

The Best of 2009 Blog Challenge

#best09 - the challenge

@gwenbell - the hostess



The numbers

31 number of days
in the challenge

number of
end-of-year
reviewers,
writers, bloggers

#best09 participants

730

The challenge

The challenge is a look back on your year. A time for reflection. A chance to make new friends.

How to participate in 5 simple steps:

1. Write on one or all thirty-one of the prompts for the month of December
2. A post can be a sentence, photo or 3,000 word essay
3. Link up your blog or Twitter account if you're going to tweet your bests, on the list

4. Tag your posts and photos #best09.

5. Share your best moments of 2009 over the course of December.

The prompts

December 1 *Trip*

December 2 *Restaurant moment*

December 3 *Article*

December 4 *Book*

December 5 *Night out*

December 6 *Workshop or conference*

December 7 *Blog find of the year*

December 8 *Moment of peace*

December 9 *Challenge*

December 10 *Album of the year*

December 11 *The best place*

December 12 *New food*

December 13 *Change to the place you live*

December 14 *Rush*

December 15 *Best packaging*

December 16 *Tea of the year*

December 17 *Word or phrase*

December 18 *Shop*

December 19 *Car ride*

December 20 *New person*

December 21 *Project*

December 22 *Startup*

December 23 *Web tool*

December 24 *Learning experience*

December 25 *Gift*

December 26 *Insight or aha! moment*

December 27 *Social web moment*

December 28 *Stationery*

December 29 *Laugh*

December 30 *Ad*

December 31 *Resolution*

Vitals

- ▶ **Permanent link to all 730 participants + 31 prompts - <http://j.mp/blogbest09>**
- ▶ Delicious links - <http://delicious.com/gwenbell/%23best09>
- ▶ Twitter list of participants - <http://twitter.com/#/list/gwenbell/best09>
- ▶ Twitter search - <http://search.twitter.com/search?q=%23best09>
- ▶ #best09 - tag on social networks
- ▶ Contact - gwen at gwenbell.com with comments or questions



Project kudos

Enter Gwen Bell, as she gives us The Best of 2009 Blog Challenge, 31 daily prompts to recalling and expressing the Best of the Year that Was. I figured it would be a good way to start putting a positive spin on 2009, and an even better launchpad for a brilliantly fun and fabulous 2010.

-Sara, Soul Spackle

As well as being a review of 2009, the "best of" gives me a series of pointers that I can use for 2010, to live a more considered life and to recognise and document the things I achieve next year. Looking back I realise how much I have forgotten and how hard it can be to remember significant milestones. I know I need to log all this stuff.

-The Whole Self.co.uk



This challenge is one of the most rewarding things I've done all year and the benefits are manifold. You will not regret it, and you very likely will be blown away.

-Emma James, Pleasure Notes

Thank you!

Thank you

I'd like to thank Brandon White for helping me brainstorm prompts over a cup of Lapsang Souchong. Hold the honey and milk, please. Thanks to Patrick Reynolds for reviewing the idea in its nascent stage. And for offering a free consultation to one of the winners. Thank you to Joel Longtine for reminding me to relax during the month.

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Thanks to the self-selected support crew for helping on the admin side of the project

Robyn <http://www.robbyndevine.com>

Karen <http://squarepegpeople.typepad.com>

Julie Jordan Scott <http://www.juliejordanscott.typepad.com>

Courtney <http://wunderbug.blogspot.com>

Alissa <http://thunkedandbefuddled.wordpress.com>

To all 730 of you who publicly declared you were participating, congratulations on taking the time to reflect on your year. To those of you who emailed to say you kept a journal on the topics, congratulations on making the time to write with pen and paper.

To those of you who blogged about the challenge, spread the word on social networks, spread the word and made this project the success it was, my most sincere thanks.

From #best09 HQ, thank you and best wishes for 2010. - Gwen Bell / <http://gwenbell.com>