

WordPress & SEO: A Technical talk

Baltimore WordCamp / 10.18.14

Hi, I'm Arsham.

@WebMechanix
 @Arshammm
 #WCBalt



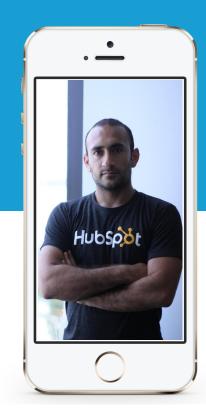


Analytics Junkie

Tracking stuff, using the data to make decisions

SEO/UX Nerd

Optimizing user & search engine experience







WordPress
Developer

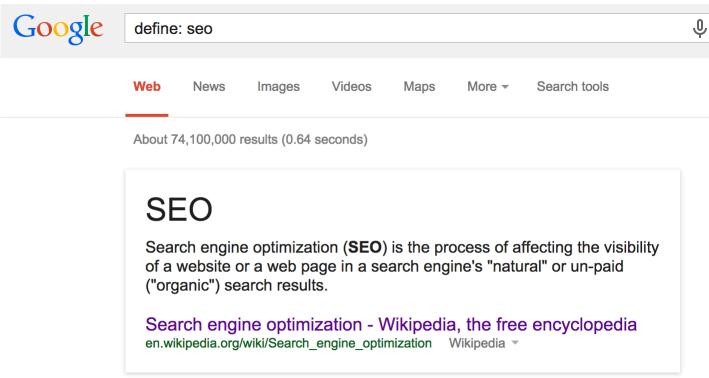
Building on top of an already awesome platform

Team Evangelist

Growing and having fun with our smart team



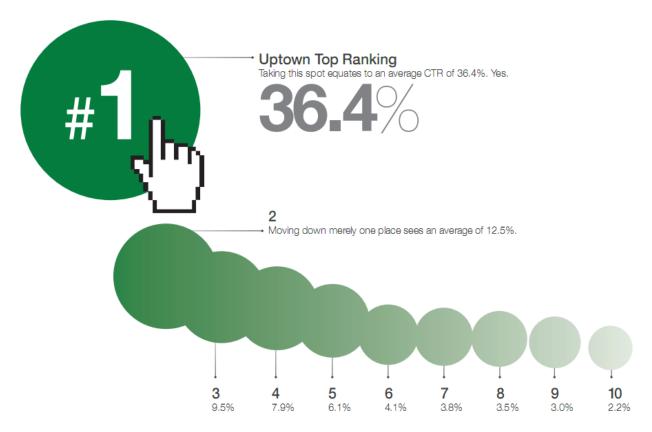
Cool, so what's SEO?



Feedback



Why show up organically?



http://moz.com/ugc/how-to-get-more-clicks-with-low-rankings

Google Targets Sites Using Private Blog Networks With Manual Action Ranking Penalties

Penguin – What Happens Next?

What Is The Google Pigeon Update?

Buffer saw a 90% drop in Google traffic but recovered after Google fixed an unconfirmed bug.

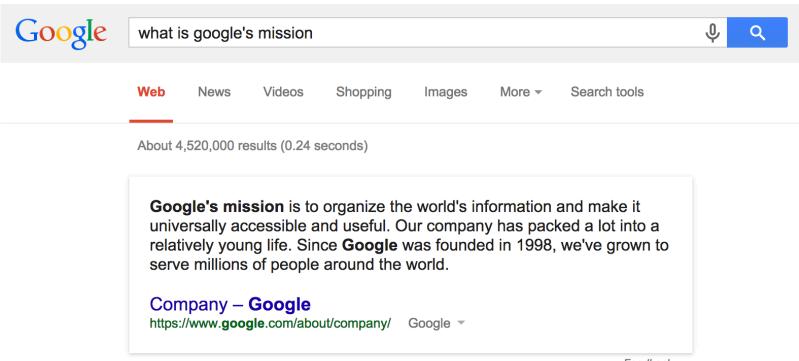
[Infographic] Google's 200 Ranking Factors

Panda 4.1 (#27) — September 23, 2014

Panda 4.1 Algorithm Update: Google Gleans Deeper



Let's make it simple



Feedback

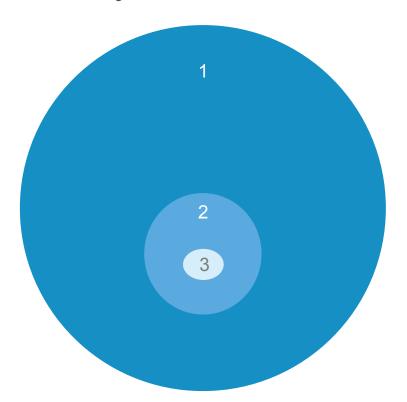


Your mission...

Make it (super) easy for users and search engines to access, understand, and digest your website (content).



Three layers of SEO



- 1 The internet aka "off-site"
- Your website aka "on-site"
- 3 Your webpage aka "on-page"



Off-site in 2 minutes

pointblankseo.com/link-building-strategies

Visit the site above and choose the options to fit your scenario.

Start with low time to execution (1), high value impact (2), and low dependencies (3).

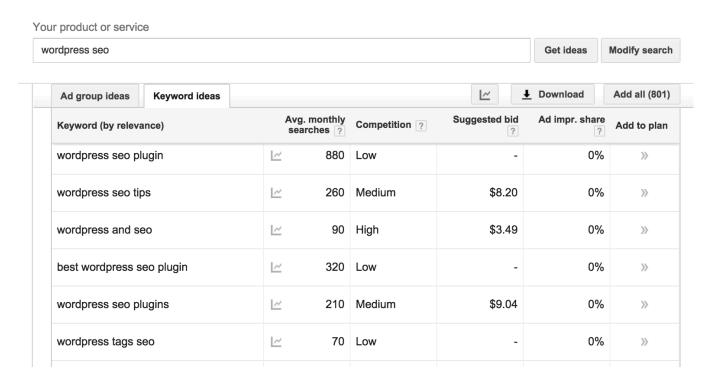
Do many strategies at once. Win.

AVAILABLE	TIME TO	EXECUTE			
Weeks 2 Weeks	3 Weeks	4 Weeks	8 Weeks	12 Weeks	> 12 Weeks
LINK VALUE	3	DEPENI	DENCY O	N OTHER	SOURCES
☑ High		Content		☐ Financial	
		Customer S	ervice	□ HR	
☐ Moderate		Design		□ Legal	
Low-Moderate		Developmen	nt	Marketing	
□ Low		Executive Te	eam	□ PR	
		Social			
		☐ Translatio	on		
		□ User Test	ing		
		□ Video Pro	duction		

On-page SEO

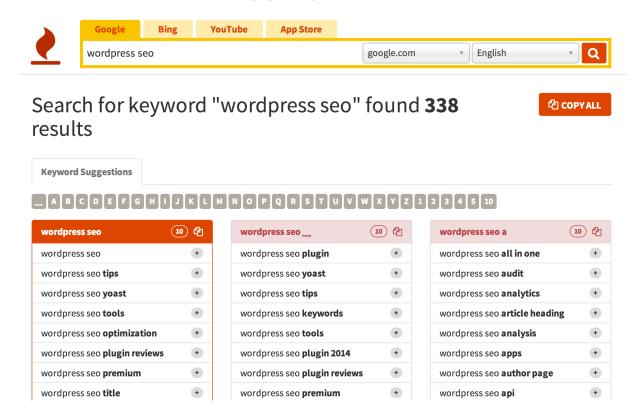


Start with keywords





Keywords, not "blind blogging"



http://keywordtool.io/



Anatomy of a well optimized page

H1 (HEADER) TAG

Include target keyword verbatim within the header tag. Blend in other words if needed for readability.

Weight = 10 (must do)

INVISIBLE SEO POINTS

(in order of importance)

Keyword to be included in...

PAGE TITLE

Use target keyword as first words, move branding to back.

Weight = 10

PAGE META DESCRIPTION

Prominently, at least once, no more than twice, include variation as well if possible.

Weight = 8

www.mvsite.com/search-engine-optimization.html

- SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION TIPS

Looking for more traffic to your website? Enjoy these free **Search Engine Optimization** Tips, courtesy of MySite, the clear leader in Mobile User Management.

Lorem ipsum unum e pluribus dos Lorem ipsum dolor amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Etiam et dui. Nam ut ipsum a arcu vehicula pretium. Praesent posuere aliquet neque. Donec elementum magna sit amet ligula. Duis sit amet est. Donec lectus.

SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION CHECKLIST

- Require hasellus aliquam magna in aliquam lobortis
- Lorem dui ornare libero nec gravida lacus diam sed quam
- Nunc ut sapien id sapien faucibus cursulla lorem

Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per inceptos himenaeos. Ut mollis consequat lectus.

JRL

Include only target keyword verbatim within the page's URL. Avoid using other words if possible.

Weight = 10 (must do)

TEXT

Include keyword verbatim within first 90 visible characters, no more than twice within first 500 characters.

Weight = 10 (must do)

Aim for 6-7% keyword density throughout remaining copy. Use free

- 1 Page URL
- 2 Title tag
- 3 Meta desc tag
- 4 Page format:
 - Headlines
 - Paragraphs
 - Lists

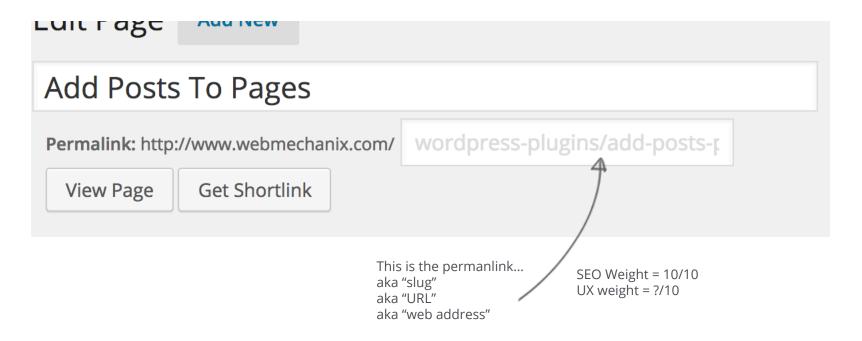


WordPress plugins for SEO





Plugin: Custom Permalinks



https://wordpress.org/plugins/custom-permalinks/



Page URL



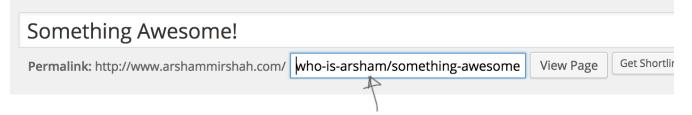
Plugin: Custom Permalinks

For nested pages

Before:

Something Awesome! Permalink: http://www.arshammirshah.com/who-is-arsham/ something-awesome OK Can

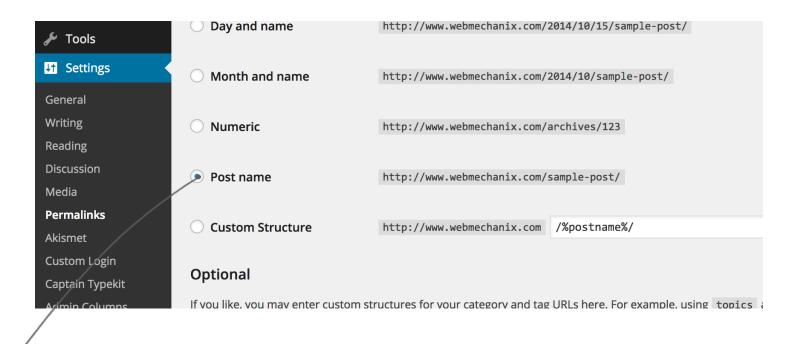
After:



Notice how you can change the **entire** URL now.

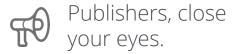


Setting: Permalinks



Cleanest, least amount of waste, keyword closest to the root URL.

SEO Weight = 10/10 UX weight = ?/10





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www.mvsite.com/search-engine-optimization.html

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Lorem ipsum unum e pluribus dos Lorem ipsum dolor amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Etiam et dui. Nam ut ipsum a arcu vehicula pretium. Praesent posuere aliquet neque. Donec elementum magna sit amet ligula. Duis sit amet est. Donec lectus.

SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION CHECKLIST

- Require hasellus aliquam magna in aliquam lobortis
- Lorem dui ornare libero nec gravida lacus diam sed quam
- · Nunc ut sapien id sapien faucibus cursulla lorem

Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per inceptos himenaeos. Ut mollis consequat lectus.

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Plugin: WordPress SEO by Yoast

Who saw that coming?



On page SEO using Yoast SEO Plugin

SEO Weight = 10/10

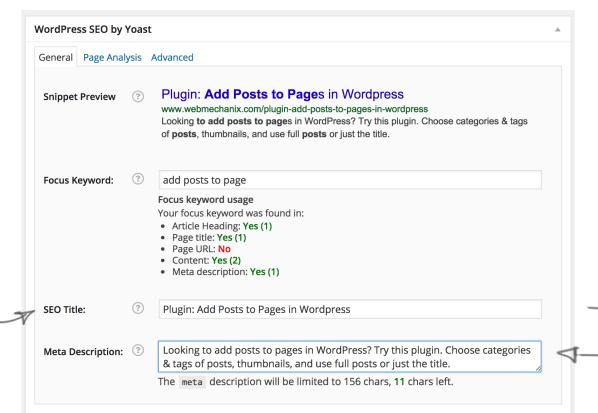
UX weight = 9/10

2 Title tag



3

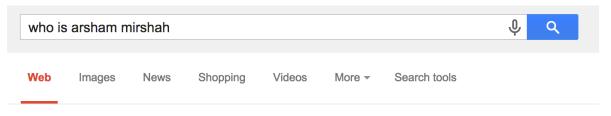
Meta desc tag



SEO Weight = 7/10 UX weight = 8.5/10



Meta description examples



About 2,700 results (0.47 seconds)

Arsham Mirshah's Blog | The Fun, Uncalculated, Naked, Truth

www.arshammirshah.com/ >

Posted by **Arsham** in Games · No comments. Hey! You new here? Are you on Twitter? Do you use RSS feeds? How about Facebook? Thanks for visiting, hope ...

Who Is Arsham? | Arsham Mirshah

www.arshammirshah.com/who-is-arsham >

Who is this **Arsham Mirshah** character? Don't know exactly what to share... I Love Tennis & Skiing Honestly, if my body could handle it, all I would do.

Arsham Mirshah | LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/in/arshamm >

Baltimore, Maryland Area - Co-Founder at WebMechanix, LLC

Arsham Mirshah is a co-founder and Technical Director of Marketing at WebMechanix. Arsham has been on the cutting-edge of marketing technology for more ...



Doesn't answer your question.. Arsham get slap on wrist.





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www.mysite.com/search-engine-optimization.html

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Lorem ipsum unum e pluribus dos Lorem ipsum dolor amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Etiam et dui. Nam ut ipsum a arcu vehicula pretium. Praesent posuere aliquet neque. Donec elementum magna sit amet ligula. Duis sit amet est. Donec lectus.

SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION CHECKLIST

- Require hasellus aliquam magna in aliquam lobortis
- Lorem dui ornare libero nec gravida lacus diam sed quam
- Nunc ut sapien id sapien faucibus cursulla lorem

Class aptent taciti sociosqu ad litora torquent per conubia nostra, per inceptos himenaeos. Ut mollis consequat lectus.

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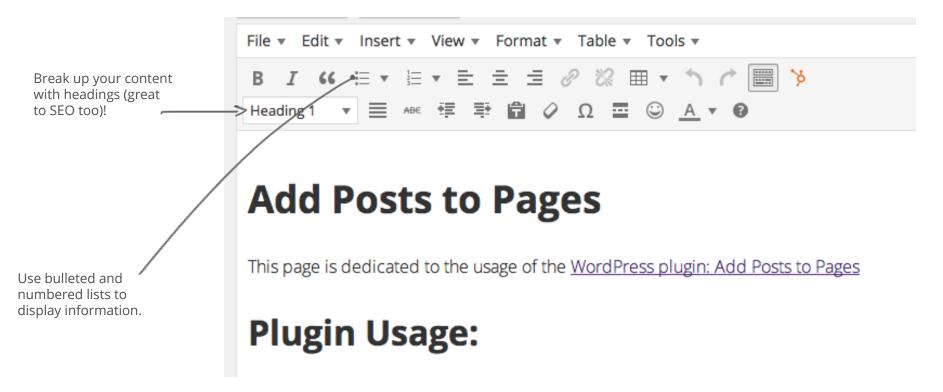
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Content that's easy to digest



Anatomy of a well optimized page (2)



Other VERY important attributes

In hac habitasse platea dictums **Search Engine Optimization**. Nullam aliquet turpis ac enim. Sed metus. Cum sociis natoque penatibus et magnis dis parturient montes, nascetur ridiculus mus. Proin ultricies dui eu turpis. Morbi ut enim. Suspendisse aliquet varius est.

Learn more about Search Engine Optimization Techniques

Go back to Web Marketing Resources Overview

Go back to the MySite.com Home Page

5 Internal linking

6 Image alt tags



Internal linking Image alt tags

LINK ARCHITECTURE

Link to and from parent pages/related pages using relevant keywords within anchor text (linking from parent pages not shown here, but equally important).

Weight = 10 (must do)

ON-PAGE LINK

Include target keyword within the anchor text of at least one link (but not more than two) that appears on the body of the page.

Weight = 10 (must do)

It's preferable that the keyword phrase (or a variation) is contained on the page being linked to, i.e. try to link to a relevant page. ▼ <div class="mugshot">

</div>



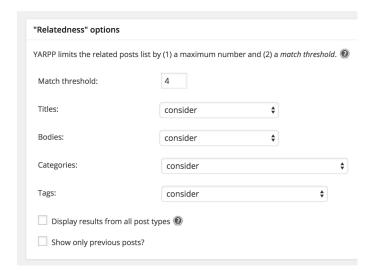
Plugin: Yet Another Related Post Plugin





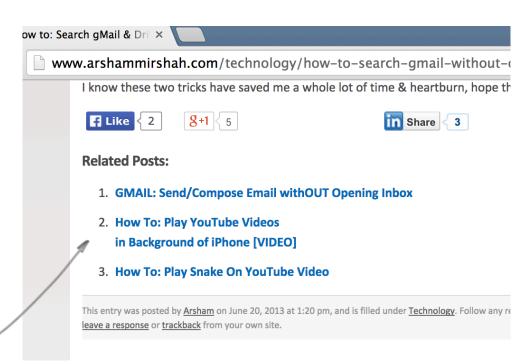


Plugin: Yet Another Related Post Plugin



Configurable with options, visit the settings page to adjust.

> Ultimately it outputs this at the bottom of your post



g

Plugin: Add posts to pages





Plugin: Add posts to pages (shortcode)

In the post editor:

Examples:

Show the latest 2 posts from the "Website Development" category:

[add_posts category=website-development show=2]



Examples:

Show the latest 2 posts from the "Website Development" category:

What it looks like on the page:

- Your Website May Have a Weight Problem
- 7 B2B Email Marketing Tips for Optimizing Campaigns on Mobile

When you visit the "WordPress Development" page, the 2 posts on the top are the same as the 2 bullet points that the plugin pulled.

Anatomy of a well optimized page (2)

Other VERY important attributes

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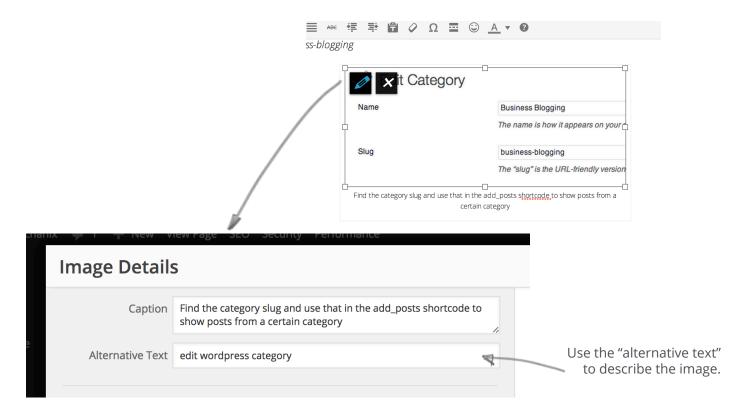
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</div>



Using alternative tag on images No plugin needed, just discipline ©





Anatomy of a well optimized page (2)

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</div>

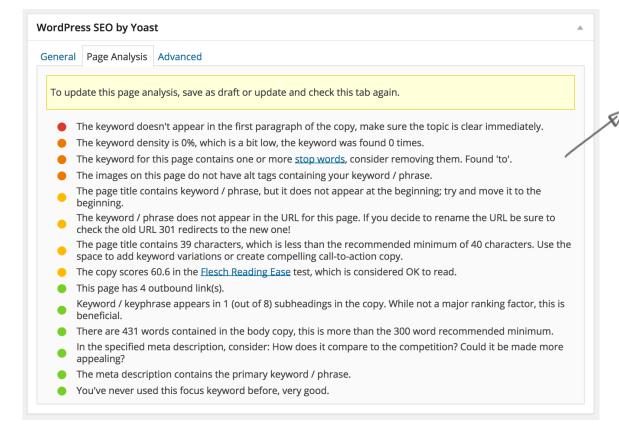


Plugin: Shareaholic (social sharing)





On page SEO using Yoast SEO Plugin



On page SEO guideline... use this like you use the pointblankseo.com link building strategies.



On-site SEO



Google Webmasters

You want to be found on the web. We want to help.

Get data, tools and diagnostics for a healthy, Google-friendly site.

Sign in to Webmaster Tools

1 Submit sitemap

- Data highlighter #SemanticSearch
- HTML improvements #MadeEasy
- Content Keywords #Relevancy



Back to Yoast SEO





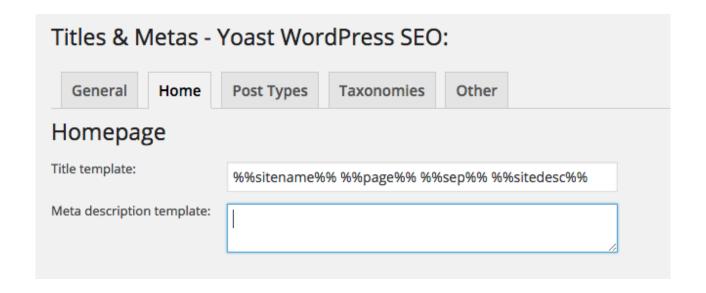
Yoast SEO: Titles & Metas -> General



Sit ✓	Noindex subpages of archives If you want to prevent /page/2/ and further of any archive to show up in the search results, enable this.
	Use meta keywords tag? I don't know why you'd want to use meta keywords, but if you want to, check this box.
✓	Add noodp meta robots tag sitewide Prevents search engines from using the DMOZ description for pages from this site in the search results.
✓	Add noydir meta robots tag sitewide Prevents search engines from using the Yahoo! directory description for pages from this site in the search results.
Clean up the <head> Hide RSD Links Hide WLW Manifest Links Hide Shortlink for posts Hide RSS Links</head>	



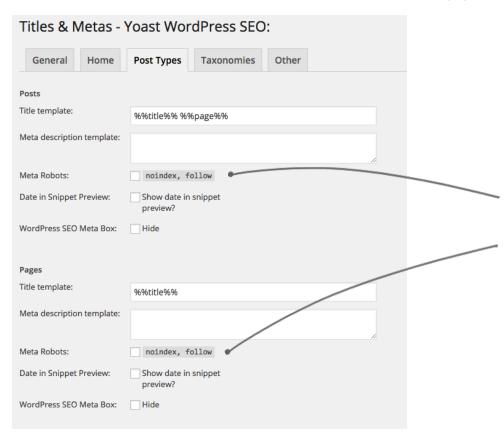
Yoast SEO: Titles & Metas -> Home



Probably the most important thing you can do for a new website.



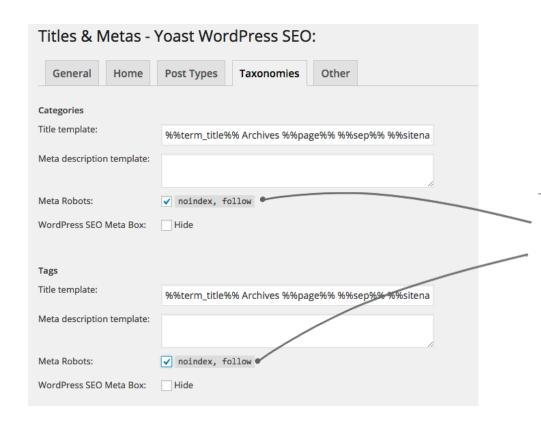
Yoast SEO: Titles & Metas -> Post Types



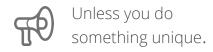
If you check these boxes, Google will not index your site... and other bad things will happen.



Yoast SEO: Titles & Metas -> Taxonomies

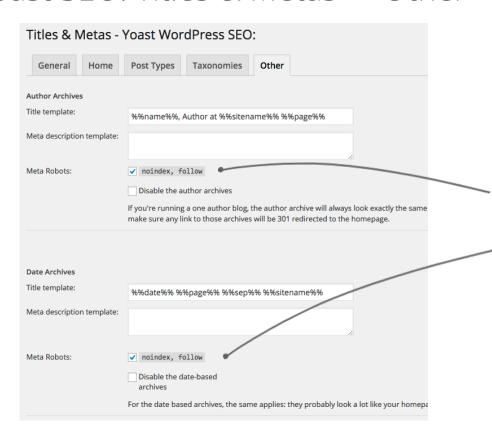


These pages aren't unique content, so they likely won't rank... save Google the effort of indexing them by checking these boxes.

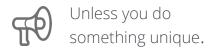




Yoast SEO: Titles & Metas -> Other

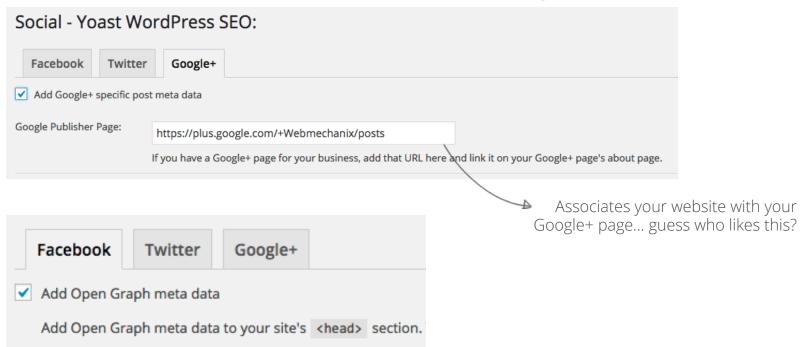


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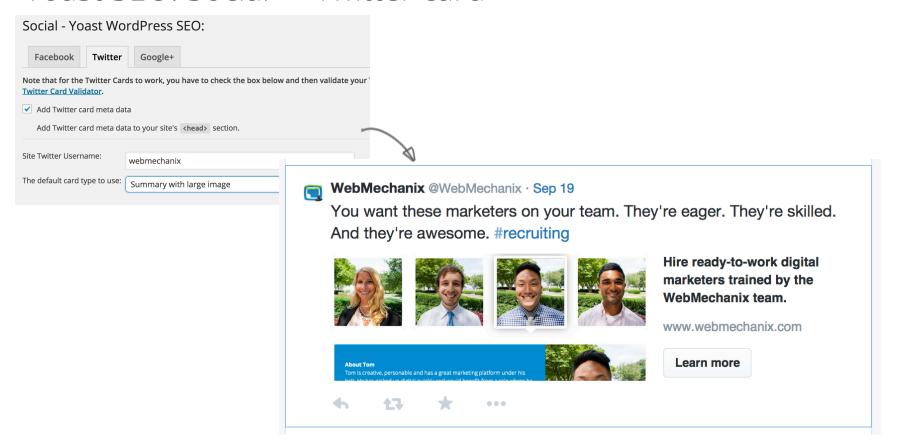


Yoast SEO: Social -> Facebook & Google





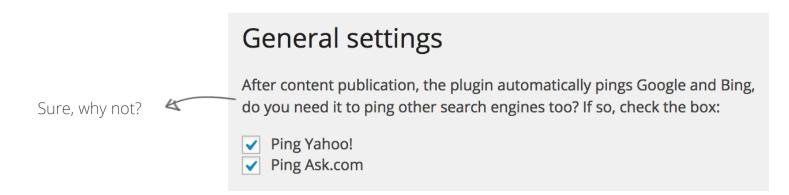
Yoast SEO: Social -> Twitter card





Yoast SEO: XML Sitemaps







Site speed optimization

Because fast is (usually) better





Page load slowdown of one second could cost \$1.6 billion in sales.



Slowing its search down by just 4/10's of a second could lose 8 million searches per day.

Impacts of faster sites/pages

Faster websites lead to higher visiter engagement, retention, and conversion. All the things you want!

Don't <u>you</u> love it when a site loads quickly? Don't <u>you</u> hate it when a site loads slowly or fails to load?!



Plugin: WP Smush.it



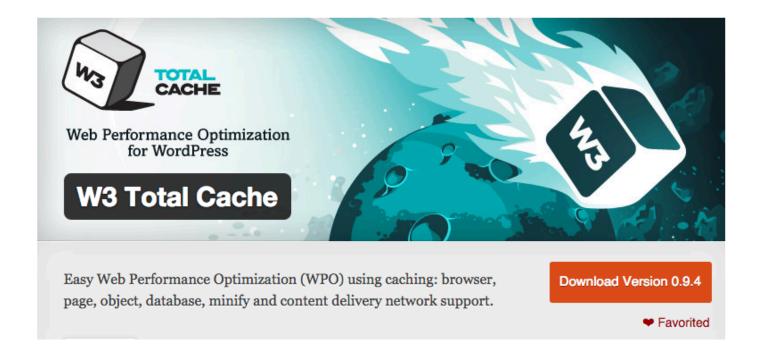


https://wordpress.org/plugins/wp-smushit/

https://wordpress.org/plugins/ewww-image-optimizer/



Plugin: W3 Total Cache





W3 Total Cache: General Settings



General | Page Cache | Minify | Database Cache | Object Cache | Browser Cache | CDN

Makes it so WordPress doesn't have to "build" the page every time someone visits.

Think of it like a prefixe menu.

Combines JS & CSS files into one, reducing the number of "trips" your browser needs to make to the server.

Less round trips, faster load!

Tells browser to save the static files. When user navigates or comes back, it loads from their computer.

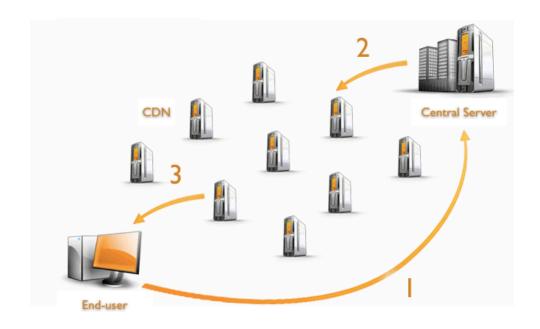
Deliver locally for speedy site.



BE CAREFUL: If you have a dynamic site (mobile, personalization, gated content, etc..) – Caching MAY NOT be a good idea.



W3 Total Cache: CDN

















Testing your website speed



http://tools.pingdom.com/ https://developers.google.com/speed/pagespeed/insights/

Don't forget...



Your mission...

Make it (super) easy for users and search engines to access, understand, and digest your website (content).

Questions?

Thanks for listening!

@webmechanix @arshammm #WCBalt

http://webmechanix.com