

Forum Types Descriptions

Help in deciding which type of forum to use

The screenshot shows the Moodle forum settings page for 'Chapter 3 Discussion Forum'. A red box highlights the 'Access Forum settings choices from here.' text, which is linked to a menu icon in the forum header. Another red box highlights the 'Choose Forum type from here.' text, which is linked to the 'Forum type' dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'A single simple discussion', 'Each person posts one discussion', 'Q and A forum', and 'Standard forum displayed in a blog-like format'. The 'Standard forum displayed in a blog-like format' option is selected. The page also shows a description field with a rich text editor and two checkboxes: 'Display description on course page' and 'Display recent posts on course page'.

Descriptions of each Forum type

- (Default) **Standard forum for general use:** An open forum. Anyone can start a new discussion at any time. It is well-suited to more open and free-flowing conversations. This is the best general purpose forum. This type is selected by default.
- **Single simple discussion:** A single discussion topic that everyone can reply to. This is useful for discussions that need focus. You cannot use it with separate groups.
- **Each person posts one discussion:** Each student posts one new discussion topic that everyone can reply to. Use this when you need more than a single simple discussion and less than a standard forum for general use.
- **Q and A forum:** This is a question and answer forum. Students must post at least once before replying to others. After they make a post they can view and respond to other students' posts. This encourages students to think for themselves before posting.
- **Standard forum displayed in a blog-like format:** An open forum where anyone can start a new discussion at any time. Discussion topics are on one page with Discuss this topic links.