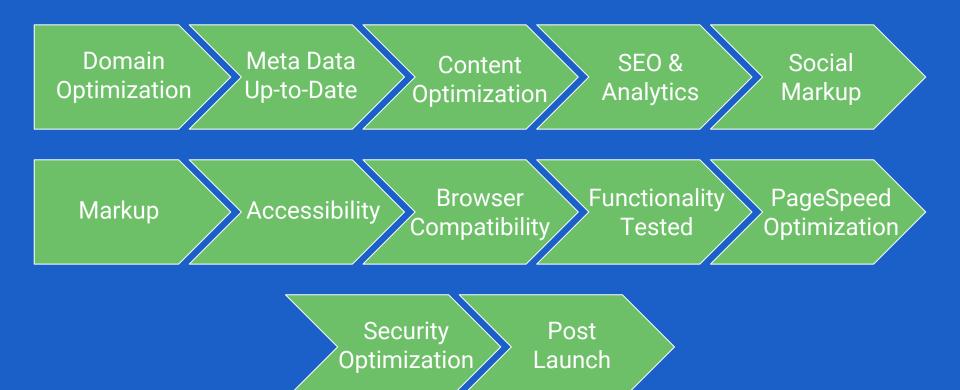


#### Website SEO Checklist

Main points to have a flawless start for your new website.





#### **Domain Optimization**

- Domain name chosen to be relevant to URLs are setup to be SEO-friendly with a clear structure; your company;
- Top-level domain (TLD) is chosen to best suit your company needs;
- Domain set to use subfolders / subdirectories rather than subdomain;
- Domain utilises the HTTPS protocol for user security;

- A prefered domain is set (www or non-www) and redirected;
- Chosen the prefered domain in Google Search Console;
- Domain expiration date is more than 1 year;



#### Meta Data Up-to-Date

- ☐ Title tags are optimized for relevant keywords and location;
- Title tags are unique and don't have any duplicates;
- Title tags length is at a maximum of 50-60 characters;

- Description tags are optimized for targeted keywords and location;
- Description tags are not duplicate and fully unique;
- Description tags length is at a maximum of 160 characters;



### **Content Optimization**

All the content present on your website is without grammatical errors;	Website has a text menu present on all pages;
Content on all pages is properly formatted for them;	All images are with SEO-friendly file names (with keywords);
There are no placeholder (Lorem ipsum) texts present on the website;	All images have a descriptive alt tag, not keyword stuffed;
Every page on your website has content present on it;	All web pages have a H1 tag, H2 tags, etc a proper hierarchy;
There is a Privacy Policy page available on the website;	Footer of website includes a copyright statement;

An informative 404 page exists and it

helps guide a user on it;

There is a stylesheet specifically for

print;



## SEO & Analytics

- Generated an XML sitemap and it is accessible on the website root;
- Robots.txt file generated and checked not to block resources;
- Website is indexable and crawlable by search engines (noindex, nofollow);
- Google Search Console and Analytics present on every page;



#### Social Markup

- Included Open Graph data for Facebook;
- Included Twitter Card data for visualisation on Twitter;

- Included Pinterest Rich Pin functionality;
- Social accounts are linked from your website, integrations go through APIs;



#### Markup

- Website HTML is W3C Validated and known issues are fixed;
- Website utilises valid CSS that is cross-browser compatible;
- Website has no Javascript errors present;

- The website follows best practices and is mobile-friendly;
- Website has an interlinking structure that benefits important pages;
- Tested site links so they resolve properly and point to right locations;



#### Accessibility

- Website uses semantic headings and structure;
- A link is clearly distinguishable from rest of copy and has a :focus state;
- Users with Javascript disabled are provided an alternative to view site;

- All forms have a logical and clear layout;
- Labels are added to each form field, clarifying what it's for;
- Color contrast does not obscure elements and make them hard to see;



#### **Browser Compatibility**

- Website tested to be compatible with IE9, IE10 and IE11;
- Website tested to be compatible with Mozilla both on Mac and Windows;
- Website tested to be compatible with Chrome both on Mac and Windows;
- ☐ Website tested to be compatible with Safari on Mac;

- Website tested to be compatible with Safari iOS both on Mobile and iPad;
- Compatible with Chrome iOS and Android both on Mobile and Tablet;
- Website tested to be compatible with stock Android browser;
- Website displays and functions properly on high resolution screens;



### **Functionality Tested**

- All webforms are tested and work as intended;
- Required fields for input accept the proper input type (text, number, date);
- All submitted forms have their information sent to set recipients;

- Forms have tracking implemented confirm URL or event tracking;
- Website search form and result pages tested to output correct information;
- All other custom functionalities not mentioned here are fully tested too;



#### PageSpeed Optimization

- Images are optimized for web pages and most suitable extension is used;
- Website uses minified CSS and all stylesheets are combined in one;
- Website uses minified Javascript and all stylesheets are combined in one;
- Server GZip compression is enabled for your website;

- Load only needed Fonts, Font icons and character sets;
- Set proper Expire headers and ETags for all content types;
- Run website through <u>Google Speed</u>
  <u>Test</u> and <u>GTmetrix</u> fix recommended;
- Use a Content Delivery Network (CDN) for hosting resources (CSS, Images);



### **Security Optimization**

- Search engines can not access secure areas of the website (admin panel);
- CMS URL to default admin login is changed to something else;
- CMS default username (typically admin) is changed;

- Website is protected from Cross-site scripting attacks;
- Website is protected from Clickjacking attacks;
- Hosting is safe and secure against DDoS attacks;



#### Post Launch

- Make sure your website is visible to If website was restructured make sure search engines; all 301 redirects are in place;
- Your SSL certificates are successfully installed on the website;
- Website URL is submitted to Google and Bing for indexing;
- Regenerate a new sitemap.xml and resubmit it;

- Fix all errors that may appear in Google Search Console;
- Analytics tracking code is the correct one and functions properly;
- Social markup tested to work as intended for each social platform;

# Website SEO Checklist 2017

by



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