



MARTIAL CAPITAL

TECHNICAL PAPER: RSS Feeds

With the Internet becoming a more and more important source of information in today's world, it's becoming a challenge to keep up with all the websites we visit regularly: newspapers' websites, magazines' websites, special interest groups, hobbies, travel...

There is a new technology that allows your computer to read all the websites you care about and deliver to your Internet browser only the new content on those websites. You can then see in one place which websites have content you might have read.

This technology is called RSS, which stands for Really Simple Syndication. It's built into Windows Internet Explorer 7 and many other browsers. If your Internet browser does not support RSS, we'll show you how to use it anyway using third party software.

Overview

- ▶ Find out if a website you visit frequently has an RSS feed.
- ▶ If it does, subscribe to it.
- ▶ When you want to look at recent news, open your "Favorites" list. At the top of the Favorites window will appear next to the word "Favorites" the word "Feeds".
- ▶ Click "Feeds" and you will see a list of all the websites you have subscribed to.
- ▶ Select the RSS feed (the new information) of the website you would like to read first.

Almost all newspapers and magazines have RSS feeds on their websites; almost all of the well-known blogs have RSS feeds. Martial Capital Ltd. has an RSS feed on its website, too.

If this is of interest to you, read on.

How to Do It: the Details

These steps use Internet Explorer 7 as an example. If you use a different browser, consult their Help section to see how to do each step in this process.

RSS Feeds

Step One: Find out if a website has an RSS feed:

- ▶ Open the website.
- ▶ Take a look at the icons toward the top right of your IE7 page. Look specifically at the House icon (which sends you to your selected home page) and the printer icon (which sends you to your print menu). Between the two is a box with what looks like a small satellite dish emitting information towards the upper right.
- ▶ If that satellite antenna in the box is grey, the website you have displayed does not have an RSS feed. If the satellite antenna in the box is orange, the web page you have displayed does have an RSS feed.

Step Two: Subscribe to that RSS feed:

- ▶ If the icon is orange, double-click on it.
- ▶ You will then see the current RSS content for that website.
- ▶ If you would like to subscribe to the RSS feed from that website, click on the “subscribe” option at the top of the page. If not, simply close the page.

If you chose to subscribe, when you go to your Favorites menu and select Feeds at the top, the name of this website will appear on the list of subscribed-to feeds.

If Your Browser Doesn't Support RSS Feeds

We recommend “RSSOwl,” a cross platform RSS viewer. You can download a copy from:

<http://www.rssowl.org/download>

Select the operating system you are using; install the copy of RSSOwl that works with your operating system.

When RSSOwl is installed, press the “New” button and copy this link into the URL/Path box:

<http://www.martialcapital.com/rss.xml>

Type in a title and select a category and press “OK”.

Your new Martial Capital feed will show up in the list of categories in the left-hand frame. Double click the name of the feed and you will see the current list of items in the feed ready for your use.