

Better Business Blogging Made Simple



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Have you entered the world of “blogging” yet? Is the mere thought of it intimidating? We ran across an article that will help take the mystery out of business blogging and hopefully simply the process just a bit:

It’s simple. A business blog should do three things for your business:

- prove to Google you are a legitimate business website with good content (which will happen when it’s shared).
- present a more human side of your business, helping your audience connect to you; this should be entertaining, or at the very least, enjoyable for your audience.
- serve as a resource for people who are looking for (or considering) your product or service, positioning you as a thought leader or expert in your industry.

If you keep these guidelines in mind, accomplishing your blog goals will be easier. However, there are a few common practices (in addition to solid writing) that make up the basics of good, effective business blogging. They are:

Purpose

Business blogs have a “why.” Are you blogging to keep current customers, land new ones, or educate potential buyers? Knowing your purpose will help you better narrow down your blog topics.

Grammar

A professional blog does not contain spelling or grammar mistakes. Hire someone if you have to. Texting may have changed the way we write emails but don't carry over those same short cuts to your blog. No lazy language.

Targeted Content

While you want your blog to be a vehicle by which people connect with you, you still should avoid the temptation to ramble. For SEO and audience purposes, you want to narrow your blog focus. The thinner you spread yourself over a vast array of topics, the harder it will be to pinpoint an audience.

Every time you sit down to write, imagine you are writing for your ideal buyer. Who is that? How old is s/he? What question is plaguing your customers? How can you help?

A business blog is not a message in a bottle that you cast out into the open ocean. It is not addressed "to whomever finds this." It is sent directly with laser beam focus to its intended recipient – your ideal customer.

Contact

At the very least, your business blog needs to feature a way people can contact you. Yes, if they find it on your website your contact information is right there, as is your contact form, but what if someone shares your content or pulls it (with or without your permission)?

Links back to your site, as well as an author bio, help you get the credit you deserve for your content. You should also make sure your contact information is easily accessible from your blog. You may assume they'll see the tab at the top of the page but why make your readers do the work? Make it easy for them to contact you.

If you're ready to start blogging for your business, remember to keep your audience in mind. Your blog should entertain, inform, and educate *your* ideal customer. Leave the rest of the world to other blogs.