



CHECKLIST FOR WRITING **GUEST POSTS**

☒ **Create a catchy headline**

Select an interesting title for your guest post. Knowing the headline before you start writing helps you stick to the topic and deliver what you promise in the title.

☒ **Identify your audience**

Pinpoint exactly who you are writing the blog post for. When you know the exact audience of your content, it's much easier to be direct with your writing.

☒ **Know your purpose**

All digital content should be created with your marketing plan in mind. (e.g. build brand visibility, build database of email subscribers, boost SEO, etc.)

☒ **Assign one primary keyword**

The keyword should accurately represent the topic and be a top keyword for your industry. It should be relatively popular and have a keyword difficulty that you can likely rank for.

☒ **Use the primary keyword in the headline**

Go back to your headline and make sure the primary keyword is used in the title. This helps in organic rankings.

☒ **Assign a few secondary keywords**

Choose three or four secondary keywords that are related to the primary target keyword for the post.

☒ **Write around 350 words**

Write as much as you need to fully cover the topic, and as a best practice, write around 350 words to show search engines that it is a thorough resource.

☒ **Add value**

As you write your post, provide details, facts, stats, takeaways, news, and information that are valuable and helpful to the reader.

☒ **Show, don't tell**

An important part of this checklist for blog writing is using examples that help audiences deeply understand and absorb the message you are trying to share.

☒ **Write original content**

The content you create should always be original and topical. It should be well researched and engaging.

☒ **Use subheadings**

Split up your content using subheadings throughout your post to break up sections of text. Readability improves tremendously and breaks the monotony.

☒ **Use the primary keyword in at least one subheading**

A part of your blog writing checklist should include inserting the keyword in at least one subheading.

☒ **Highlight important information**

One of the most important content writing tips is using formatting features that make posts easier to skim. Bold, italicize, or otherwise highlight important information.

☒ **Add supporting graphics**

Your blog content checklist should also include adding an image that make the post more engaging or interesting.

☒ **Avoid image copyright infringement**

Double-check to ensure that you have the right to publish media to avoid copyright infringement with digital photos and videos.

☒ **Add links to relevant internal pages**

Add links to other published posts and pages on your site by adding relevant hyperlinks to other internal pages.

☒ **Add links to other credible websites**

Add relevant outbound, seo-friendly links to other high-quality websites to give credit and link to sources.

☒ **End with a call-to-action**

Because all good blog posts are written with a goal in mind, end with a call-to-action that tells the reader what you want them to do next.

☒ **Optimize for social sharing**

Encourage readers to spread your posts by creating shareable content that includes ClickToTweet link, and social media sharing icons.



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