you post, or is there a storage size limitation? These questions and more will be addressed in this chapter.

You will be using Google’s Picasa Web Albums and Google Sites to store and use images for your blog, both of which are free services. In this chapter, you will view where they are stored and how to manage them, and also create additional photo albums. In addition, you may want to use images on your blog that you do not want stored in an album or taking up your Blogger image storage space. In this case, you will learn how to upload images to Google Sites and how to use and reference those online images.

Using Picasa Web Albums

In Chapter 2, you learned how to insert images into your posts and how to upload your profile image. Although Blogger does not currently have a file manager, your images are being stored online. All images manually inserted into your blog via posts, the Picture gadget, or profile image are being stored in Picasa Web Albums.

Picasa Web Albums is a tool Blogger uses to store images and allows you to share photos. Albums related to your blog(s) are denoted with the Blogger logo. In addition, you can create your own albums that store images not on your blog. Later, you can create a link to them from your blog or embed HTML code into your blog.

There are a few things to remember when working with Picasa Web Albums and inserting and deleting Blogger images. Even if you delete a picture from your blog (for example a post), it is not automatically deleted from the album. Also, if you insert the same image more than once, it is uploaded and stored to your blog’s Picasa Web Album that many times as well. For example, if you’ve inserted the same image three times, it then appears in your album three times. This is of concern for two reasons. First, if you decide to create a slideshow for the album, the same picture would appear multiple times. Second, and more importantly, is your Blogger blog has a default maximum storage limit of 1024MB. This is considered a significant amount of space, but you still want to keep in mind that there is a limit. Furthermore, do not delete items from your blog’s Picasa Web Album without first deleting them from your blog. If you do, you will see the empty image place holder (the red “x” where an image used to be).
Note By default, your Blogger albums are not made public, however you may change the setting to make them public or add them to Google’s image search (Blogger or Picasa Web Albums).

Exercise—Viewing Blogger Images

In this exercise, you will log in to Picasa Web Albums and view the default album(s) used by your Blogger blog(s):

1. From the Dashboard, under Other Stuff, Picasa Web Albums is listed under Tools and Resources.
2. Click Picasa Web Albums or go to picasawebalbum.google.com.
3. Log in using your Blogger password if you are prompted for it.
4. Click Sign in.
5. You will see one or two albums; one with the name of your blog (in our example, “The Perfect Landscape”), and the other that says “Blogger Pictures” (see Figure 6-1).

Figure 6-1. Picasa Web Albums main screen

6. In this example, the Blogger Pictures album has four pictures, all the same. It inserted them when the profile image for The Perfect Landscape was added. In your Blogger Pictures album, you should see your profile image if you uploaded one in Chapter 2.