

Search Engine Optimization – A Complete Guideline for Beginners

Search engine optimization (SEO) is the most powerful digital marketing tool on the internet. It can generate traffic as well as sales.

Before starting about [search engine optimization](#) (SEO), let's see how search engine works:

How Search Engine Works

Naturally people search some piece of information on search engine. Search engine shows 10 best results on each SERP (search engine result page).

Now the question is how search engine finds the best results.

Every search engine has three primary functions:

- Crawling
- Indexing
- Ranking

Crawling

Crawling is a discovering process. Search engines send their robots to find the new and updated content. Content can be an article, image, video, PDF, animation, etc. The content discovers by links.

Indexing

Every search engine has a very big database where they keep all information about the content they find on the internet. This is called indexing.

Ranking

When searchers search for a piece of information on the search engines, they provide the best relevant results to the searchers. This ordering of search results by relevance is known as ranking. In general we can say that the higher ranked webpage is more relevant and trustworthy to the search engines.

What is SEO?

Search engine optimization (SEO) is the process that you can get ranking of your keywords on the 1st page of SERP.

When searchers search for any piece of information, the search engines show the most relevant results on its SERP. Making the webpage most relevant is called SEO (search engine optimization)

SEO is the process of optimizing your online content so that the search engines like to show it on the 1st page of their SERP.

Why You Need SEO for Your Website?

In every second 60 blog posts are publishing online. That means over 5 million in a day. If you want to be succeed on blogging or online business, you need to do SEO for your website. Let's see what you can get from SEO:

- You can get more organic traffic
- Easily you can reach to your targeted audiences
- Sales conversion is higher as you are getting more organic traffic
- You don't need to spend money on advertising
- It becomes more trustworthy when your keywords are ranking on the 1st page of the search engines.
- It can give you brand image as your keywords are ranking in the 1st page of the search engines
- SEO can boost your website's credibility and authority.
- It can boost user experience.

How to do Search Engine Optimization?

Search engine optimization or SEO is a technical work. It is not very hard. You can also do SEO of your own website or you can be an SEO expert or SEO professional after learning SEO. In this article I will show you all the steps of SEO, so that you can learn SEO and can become an SEO expert.

We can divide SEO into three major parts:

- On page SEO
- Technical SEO
- Off page SEO

On page SEO

It is an important part of search engine optimization. Through on page SEO visitors can get better user experience. It is the practice of optimizing webpage content for search engines and users. On page SEO contains optimizing title tag, content, internal links, URL, Meta description, etc.

Why On Page SEO is Important?

On page SEO is still now the most important part of SEO. As the search engines show the most relevant search result on its SERP, so you can get ranked through on page SEO.

Properly doing on page SEO means optimizing title tag, content, Meta description, etc. When you will optimize your title, content, Meta, URL and internal links, search engines will get the most relevant content when searchers perform a particular search.

How to do On Page SEO?

For on page SEO, you have to optimize your title, content, Meta description, URL and internal links. You have to work on the following points for optimizing on page:

- Keywords Research
- Unique and informative content
- Content decoration

- Optimizing URL
- Develop proper internal linking
- Optimize Meta description

Keywords Research

It is one of the most important parts of on page SEO. Without the right keywords research, your other on page SEO works can go to wrong direction.

Example: Your website is about home improvement. You are writing a blog about custom kitchen design. Here you have chosen a keyword “Custom Kitchen Design – Step by Step Guide” and after publishing your unique article you get ranking on the 1st page of SERP. But searchers never search this keyword on Google. So, you will never get any traffic using this keyword. There is no value if you have no traffic and your keywords are positioning no.1.

You need to find out the keywords that have some search value and low in competition. Keywords research is one and only way to find the proper keywords that have some search value and low in competition.

There are many tools for keywords research, followings are the most uses tools for keywords research:

1. Ahrefs
2. Moz
3. Semrush
4. Keywords Everywhere
5. Ubersuggest

Using the above tools you will find the keywords, its search value, competitors’ authority, competitors’ backlinks, etc.

Unique and Informative Content

It is said that content is the king. When people search something on the search engines, search engines want to show them the best results. So, if your content is copied or plagiarized, search engines will never like your content and your blog or keywords will never get ranking on the 1st page of the search engines.

Example:

There are only 4-5 recipes for cooking rice. All recipes are same all over the world. But there are thousands of blogs who have rice cooking recipes articles. In these articles their writing techniques are different. May be all information are same as there are very few rice cooking recipes, but due to unique writing technique, search engines shows those articles in their SERP.

Your article should be enough informative so that, traffic get benefits from your blog.

When traffic find unique and informative content, they will spend time for reading the blog. The search engines always give priority about the content quality and how the traffic behave. If they found that traffics are spending their time on the content, the search engines will give more priority to show your content to their SERP.

Content Decoration

Content decoration plays an important role in the on page optimization. When the traffic find only some written documents in a blog, after sending few seconds, they will not enjoy it.

You can decorate your content with some relative images, infographics, audio and video files. Traffic will spend more time when they find some related images, infographics, audio and video content.

When traffic spend more time on your blog, the search engines will give more priority to give ranking on their SERP.

Optimizing URL

URL optimizing is another important part of on page SEO. There are many type of URL you can see internet. All URLs are not optimized and good for SEO. URL always should be in short form and should contain primary keywords.

Example:

If your website is a blog or ecommerce website, then your URL should contain focus keywords. When the keywords are long tail, in that case you can insert the only primary keywords.

If you website is a news website, in that case you can add the article/news publishing date into your URL. But if you don't use the publishing date into the URL, it will be no issue for SEO.

Develop Internal Linking

Internal linking plays a vital role in search engine optimization. Building the internal linking is a technique. When you know this technique, your search engine optimization work be easy. But, if you don't know the internal link building technique, then the SEO work will be difficult for you.

You can follow the below techniques for building internal linking:

- Build both way links
- Link between the related articles.
- Always take link juice from high authority to low authority, but category must be same.
- Always make linking with your home page.

Optimized Meta Description

Meta description is the short description of your content. Here you should describe about your blog or ecommerce product or your business. Meta description should be within 150 character. It should contain your focus keywords and if possible secondary keywords also.

Technical SEO

Technical SEO is an important part of search engine optimization and it plays a vital role for getting rank of the keywords on the 1st page of the search engines.

You have to do the followings for technical SEO:

- Improve website load speed
- Make the website mobile friendly

- Image optimization
- Structured data
- Generate XML sitemap
- Generate Robots.txt file
- Connect with Google Search Console

Improve Website Load Speed

Website load speed is an important part of technical SEO. If your website has very good content and your all other optimizing works are doing well, but load speed is slow, then you can't get ranking and you will lose the keywords that are ranking on SERP.

How to Improve Website Load Speed

You can follow the below points to improve your website load speed:

- Reduce JS files as much as you can
- Remove unwanted CSS files
- Compress all your image files
- Reduce images size
- Remove all 404 URLs
- Remove all 301 redirects

All the above steps will help you to increase website load speed.

Make the Website Mobile Friendly

In 2020 65% of total search are coming from mobile. Without mobile friendly website you will never get ranking on SERP. Making website mobile friendly is not very difficult for WordPress sites. Naturally the new version of WordPress themes are mobile friendly. If you find that your theme is not supporting mobile, then just install AMP plugin to your site. AMP plugin will convert your website to mobile version.

Image Optimization

Image optimization can improve your overall site performance. You can follow the below steps to optimize your images.

- Use a particular image size for all your feature image
- Give an image title and that should be matched with the post title
- Use tags to your images
- Provide a proper Alt text that can say about your image
- Provide a caption for your image
- Insert your post URL into your image so that when anyone click on the image, it goes to the post
- If your website is a blog you should use JPG format images
- You can use image compressor plugin to compress the images

All the above steps will improve your overall site performance, CTR, and load speed.

Structured Data

Structured data is a model of data that describe about your post or content. It is easy to understand and well organized. Any human and robot should read the structured data and can understand about the content.

How to Write Structured Data

Structured data is an html code. You can use structured data plugins for WordPress website. Just input the data in the form of the plugin and it will generate structured data. You can check your structured data through Google's structured data checker. If you find any error, you have to change the data through HTML code.

Generate XML Sitemap

XMLsitemap.org generate XML sitemap. Your XML sitemap URL should be https://yourdomain/sitemap_index.xml. Naturally SEO plugins have XML sitemap generate options. You can use SEO plugins or online XML sitemap generator for generate your sitemap. After generating XML sitemap, you have to submit the sitemap link to the search console.

Connect Your Website to Google Search Console

Connect your website to the Google search console when it is completely ready for publishing. It is not very difficult to connect to the search console, just follow the below steps:

- Login to your search console account with the mail address you have used to buy the domain and hosting.
- Go to ADD PROPERTY
- Submit your website URL
- Now the search console will provide you an owner verification code .txt file
- Download the .txt file
- Upload the file to your cPanel and wait for few hours.
- After few hours search console will verify the ownership of your property and then it will be connected to the search console.

As you have completed on page and technical SEO, now time to do marketing of your website. Off page SEO is the best way to build traffic funnels and marketing of your website.

Let's see what is off page SEO and how it works.

What is Off Page SEO

Off page SEO is nothing but building traffic funnels. Just think in this way, you have written a very good novel. But if you don't do marketing of that novel, you will not get readers. This can happen with your website also. You can make a good website with on page and technical SEO. But if you don't do marketing of your website, you will not get traffic. Without traffic your website has no value. For getting traffic you have to build traffic funnels. Building traffic funnels is called off page SEO.

How to do Off Page SEO

You have to develop off page SEO strategy before starting off page SEO or building traffic funnels. All websites or niches doesn't need the same off page SEO or link building strategy. Here I'm sharing some off page SEO techniques:

- Guest Blogging
- Commenting backlinks
- Directory submission
- Forum posting
- Question answering
- Web 2.0
- Profile backlinks
- Social bookmarking

Before start building traffic funnels, you should develop an off page SEO strategy as all the above linking don't give you good results for all types of websites.

Guest Blogging

Guest blogging is a good technique of building traffic funnels. It can also improve your domain authority. It also improves your trustworthiness to the search engines. But for getting good results from guest blogging you have to do guest post at high authority, high traffic, low spam score and trustworthy website.

If you do guest post at a high spam score and low traffic website, you will not get any benefit. Due to high spam score you may get penalty from Google. On the other hand due to low traffic site you will not get enough referral traffic to your website.

Comment Backlinks

Comment backlinks also play a vital role for getting referral traffic to your website. You should always follow the same rules as above mentioned in the guest blogging. Always do comment at the high authority, low spam and high traffic sites with your link.

Directory Submission

Directory submission is another great way to build traffic funnels. Good quality can always give you referral traffic whereas low quality directory is very harmful for your website. Most of the time quality directory takes payment for listing your blog.

Forum Posting

Forum is place where people talk about many subjects. You can join to the forums and give your opinion with your link to the relevant topic. It will help you to divert traffic to your website.

Question Answering

Question answering websites are very popular social media platform. Here people ask their questions and those who know the answers, they post their answers with their link. In this way they get a good number of referral traffic to their website. Quora, Yahoo answering, etc. are big name in question answering platform.

Web 2.0

Web 2.0 is very good place for improving your domain authority, trustworthiness and referring traffic. Blogspot, tumblr, reddit, WordPress, etc are good example of web 2.0. All the said web 2.0 has a very big traffic. You can easily open an account here and build your own blog. You can build linking in these web 2.0 blogs and can get referral traffic.

Social Bookmarking

Social bookmarking is a good technique for getting traffic to your website. You can do social bookmarking very easily at the top rated social platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, etc.

Just post a topic with your related link. This post and link will be bookmark at the said platforms until you remove the link. You will get traffic to your website until you remove the link and it is forever.

