

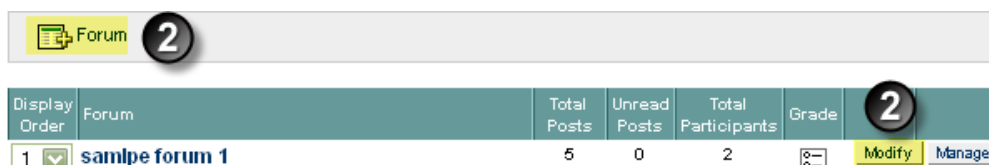
# Rating Posts

A common learning tool in classrooms are peer assessment techniques. Students prepare an essay, report, or presentation and share it with the class. Other students are asked to comment on the work and offer criticisms for improvement. This process helps the student improve their work and the reviewers improve their communication skills.

In an online learning environment the Discussion Board can also provide opportunities for peer assessment. Each student can start a thread with their work in the body of the post or attached to the initial post. Other students then review the work, assign a rating to the initial post, and include comments in a response. As users respond, the feedback expands as users reinforce and build on points made by other students.

Users can respond to a post using a 5-star rating system (we would suggest that instructors define parameters for the rating system at the beginning of the course). The enable this feature:

1. Select the Discussion Board you wish to modify. The forum page will be displayed.

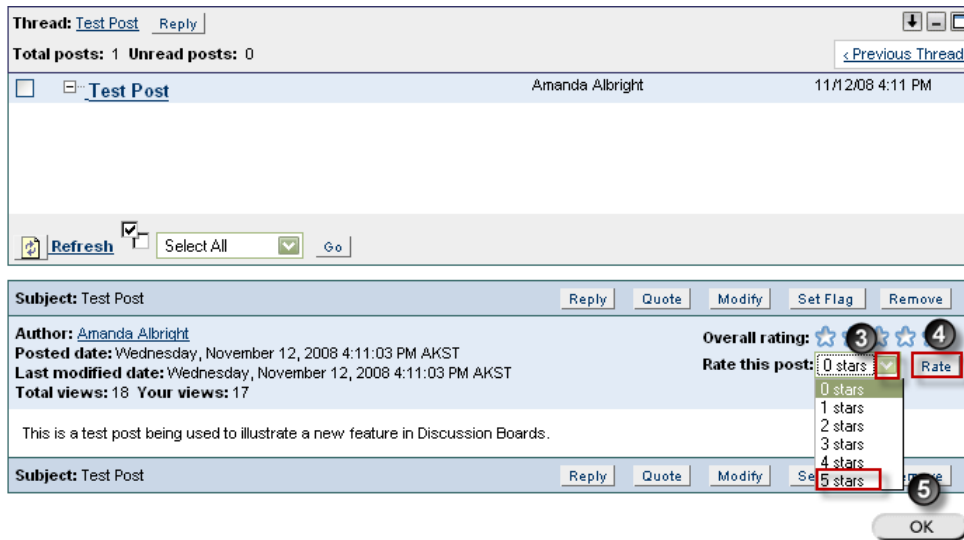


2. Create a new Forum by clicking on the Add Forum button in the tools menu, or click on the **[Modify]** button for an existing forum. The **Modify Forum** screen will be displayed.

3. Under the Forum Setting click on the check box next to the **“Allow members to rate posts”** header.
4. Click the **[Submit]** button located in the lower right-hand corner of the browser window to save the change.

To rate a post:

1. Navigate to the forum containing the post to be rated. The Thread listing will be displayed.
2. Click on the hyperlink for the thread to be rated. The thread listing screen will be displayed.



3. Click on the **“Rate this post:”** dropdown arrow, then click on the number of stars that you wish to assign to the posting.
4. Then click on the **[Rate]** button to the right of the stars menu. *Note: a user may not rate the same post more than once.*
5. Click the **[OK]** button to return to the Thread listing screen.