

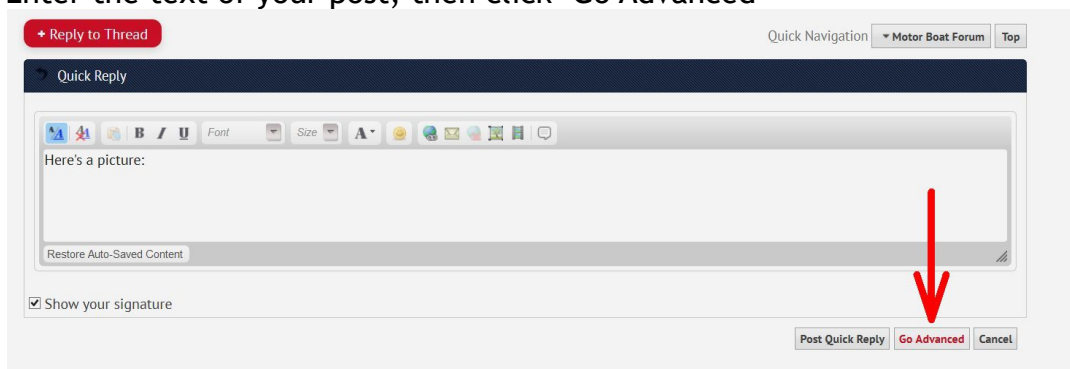
Another way to post pictures on the YBW forum 23 December 2017

The YBW forum provides a small amount of server space for users to store pictures and then upload them to illustrate posts. This space is soon exhausted and old pictures have to be deleted to make way for new ones with the result that older posts lose their illustrations. Forumites used to use Photobucket to get round this problem, but the Photobucket process is no longer free. It's possible to use other free photo hosting services but there is a risk that sooner or later all these will go the same way as Photobucket.

A safer alternative is to use Dropbox. The pictures stay on your computer in a designated folder from which Dropbox automatically synchronises them to a folder on their servers. You can start with a free Dropbox service. I am a happy user of their paid-for service which gives more server space.

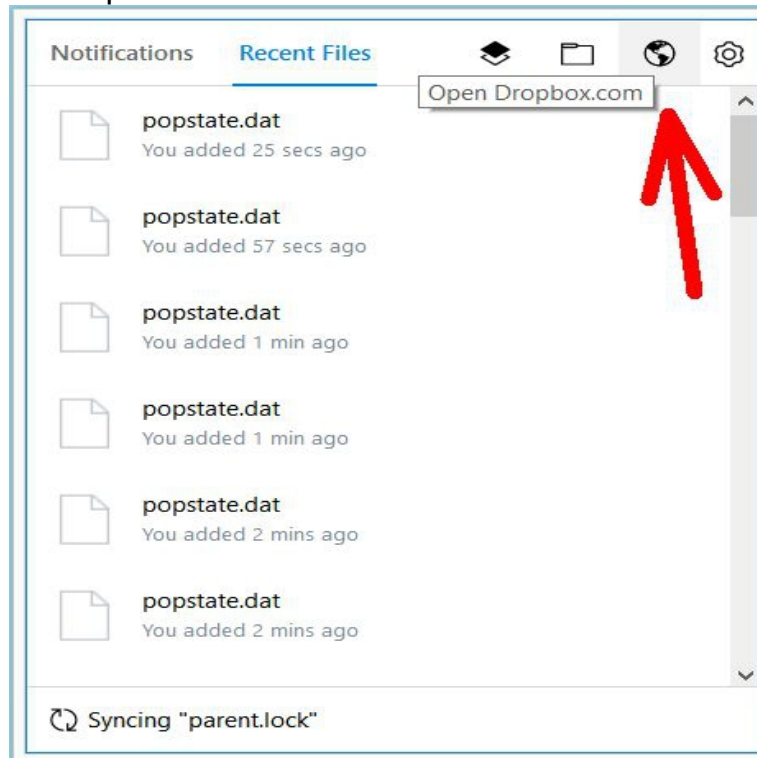
If you decide to use this method, here's how to do it. It may seem a bit long-winded but once you have done it a few times it becomes easy, the work of a few moments. The credit goes to forumite [Baba Yaga for the trick in line 8.4](#)

1. Open a free Dropbox account
2. Choose the image you want to post on the forum and re-size it to a width of about 640 pixels - large picture files produce enormous images on the forum which can look a bit naff
3. Put the picture you want to post on the forum into the Dropbox folder on your computer
4. Go to the existing thread where you want to post and click "Reply to Thread" (or one of the other options), or start a new thread
5. Enter the text of your post, then click "Go Advanced"

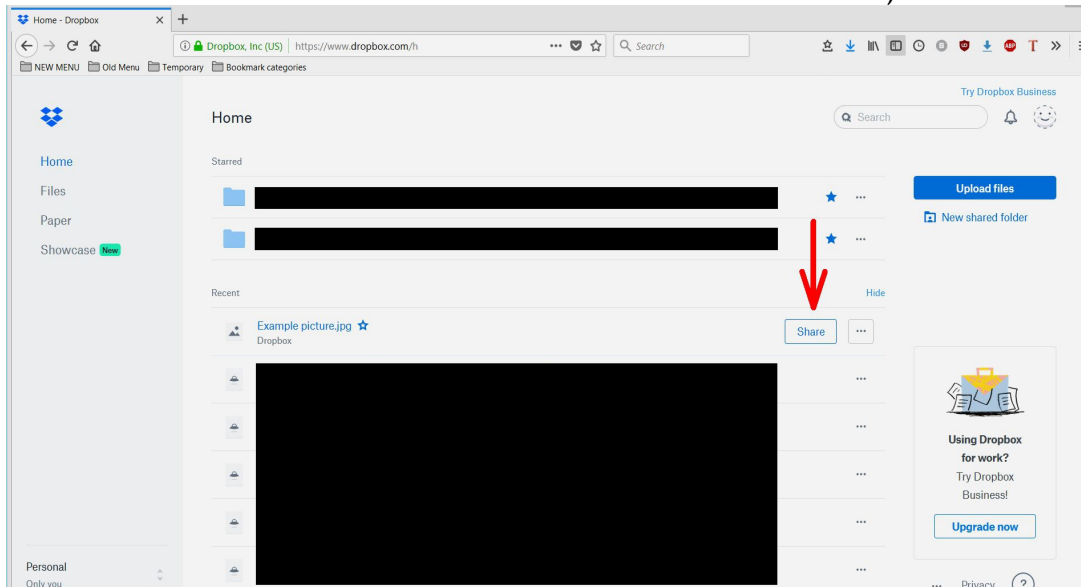


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6. Connect to Dropbox's site

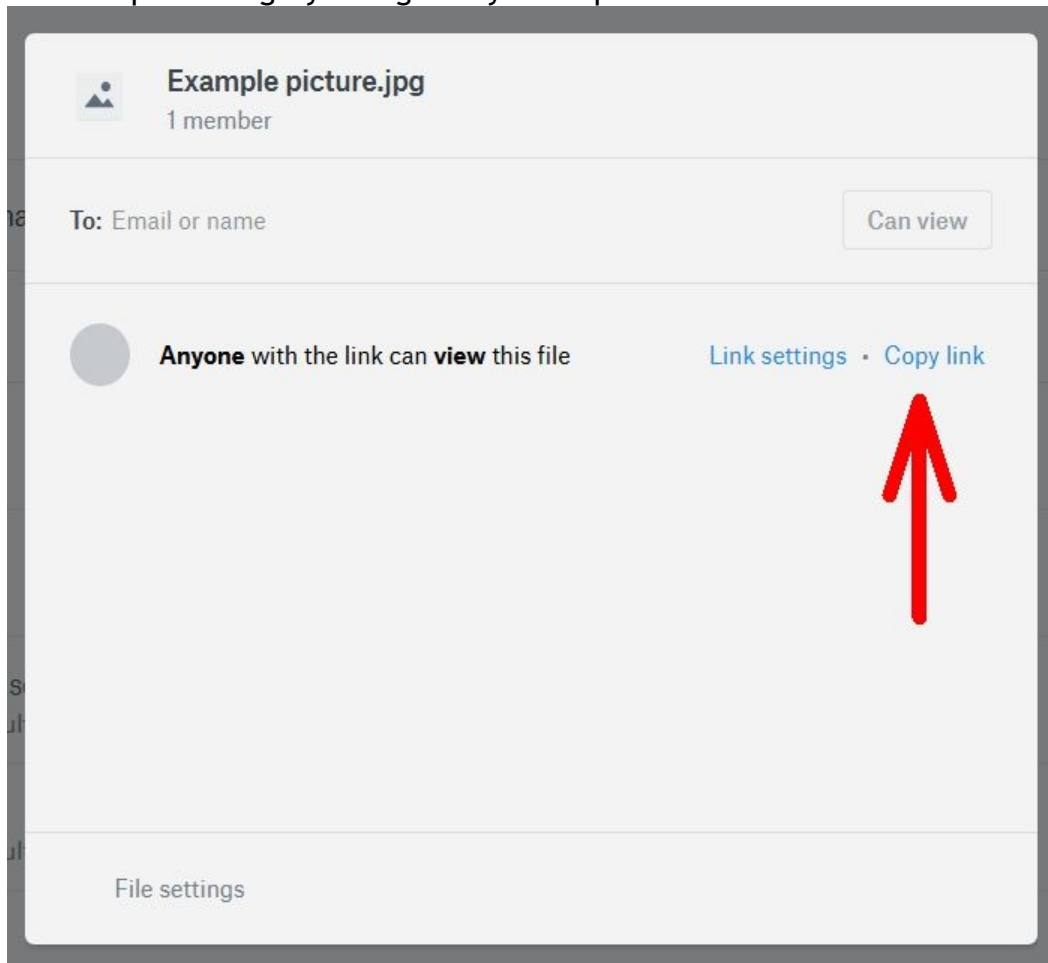


7. Find the photo you want to post, and click on the option to "SHARE" (in the screenshot below I have blanked out confidential information)



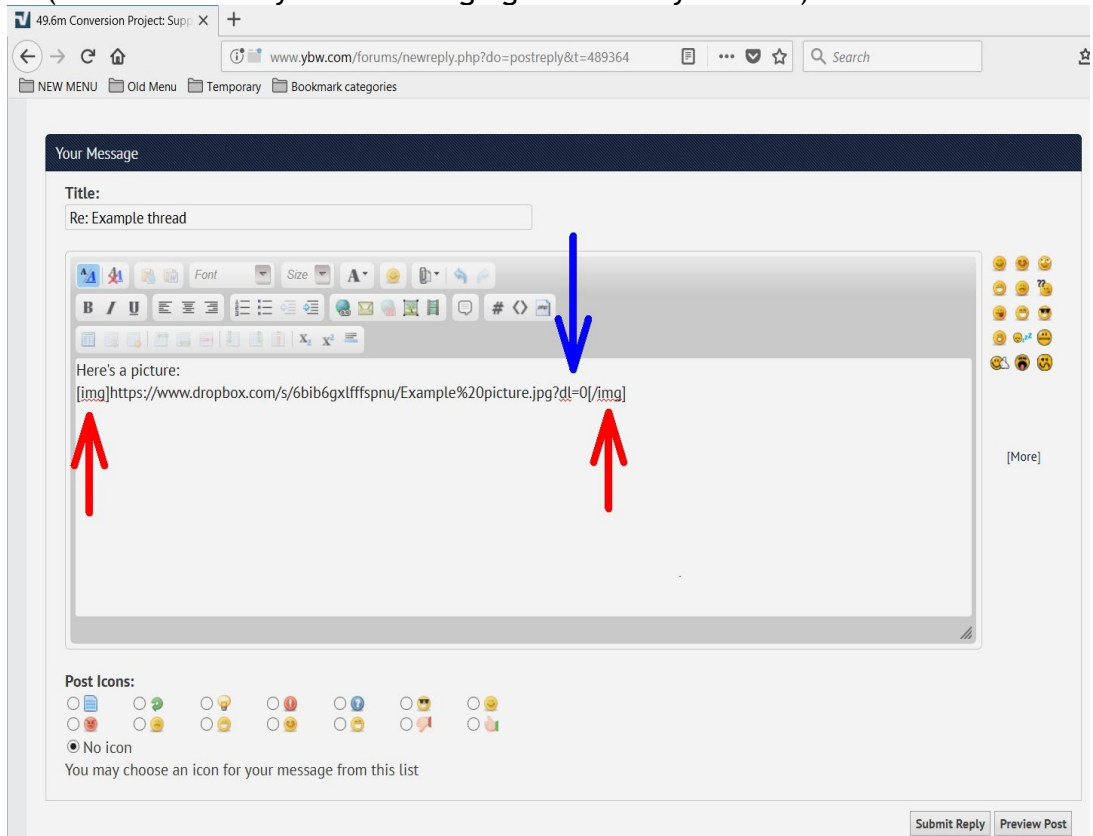
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8. You will get an option to create a link. Choose this and click on "Copy link", this will put a lengthy string into your clipboard



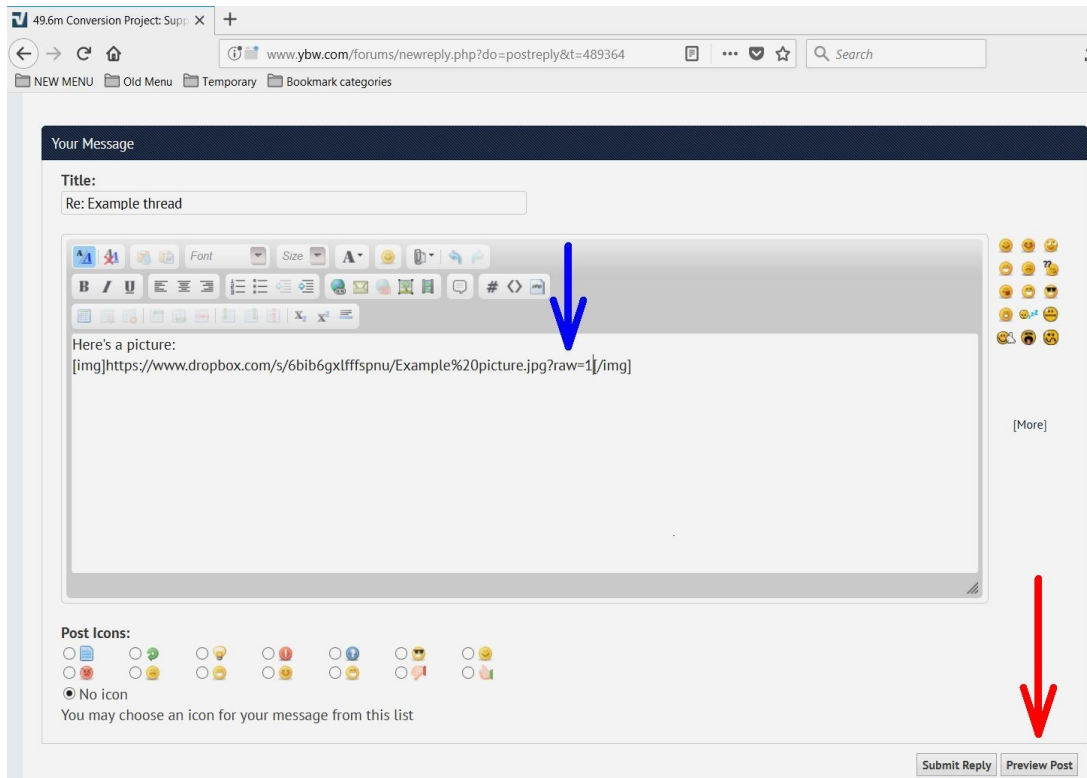
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9. Go back to your draft forum post and do the following carefully
 1. Where you see the first red arrow on the first screenshot below type `[img]`
 2. From your clipboard paste the link that Dropbox gave you
 3. Where you see the second red arrow on the first screenshot below type `[/img]`
 4. Where you see the blue arrow on the first and second screenshots below, change the characters after the question mark to read `raw=1` (the characters you are changing will usually be `dl=0`)

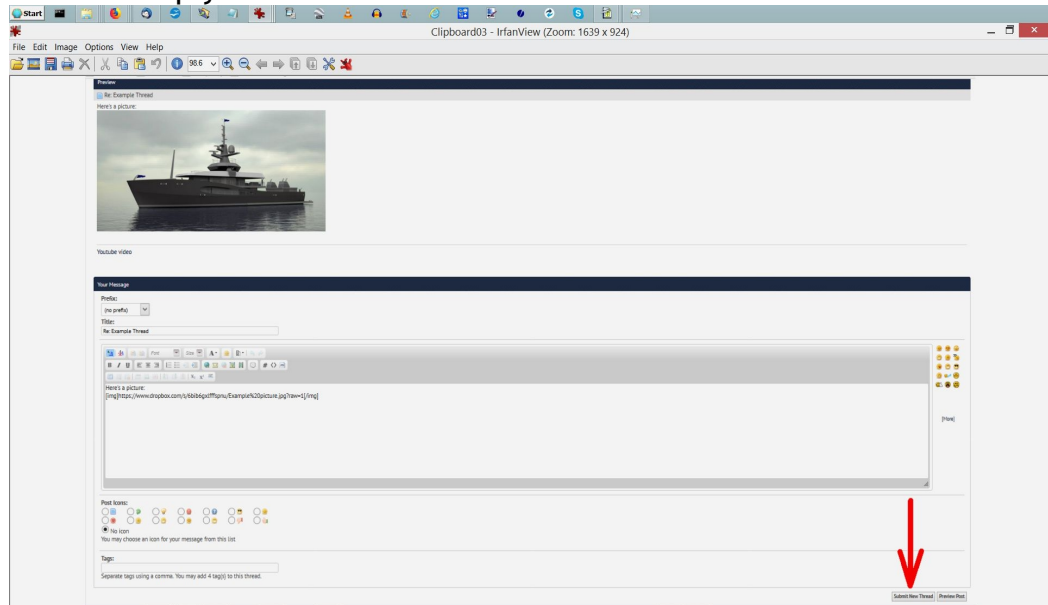


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10. Click on "Preview Post"



11. Give the YBW server a little time to find and extract the picture from the Dropbox server - if all goes well and you are happy with the result click "Submit Reply"



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