

# WebsiteSetup.org Style Guide

Hi, and welcome to the WebsiteSetup.org style guide! We are really happy that you are part of the writing team and want to learn more about how we do things around here.

To ensure a smooth work process and understand what is expected of you, please read the guidelines below carefully. If you have any questions or need clarification for anything mentioned here, please don't hesitate to get in touch via [info@websitesetup.org](mailto:info@websitesetup.org).

## 1. Blogging Philosophy

Our main goal is to help other people build and run successful websites, blogs, and/or online shops. We are especially focused on beginners without any or little knowledge. However, our audience also consists of more advanced users who already possess skills in the area of web design and development.

Here are the main goals we pursue with the content we create for them:

- Help our readers choose the right tools and platforms to achieve their goals
- Produce one-stop, evergreen content that they will be happy to bookmark, refer back, and link to over and over again
- Use clarity, simplicity, and straightforwardness as the most important guiding principles for our online content
- Focus on creating as much value as possible by providing accurate, up-to-date information backed up by data
- Create resources that users walk away from feeling like they need nothing else on the topic

## 2. Preparing for an Assignment

When preparing for an assignment, plan the post so that a reader with little or no knowledge about the topic will, after reading it, feel competent in taking the necessary steps to achieve their goals or solve their problems.

Think through the post from the perspective of a prospective reader.

- What questions would they have?
- What information are they looking for?

Plan the post so that anyone who reads it walks away completely satisfied and with all of their most important questions answered. Doing some [keyword research](#) helps as well as looking into

[search intent](#) and reading existing posts on [WebSiteSetup.org](#). You can find all of our guides and tutorials [here](#).

### 3. Editorial Workflow

Our workflow for creating posts is as follows:

- Proposing topics
- Creating an outline and the structure of an agreed post
- Outline approval and agreeing on a deadline
- Research and writing
- Editing, proofreading, and publishing

You will be in touch with one of our editors throughout the entire process who will go into detail about how to tackle each step.

### 4. Writing the Post

What follows are a number of important things to keep in mind when you get down to writing the post.

#### 4.1 Language

Here are some general rules for the use of language in blog posts:

1. **Use American English** – All content should be written in American English. If you are unclear about this, look at [this resource](#) to understand some of the differences between British and American English.
2. **Address the reader in the second person** – Always talk to the reader directly like you are having a conversation with a friend. Avoid generalizing phrases like “one would/can”. Remember, you are trying to solve a problem for the reader, so talk to them.
  - a. Bad example: *When someone makes a website, most times, it's created for a particular audience that they are trying to attract*
  - b. Better example: *When you are creating a website, most times, you are trying to attract a particular audience.*
3. **Speak on behalf of WebsiteSetup.org using the first person plural** – This means, always speak as “us, our, we” and not “I, my, mine”.
  - a. Bad example: *If you are looking for a reliable SEO plugin, I recommend [Yoast SEO](#).*
  - b. Better example: *If you are looking for a reliable SEO plugin, we recommend [Yoast SEO](#).*
4. **Keep it simple** – Clarity is key. Avoid overly complicated words, explain things in a way that even beginners, non-native speakers, and people of different ages, gender, and

geolocations would be able to use the content of the post to their benefit. This also means, streamline your language as much as you can. If you can leave out a word, you probably should.

- a. Bad example: *Doing so can cause your site to experience a reduction in search rankings.*
  - b. Better example: *Doing so can hurt your search rankings.*
  - c. Examples of words to avoid: *omit, opaque, idiom, serendipity*
  - d. Examples of more common words: *exclude, nontransparent, expression, chance*
5. **Stay away from passive voice** – Use active voice as much as possible. Some passive voice is fine as a stylistic device, but whenever possible, go active.
  - a. Bad example: *Roboto is used by 3 billion people*
  - b. Better example: *3 billion people use Roboto.*
6. **Numbers** – Spell out numbers from one to twelve but use the numerals for anything higher than that. The exception are post titles and headings like *The Top 8 WordPress Translation Plugins*.
  - a. Bad example: *There are 2 main factors that influence time on site.*
  - b. Better example: *There are two main factors that influence time on site.*
7. **Use of “ “** – Use quotation marks (“ ”) only for direct quotes, to introduce technical terms, and convey irony or sarcasm.
  - a. Example: *“There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home,” Ken Olson said way back in 1977.*
  - b. Example: *For that, you might use a CDN or “Content Delivery Network”.*
  - c. Example: *Leaving your WordPress site unprotected is a “brilliant” idea.*
8. **Proofread!** – Grammar and spelling mistakes look unprofessional. Therefore, please proofread your post thoroughly. Use a tool like [Grammarly](#) if you are unsure about your proofreading abilities.

## 4.2 Use Up-to-date Information

Always make sure to use the latest information you can find. That means, if you include research, stats, and numbers, try to find the most current.

Likewise, if you are using screenshots of software or software components, be sure to use the latest version. A good example for that are WordPress themes. If you are going to include theme screenshots, make sure to use the latest WordPress default theme or something else that is up to date.

## 4.3 Headlines

The final headline of the post will be determined during proofreading and editing. However, feel free to propose a title if you have a great idea. Otherwise, you may also just leave it as the main keyword. More information on how to write great blog headlines [here](#).

## 4.4 Introductions

The point of the introduction is to get visitors to read the rest of the post. For that, they need to understand what's in it for them, so they can decide whether it is worth their time.

It also needs to be short and to the point. On WebsiteSetup.org we generally shoot for an introduction length of 110 to 175 words.

Here's an example of a good intro (Guide: [How to use Shopify](#)):

Shopify is a subscription to a software service that offers you to create a website and use their shopping cart solution to sell, ship, and manage your products. Using their service, you can get access to easy to use admin panel where you can add products, process orders and enter store data.

For a monthly subscription of \$29/mo, you can build a fully functional online store that you can use to sell digital or physical goods. Shopify also offers a limited free trial.

If you want to create an online store using Shopify, you've come to the right place.

In this guide, we'll show you how to use Shopify so you can launch your online store as soon as possible.

Ready? Let's get started...

As you can see, it tells people:

- What Shopify is and what you can do with it
- Expenses you can expect
- What you can achieve with this guide

Introductions are most effective if you get to know your audience's pain points, fears, desires, and problems. That way, you can address their possible objections in the introduction and state what kind of solution the post is going to offer them. Here is an example:

Learning how to move your website to HTTPS is an important issue. These days, we share sensitive data like credit card and bank information or login credentials dozens of times per day.

Using the web for shopping gives us many conveniences. We no longer need to go out to run errands, buy groceries, pay bills or talk to others face to face.

However, there's a flip-side. As a website owner – especially if you have an online shop and/or deal with financial or other sensitive information – you have a responsibility to keep it safe. One of the most important steps to do so is to use HTTPS and SSL encryption on your site. That's what we will talk about in this guide.

In this guide, we will first talk about what we mean by HTTPS and SSL and how it works. Also, we will talk about reasons to add encryption to your site. Then we will tell you where you can get an SSL certificate for your site and finally provide you with a step-by-step guide on how to move your site to HTTPS.

Keep the above in mind when crafting your own introductions.

## 4.4 Headings

Headings structure the content. They break it down into sections and make it more readable. In addition, headings allow casual readers to scan the post and find only those parts they are interested in. They also provide SEO value.

Here are some important rules for using them:

1. **Use Title Case** – All headings should be in title case (meaning, capitalize the main words, e.g. *10 Best WordPress Plugins for Small Business*). Use [this tool](#) if you are not sure how to do it correctly.
2. **Stick to H2 and H3** – Use heading 2 (H2) for creating sections in the article and heading 3 (H3) to further divide those sections if necessary. Only rarely does it make sense to use headings of a lower order and H1 is reserved for the page/post title.

## Supercharge Your Marketing With These Popup Best Practices

If you are wondering how to use popups correctly, the list of tips below will help you figure it out.

### 1. Use the Right Format

The word *popup* is actually an umbrella term for a number of different techniques **H2** your visitors' attention. Among other things, these can be:

- Classic, middle-of-the-screen, lightbox popups
- Popups that move in from the side
- Full-screen popups
- Top and bottom bars

**H3**

3. **Subheadings should answer and clarify main headings** – When creating subsections for a main section, the subheadings should always refer to the section heading in a logical way. A reader should be able to scan only the headings and understand the structure and main information of the post. If you have steps, use numbers in front of headings.

## How Do You Use Storytelling in Your Online Content?

Here's a process you can use to craft a story for your websites.

### 1. Get to Know Your Audience

Without knowing who you are writing for, you won't be very effective at putting together a story for your readers. This is the same as for blog posts and other website copy, which is why there is **market research** and **keyword research**. For that reason, the first task in storytelling is to get familiar with your audience.

- Who are they? Who are you writing for?
- What are their needs, pains, hopes, and aspirations?

Knowing this is crucial to tell the right story, the right way.

### 2. Define What You are Trying to Say

As settled above, storytelling is more than regaling an anecdote. If you are doing it in a business setting, most of the time you have a goal in mind that you want to accomplish. However, in order to make the story work towards it, you need to know what it is.

What are you trying to say? Communicate values? Explain your product? Motivate people to buy or use a contact form?

Be crystal clear about this before even thinking about beginning to write. This also has great significance for the type of story you write whether it's a drama, funny or an inspirational piece.

### 3. Create a Call to Action

4. **Never follow a heading with another** – Always make sure to have some body text in between two headings or at least an image.
5. **Include the key phrase and related keywords** – Search engines also care about headings and use them to understand the structure and content of a piece. For that reason, headings are a great place to include your main key phrase as well as related



keywords. You can find related keywords at the bottom of Google searches. More on keyword research [here](#).

6. **Linking from headings** – If you want to add a link to a heading (as is very common for lists of themes and plugins), make sure not to include the numbering in it. In addition, make sure to have external links like this open in a new tab (more on that below).
  - a. Bad example: [3. Yoast SEO](#)
  - b. Better example: 3. [Yoast SEO](#)
7. **Headings for conclusions** – Conclusion headings are a perfect place to include keywords. Therefore, avoid titling them something like *Conclusion*, *Summing Up*, or *In Short...* Instead, use more engaging copy.
  - a. Example: *Final Thoughts: Increasing WordPress Performance*
  - b. Example: *WordPress Shortcodes in a Nutshell*

For more information on headings, read [this post](#).

## 4.5 Formatting

To ensure readability and a consistent look across the entire website, please adhere to these formatting guidelines:

1. **Create clear paragraphs** – Avoid large chunks of text. Use one paragraph for every idea with one core sentence and additional ones only to clarify. Don't randomly add line breaks just to create structure. Use transition words to connect paragraphs.
2. **Ensure readability** – Avoid long sentences. Try to use no more than 20 words per sentence. Use mostly simple words, up to three syllables. Again, even newbies, people without prior knowledge on the topic, and non-native speakers should be able to follow the advice.
3. **Keep it interesting** – Vary sentence and paragraph length to keep the language dynamic.
4. **No extra markup** – Don't add any HTML markup manually (divs, spans, horizontal dividers, etc.). This includes custom styling for headings and other text elements. All of this is the theme's responsibility. The only time you should ever add markup is to set links to `rel="nofollow"`.
5. **Make use of lists** – Avoid creating lists manually by adding 1., 2., etc. or even hyphens in front paragraphs. Instead make sure to use proper HTML lists (ordered and unordered) like the one you are reading right now.
6. **Creating lists manually** – If you are creating a list by hand (such as a collection of themes or plugins, each with their own H3 heading), make sure to use 1., 2., 3., etc. as the numbering format, not 1), 2), 3) or A), B), C) or similar. If you need to make subpoints, use the format 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, etc.
7. **Capitalize the first word after a hyphen in a list** – If you are creating a list like this one, that has a key phrase plus explanation, be sure to start the explanation with a capital letter.

8. **Don't indent** – Never use the indent function. Content should only be indented as part of a numbered or unordered list or as a blockquote. In those cases, the formatting is taken care of by the WordPress theme and not part of your duties.
9. **Italicize menu items and part of the UI** – Whenever referring to parts of the user interface such as a menu item to click, make sure to italicize it, including inside headings. If there are several steps, use > between them.
  - a. Example: Next up, click on the big, blue *Publish* button
  - b. Example: You can find this option under *Settings > Reading*.
10. **Set file and folder names in *preformatted* or *Inline Code*** – When working in WordPress and mentioning file or folder names (such as *wp-admin* or *functions.php*), use the *preformatted* styling (in the Classic editor, use *Alt+Shift+X*) or *Inline Code* (choose from the inline formatting options in Gutenberg). This is what it looks like on the page:

Include the code below inside your theme's `functions.php` file. You find it under `themes` inside `wp-content`.
11. **Avoid placing images inside HTML lists** – If you create a list, don't include images in the middle of it (neither numbered, nor unnumbered lists). If you feel the need to use images, use paragraphs instead, possibly with H3 headings.
12. **Don't use ALL CAPS** – There should never be a need to set text in all caps.
13. **Bolding of text** – You can use bolding in your text to further emphasize the steps readers need to take. This, again, is to make scanning the page easier.
  - a. Example: If you include steps, **use numbers in front of headings**, just like we've done on this page.
14. **Use of blockquotes** – There is rarely a need to use blockquotes and you should only do so for including verbatim quotes from other sources. Please do not employ them for asides or emphasis. This is what italics or bolding is for.
15. **Use of emoticons** – If at all possible, please refrain from including emoticons in the content.








If you are working within WordPress, use [Yoast SEO](#). The plugin has an analysis tool for readability.



## Readability analysis

### Analysis results

^ Good results (7)

-  [Flesch Reading Ease](#): The copy scores 70.4 in the test, which is considered fairly easy to read. Good job!
-  [Passive voice](#): You're using enough active voice. That's great!
-  [Consecutive sentences](#): There is enough variety in your sentences. That's great!
-  [Subheading distribution](#): Great job!
-  [Paragraph length](#): None of the paragraphs are too long. Great job!
-  [Sentence length](#): Great!
-  [Transition words](#): Well done!

Make sure the indicator for the finished post is green. If it is not, look at the recommendations it gives and remedy any issues until you have a green light.

(Quick note: When you are using code within an article, due to its repetitive nature, Yoast will often warn you that you have several sentences all beginning with the same word. In those cases, naturally, you do not have to change the code just to get a green light.)

## 4.6 Links

Links are the currency of the Internet. They show which pages are deemed important and which are not. For that reason, it's imperative to use them inside your content and do so correctly.

We encourage you to add links to further explain points made in your content and provide proof. For example, if you say that 30% of sites run on WordPress, you need to back this up with [facts](#).

Overall, you should include links to helpful resources where you can. If you mention something that you are not going to explain in the post itself, make sure to point readers to another place where they can learn more about it.

## 14. Dropshipping

Dropshipping is when you create an online store to sell other people's products (i.e you don't do any of the manufacturing or shipping). Then, you get a commission for each sale.

The benefit here is that you don't have to risk buying up stock in a product and losing money if it doesn't sell. The entry barrier is lower and you don't have to invest nearly as much to get started.

If you'd like to learn how to dropship, [Drop Ship Lifestyle](#) is one of the best resources to help you get started.

However, don't stuff your article with links, this is not a good user experience.

### 4.6.1 Linking Correctly

When you do set a link, make sure to do it in an organic way. This means, use appropriate parts of the text to include them.

- *For more information on the topic, check [this article](#).*
- *One of the biggest advantages of digital content is that you can underline the written word with visual data. Whether screenshots, [stock photos](#), gifs, videos or infographics — take your pick.*
- *A surprisingly large share of [daily decisions are made emotionally](#).*

It also means to never include punctuation into your links, only text.

- Bad example: *For more information, check [this post](#).*
- Bad example: *Whether screenshots, [stock photos](#), gifs, videos or infographics — take your pick.*

In addition, don't use the link itself as anchor text

- Bad example: *Follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/websitesetup.org/>.*
- Better example: *Follow us on [our Facebook page](#).*

For guidelines on linking inside headings, please check the *Formatting* section.

### 4.6.2 External Links

When you do link to other websites, keep the following in mind:

1. **Vet who you link to** – Make sure to only link to highly reputable sources. This will be easier if you know the big players in the industry. Open every page you link to to make

sure it is something readers would like to land on when they click. Check the overall design, quality of content, and make sure the site is not spammy or otherwise irreputable. See that it has last been updated no more than 2.5 years ago. Also, please don't link to any website you are personally affiliated with to get backlinks.

2. **Always include clean links** – Make sure your links don't have any extra parameters (as is the case with affiliate links) attached to them. This can happen especially if you copy links from inside other people's content, since many websites link out to their affiliate partners. We don't want to use those links under any circumstances!
  - a. Bad example: <https://themeisle.com/pricing/?discount=affiliate10>
  - b. Better example: <https://themeisle.com/pricing/>
  - c. Bad example: <https://www.siteground.com/wordpress-hosting.htm?afcode=fa1fa>
  - d. Better example: <https://www.siteground.com/wordpress-hosting.htm>
  - e. Bad example:  
[https://markmanson.net/5-books-that-explain-why-it-seems-the-world-is-so-fucked?utm\\_campaign=mmnet-newsletter-201811-12-31&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=mmnet-newsletter&utm\\_content=read-5-books](https://markmanson.net/5-books-that-explain-why-it-seems-the-world-is-so-fucked?utm_campaign=mmnet-newsletter-201811-12-31&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mmnet-newsletter&utm_content=read-5-books)
  - f. Better example:  
<https://markmanson.net/5-books-that-explain-why-it-seems-the-world-is-so-fucked>
3. **Open external links in new tabs** – When you link to pages outside of WebsiteSetup.org, please set them to open in new tabs (see below for instructions).
4. **Use the right link ratio** – For external links, we shoot for a ratio of **1-3 links per 1,000 words**.

#### 4.6.3 Internal Links

For internal links, the rules are a bit simpler:

1. **Open internal links in the same window** – Make sure that the *Open in new tab* option is not enabled.
2. **Use the right link ratio** – The link ratio for the internal links is the same as for external with **a maximum of six (6) links per article**.

By the way, here is where you can set links to open in new tabs or not:



To find prospects for internal linking, see this [resource page](#).

## 4.7 Using Images

Images and other visuals are an important part of every blog post. They break up text, make it more pleasant to read, underline points, act as proof for your claims, are an important SEO signal, and overall make online content better.

As a consequence, using visuals is highly encouraged when you create online content. As a rule of thumb, we shoot for **1-8 images per 1,000 words**.

However, what's more important is to look at images as an important tool to clarify what you are writing about. Place them wherever you feel they help to enhance the user experience either by being helpful or making the post more pleasant to consume.

In addition, all images must be unique (meaning made by you, such as a screenshot), should be placed centered on the page (not aligned to the left or right), and be between 700 and 820px wide. For height recommendations, see the *Formatting* section.

Another important factor is file size and, thus, file type. **In most cases, you should use JPG images** (in high quality settings) as these usually provide the smallest footprint. If you need to **have a transparent background, go with PNG**.

There is **almost never any need to use any other file types unless you go for an animated GIF** (which is also encouraged where appropriate). If you need to create a GIF file, a great free tool is [ScreenToGif](#).

### 4.7.1 Formatting

Here are some important formatting guidelines for images:

- **Go rectangular** – Unless impossible because of the default formatting (such as infographics or screenshots from mobile phones), always shoot for rectangular images, meaning that the width is greater than the height.

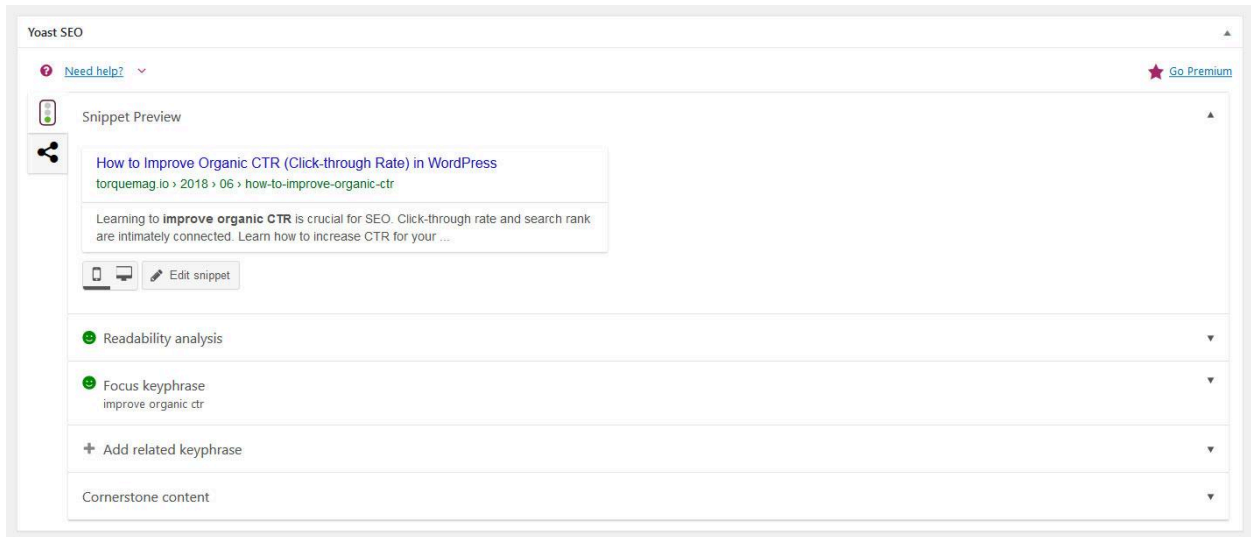
A good way to figure out if the contrast is high enough is to use the squint test. For that, simply move away from your screen, squint your eyes and see if the button still stands out.



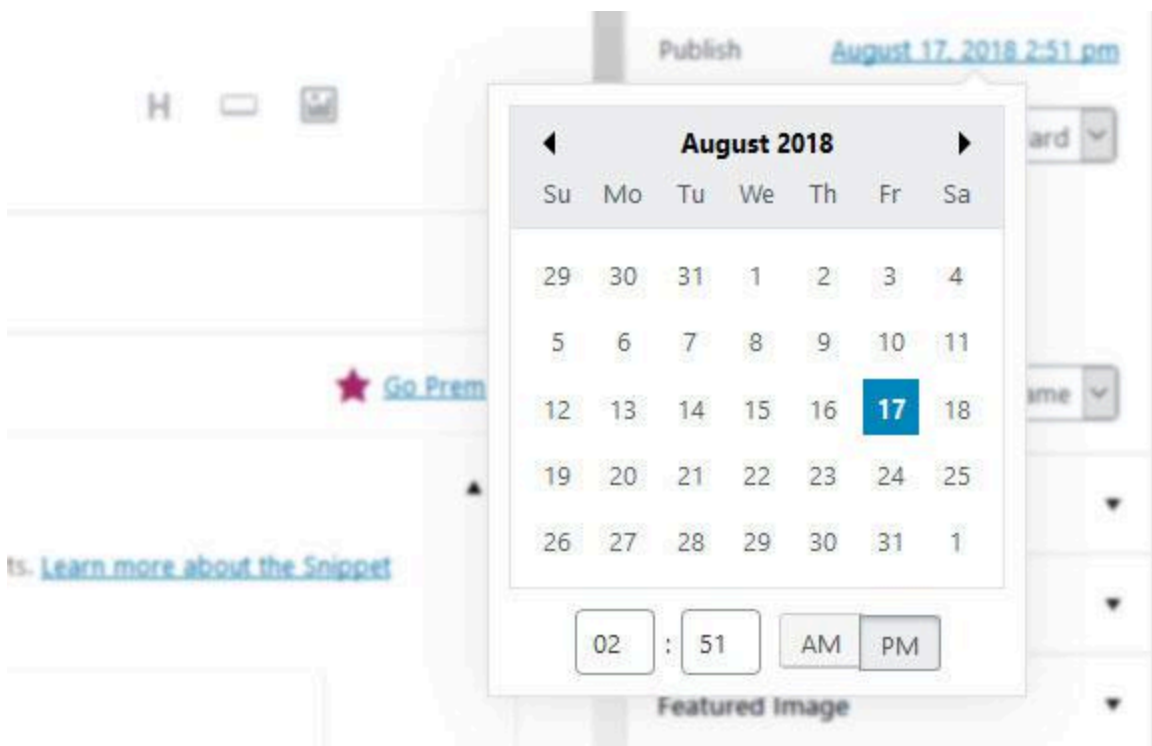
Source: **MailChimp**

Sounds weird but is a tried and true technique among web designers.

- **Try to avoid similar colors** – When you are using a screenshot that has a white background, see if you can crop the image so that it has some sort of frame around it. That way, it won't vanish into the background on WebsiteSetup.org.



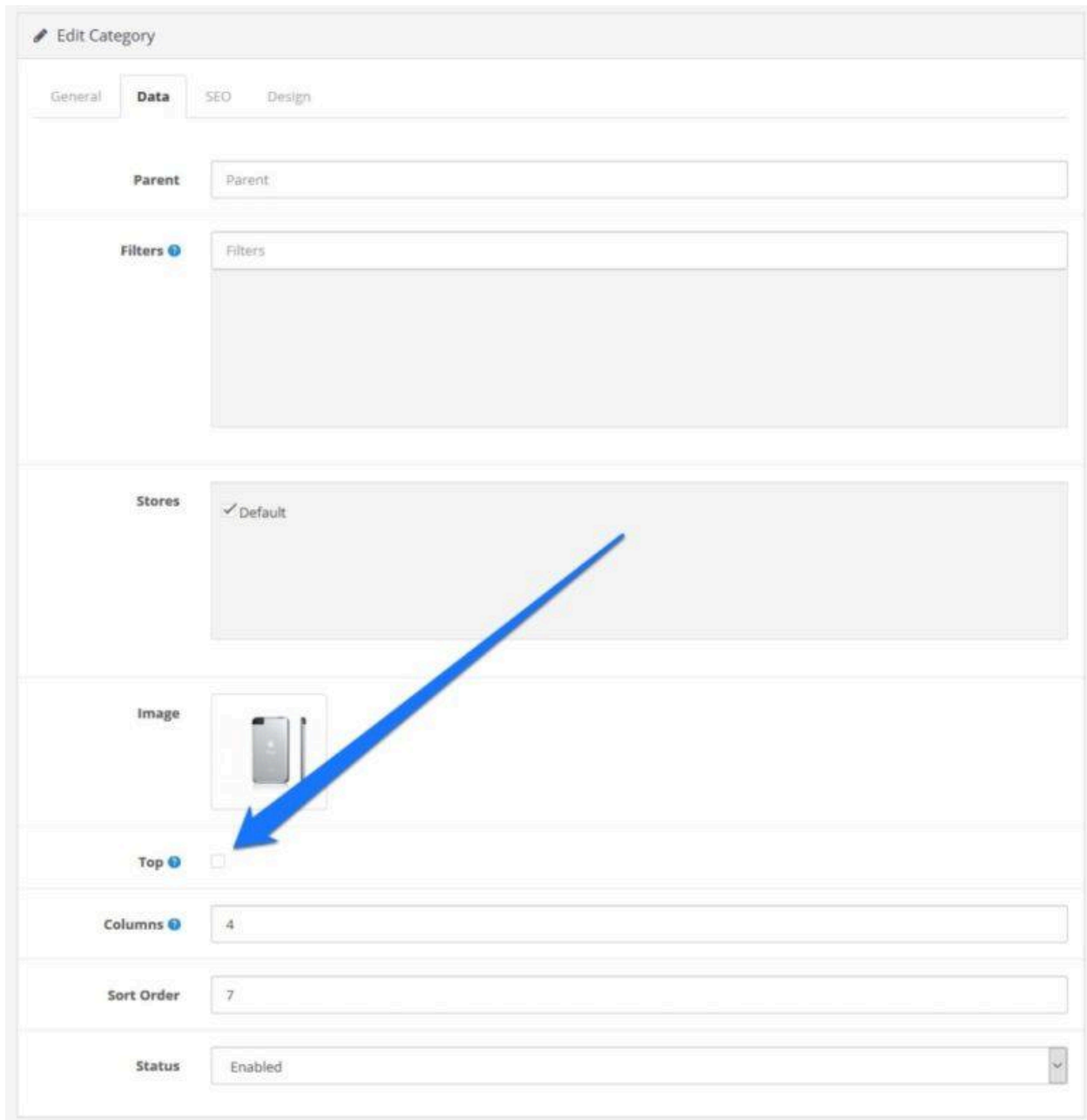
- **Use the right part of the image** – Crop images so that their focus is on the important part and there is no extraneous, unnecessary space. If you have Photoshop or some other image processing software, you can further enhance this with overlays or blur.



## Screenshots

There are many tools to take screenshots. Some of our favorites are [Sketch](#) and the [built-in screenshot function in Firefox](#). When you provide screenshots, first of all, pay attention to everything in the *Formatting* section, especially the part about cropping.

In addition to that, an important topic here is annotation. Use it liberally to clarify steps and help readers find what they are looking for on the screen.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Edit Category" with a pencil icon. It has four tabs: "General", "Data", "SEO", and "Design". The "Data" tab is active. The form contains several fields: "Parent" (text input with "Parent" value), "Filters" (text input with "Filters" value), "Stores" (checkbox list with "Default" checked), "Image" (image input with a smartphone icon), "Top" (checkbox, which is the target of a blue arrow), "Columns" (text input with "4" value), "Sort Order" (text input with "7" value), and "Status" (dropdown menu with "Enabled" selected).

One of the best tools to provide arrows is the aforementioned Skitch. If you have Photoshop, you can also consider blurring parts of the image to provide additional focus as seen above.

Please try to use similar colors for your annotations as on WebsiteSetup.org (e.g. blue) unless not permitted by the color scheme of the screenshot. In that case, use whatever color you find appropriate.



### 4.7.2 Compression

Any image you add to content should be as small as possible. This is an important loading issue since images often make up the bulk of a web page. Besides using the right file type and cropping them to the appropriate size, the most important factor here is image compression. This reduces the size without reducing quality.

If you own Photoshop, you can save images in the smallest size possible by using the *Save for web* function (*File > Export > Save for web*). Alternatively, there are online tools like [TinyPNG/TinyJPG](#) you can use as well as programs to download like [ImageOptim](#) for Mac and [RIOT](#) for PC.

### 4.7.3 Plugin and Theme Images

In many cases it will be appropriate to include images of WordPress plugins and themes. This is especially true for articles that include roundups and lists of *the best plugins/themes for X* variety.

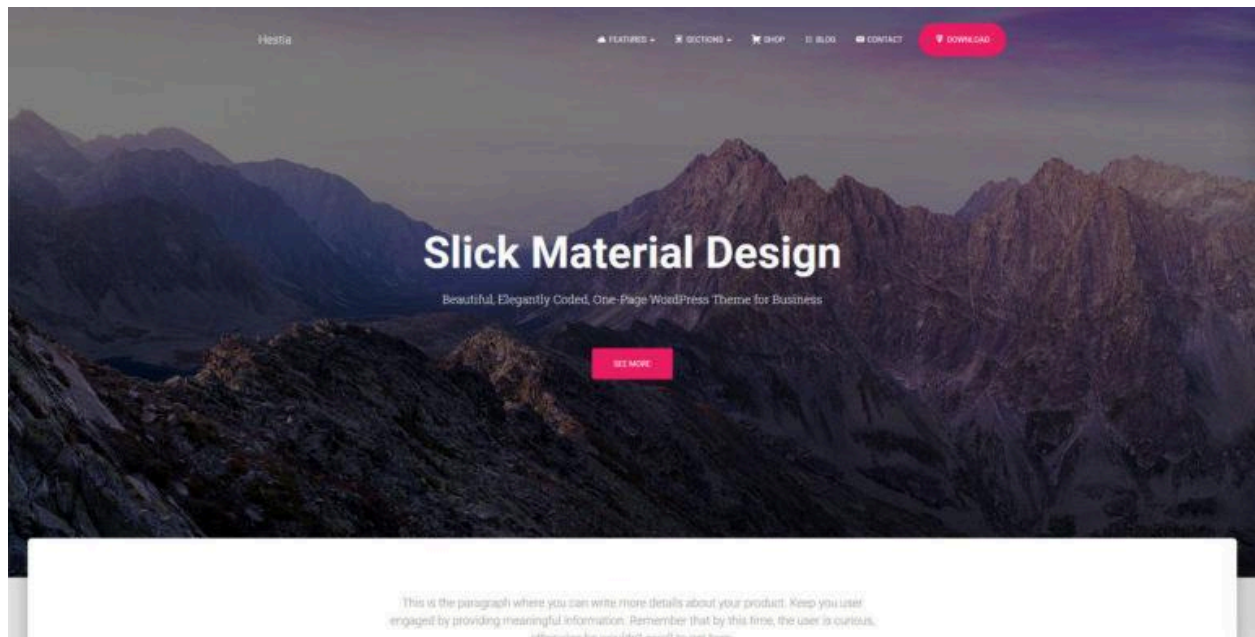
For plugins, the easiest way is to use the images already present in the WordPress directory.



You can simply access them by right clicking and choosing *View background image*. Then, right click and pick *Save image as*.

For theme images, try to find or create an image that shows an unobstructed view of the theme. For those in the official directory, you can often simply use the example they provide.





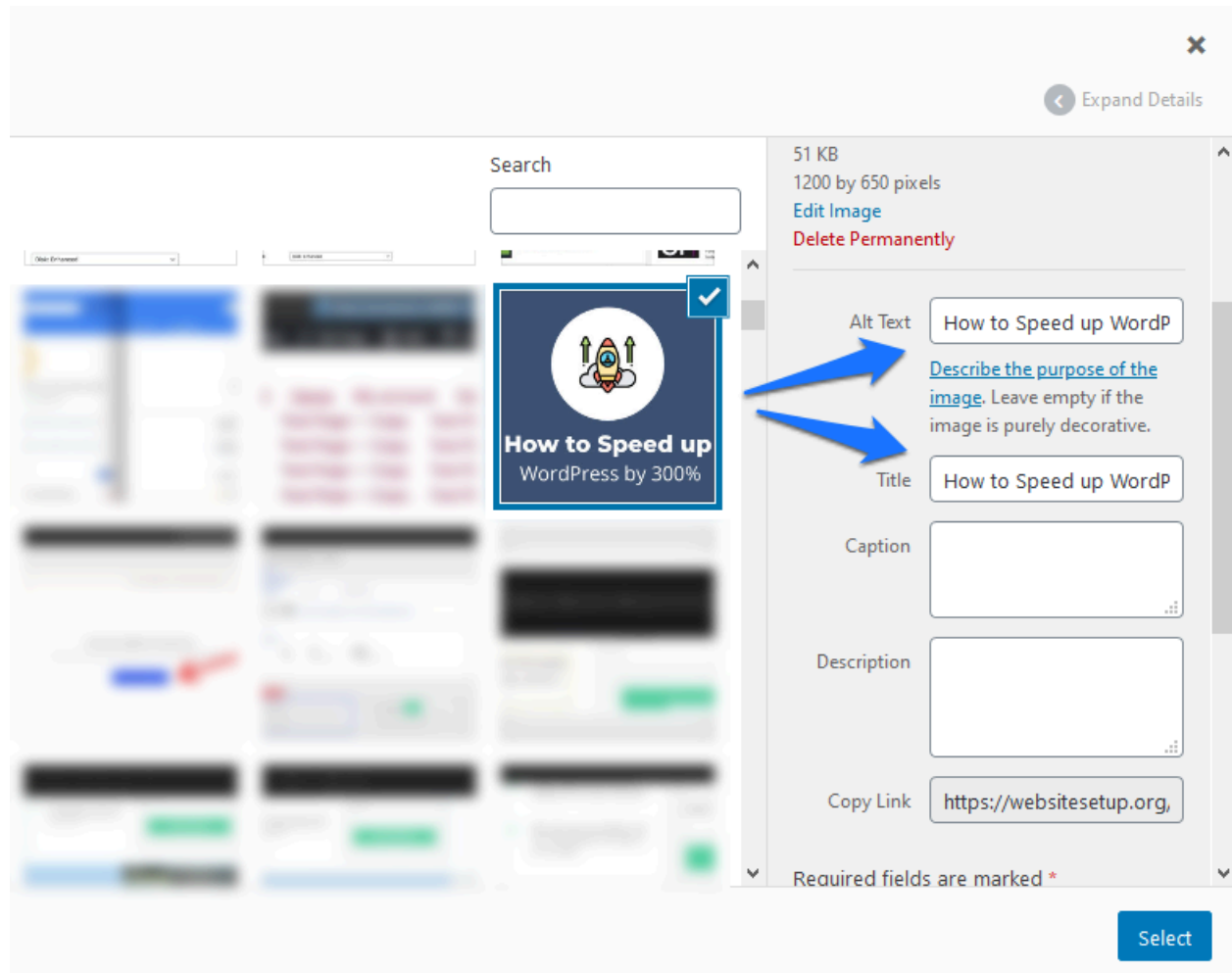
Only include additional images if appropriate, such as when you test a theme in detail and want to show different parts of it.

#### 4.7.4 File Names, titles and ALT tags

To help readers and search engines understand what an image is about, it's important to assign file names that make sense. When they see the name of the file, they should understand what appears in it. Plus, this is also a prime location to include the main keyword of the post.

Example: *how-to-install-wordpress-bluehost.jpg*

In addition to that, if you are working directly in WordPress, make sure to fill in the image title and ALT tag in the WordPress media library.



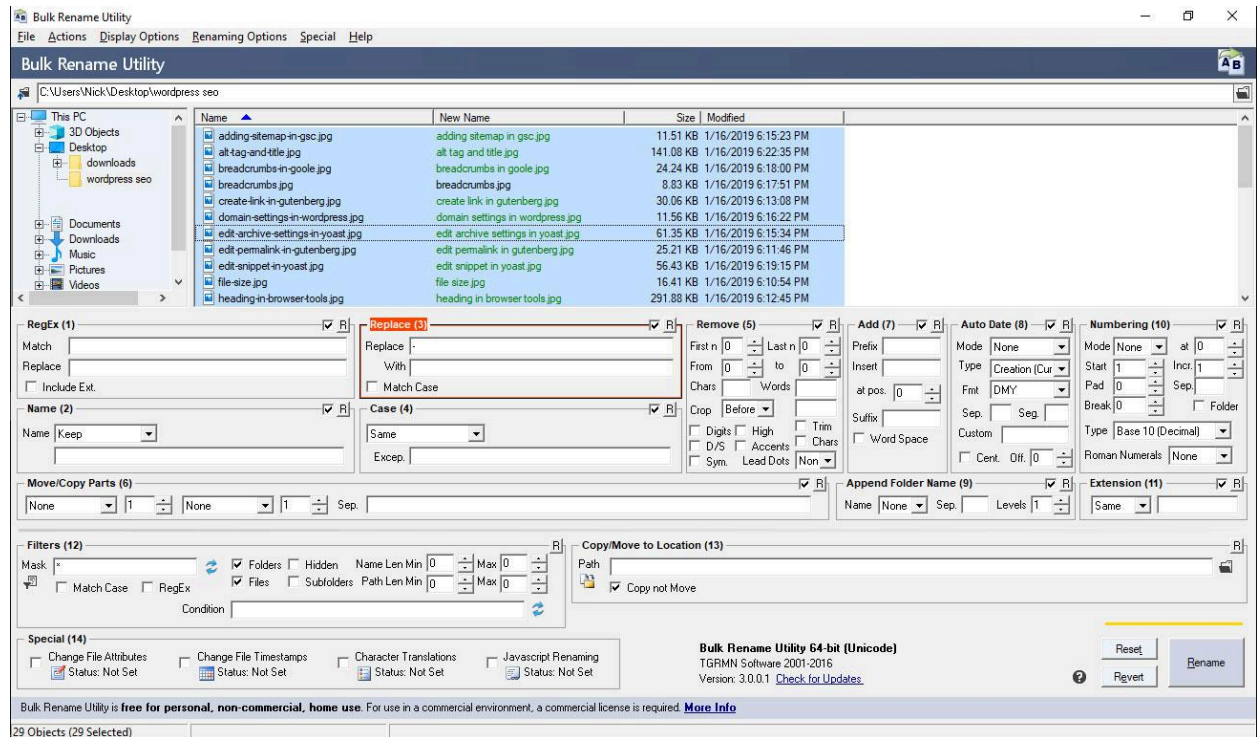
This is important for SEO purposes and also for people who can not see the image, such as the visually impaired who use screen readers to surf the web.

WordPress automatically fills in the title with the name of the image file. If you have given your files appropriate labels, it's enough to simply copy the title and paste it to the ALT tag field.

You can make this work much easier for yourself if you upload files without any hyphens between words. For example, Photoshop automatically adds them when saving for the web. A great tool to reverse this in bulk is the free [Bulk Rename Utility](#).

You can simply open it, navigate to the location of the image files, mark them and use the replace tool to change all hyphens into spaces.





WordPress will add them back at upload but insert the unhyphenated version in the title field.

#### 4.7.5 Attribution

If you are using an image that belongs to someone else (for example, an infographic or parts of it), always make sure to give attribution to the source.

This can be as part of the text right before the image.

One of the most important factors for UX is **page-loading speed**.

## EVERY SECOND COUNTS

Loading time is a major contributing factor to page abandonment. The average user has no patience for a page that takes too long to load, and justifiably so.

Observation: slower page response time results in an increase in page abandonment, as demonstrated in the following chart.

50%

Or as part of the image caption.



Image: Tambako the Jaguar / Penguin in the sun / CC BY-ND

Whichever road you take, be sure to include attribution where necessary to avoid copyright conflicts. More information [here](#).

## 4.8 Including plugins and themes

You will likely include links to WordPress plugins and themes in your posts. The goal is to provide the readers with the best options to achieve their goal or solve their problem. Therefore, it is important to only recommend WordPress components that fulfill a high standard.

In practical terms that means:

1. Rating no less than 4 stars
2. Last updated no more than six months ago
3. At least 500 active installations (plugins only)
4. Tested up to at least the second to last major WordPress version

**All in One SEO Pack**  
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### Description

THE ORIGINAL WORDPRESS SEO PLUGIN, DOWNLOADED OVER 50,000,000 TIMES SINCE 2007.

Use All in One SEO Pack to optimize your WordPress site for SEO. It's easy and works out of the box for beginners, and has advanced features and an API for developers.

[Upgrade to Pro Version](#)

[Premium Support](#)

First created in 2007, see why AIOSEO is one of the all time most downloaded plugins for WordPress.

Version:	2.10.1
Last updated:	1 month ago
Active installations:	2+ million
WordPress Version:	4.4 or higher
Tested up to:	5.0.3
Languages:	<a href="#">See all 50</a>
Tags:	<a href="#">all in one seo</a> <a href="#">google</a> <a href="#">page</a> <a href="#">seo</a> <a href="#">twitter</a>

[Advanced View](#)

In short, make sure that any plugin or theme you include is well rated, up to date, and actively supported.

## 4.9 Writing Conclusions

Conclusions are basically introductions in reverse order. Their goal is to summarize the post, repeat it in short form and move readers to the next step. Here is the structure:

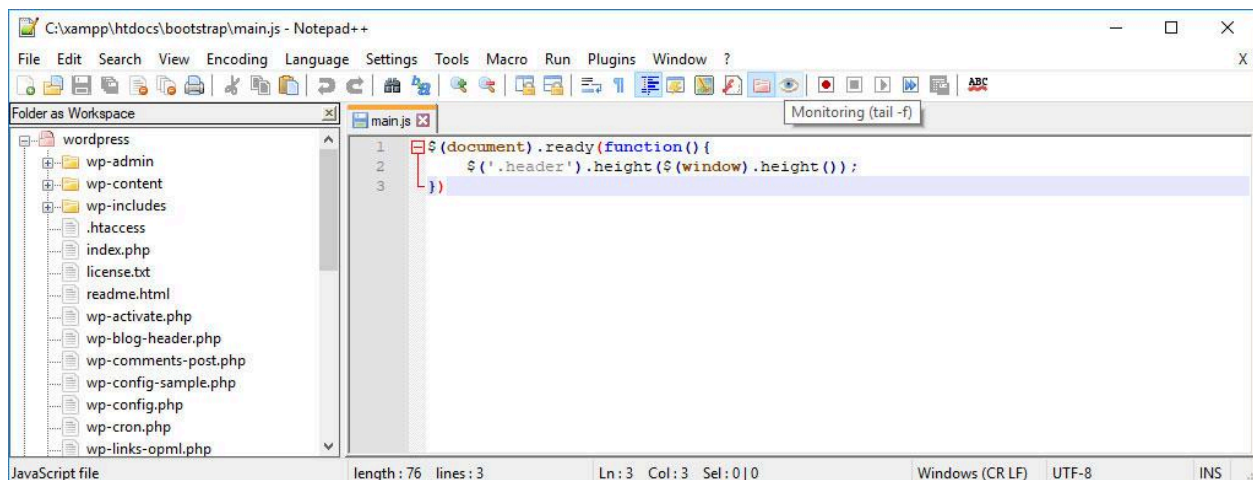
- **Repeat the problem** – Quickly repeat the premise for the article
- **Summarize actionable steps** – Repeat the main points of the post that will help alleviate the problem/desire. If there are additional posts on the site that would make sense to read after this, feel free to include those as well.
- **Clear call to action** – Include a specific call to action for the reader what to do next. This is usually to leave a comment. When you do ask to comment, make sure to ask for something specific.
  - *How do you use image captions on your own website? If you have additional tips, let us know in the comment section below!*
  - *What is your opinion on the Gutenberg editor? Are you concerned or excited? Let us know in the comments section below.*
  - *What are your favorite blog post ideas that have worked very well for you? Please let us know in the comments section below.*



## 4.10 Code

There will be times when you need to include code inside blog posts. When you do, please follow these guidelines:

1. **Make sure to test it thoroughly** – There is nothing worse than posting a piece of code that doesn't work for users. So, don't just copy and paste it from somewhere else but make sure to test that it actually works. One of the best ways for that is to [create a local test website](#).
2. **Customize it for the use case** – When taking code from another source, see if you can customize it for your use case. That means, for example, changing function names and prefixes to something that makes sense and overall checking if you can give it your own twist and use your own examples.
3. **Attribute correctly** – When using code from another source, the same attribution rules apply as for images. Be sure to link to the original article, Gist repository, or wherever else you got it from.
4. **Format properly** – Indent code to give it a clear structure and use all other available formatting options to make it pleasant to read.
5. **Send as separate text file** – Unless you are working directly in WordPress where you can include code simply inside the editor, send it as plain text (including formatting) inside a txt file.



## 5. SEO

We expect content to perform well within search engines. Besides implementing everything from the above to ensure high quality, the most important thing here is to do proper SEO.

## 5.1 General Rules

For the most part, doing SEO means that you write content with a clear search phrase in mind. You usually get it as part of your assignment. Make sure to include it in these places:

1. Post title
2. URL
3. SEO title
4. Meta description (read [here](#) how to create an effective meta description)
5. Headings (also a great place for related search phrases)
6. Body text (shoot for a keyword density of 0.5% to 2.5%; the easiest way to test this is Yoast SEO, see below)

## 5.2 Using Yoast SEO

If you are working inside WordPress, you can simply use the [Yoast SEO](#) content analyzer tool. To do so, enter your key phrase into the *Focus Keyword* field.

The screenshot displays the Yoast SEO interface. At the top, a green smiley face icon is next to the text 'Focus keyphrase' and 'web design tips'. Below this, a section titled 'Focus keyphrase' with a help icon contains a text input field with 'web design tips'. Underneath the input field are two links: '+ Add synonyms' and '+ Add related keyphrase'. A yellow banner with a red vertical bar on the left contains the text 'Did you know Yoast SEO Premium also analyzes the different word forms of your keyphrase, like plurals and past tenses?' and a 'Go Premium!' button. The 'Analysis results' section is divided into three categories: 'Problems (4)', 'Improvements (3)', and 'Good results (8)'. The 'Problems' section lists four issues with red circular icons: 'Internal links' (no internal links), 'Keyphrase density' (0.4%, too low), 'Meta description length' (no meta description), and 'SEO title width' (too wide). The 'Improvements' section lists three suggestions with orange circular icons: 'Keyphrase in title' (not at the beginning), 'Slug too long' (a bit long), and 'Slug stopwords' (contains a stop word). The 'Good results' section lists three positive findings with green circular icons: 'Outbound links' (good job), 'Keyphrase in introduction' (well done), and 'Keyphrase length' (good job).

😊 Focus keyphrase  
web design tips

**Focus keyphrase** ?

web design tips

[+ Add synonyms](#)  
[+ Add related keyphrase](#)

Did you know Yoast SEO Premium also analyzes the different word forms of your keyphrase, like plurals and past tenses? [Go Premium!](#)

**Analysis results**

^ Problems (4)

- **Internal links:** No internal links appear in this page. [make sure to add some!](#)
- **Keyphrase density:** 0.4%. This is too low; the keyphrase was found 7 times. [Focus on your keyphrase!](#)
- **Meta description length:** No meta description has been specified. Search engines will display copy from the page instead. [Make sure to write one!](#)
- **SEO title width:** The SEO title wider than the viewable limit. [Try to make it shorter.](#)

^ Improvements (3)

- **Keyphrase in title:** The exact match of the keyphrase appears in the SEO title, but not at the beginning. [Try to move it to the beginning.](#)
- **Slug too long:** the slug for this page is a bit long. [Shorten it!](#)
- **Slug stopwords:** The slug for this page contains a stop word. [Remove it!](#)

^ Good results (8)

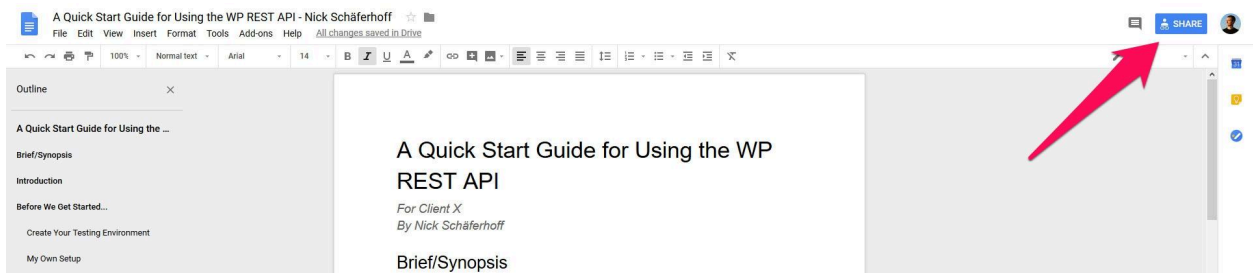
- **Outbound links:** Good job!
- **Keyphrase in introduction:** Well done!
- **Keyphrase length:** Good job!

From here, follow the advice of the content analysis until the SEO indicator is green. While you are at it, also ensure the same for *Readability*.

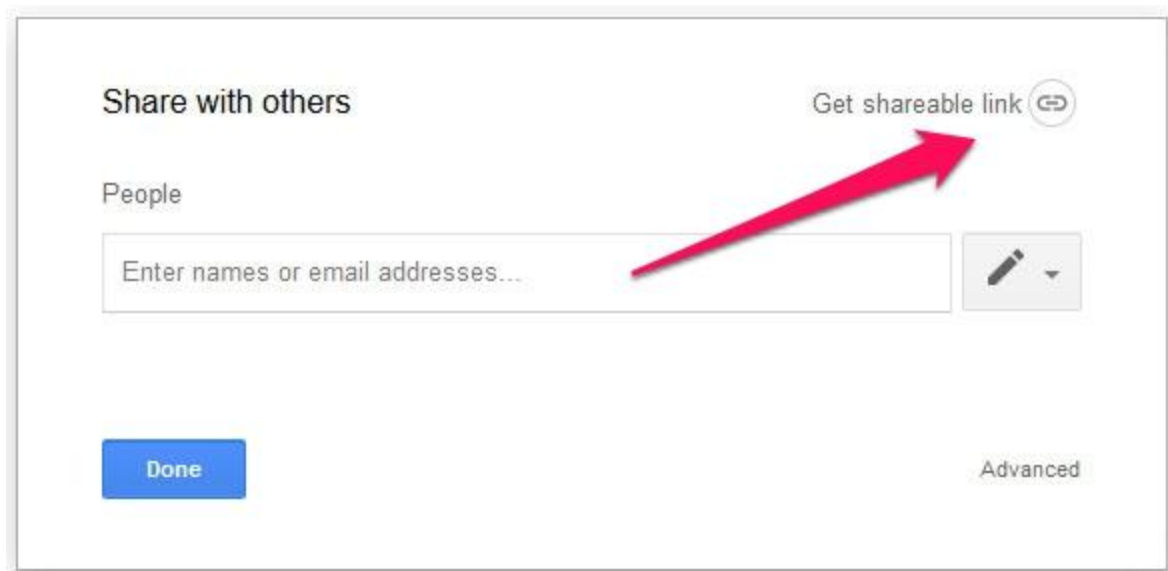
## 6. Submitting a Post

Before submitting the post, be sure to check once more whether it adheres to the guidelines of this style guide. Once you have done that, unless specified otherwise, send the finished post as a Google Doc.

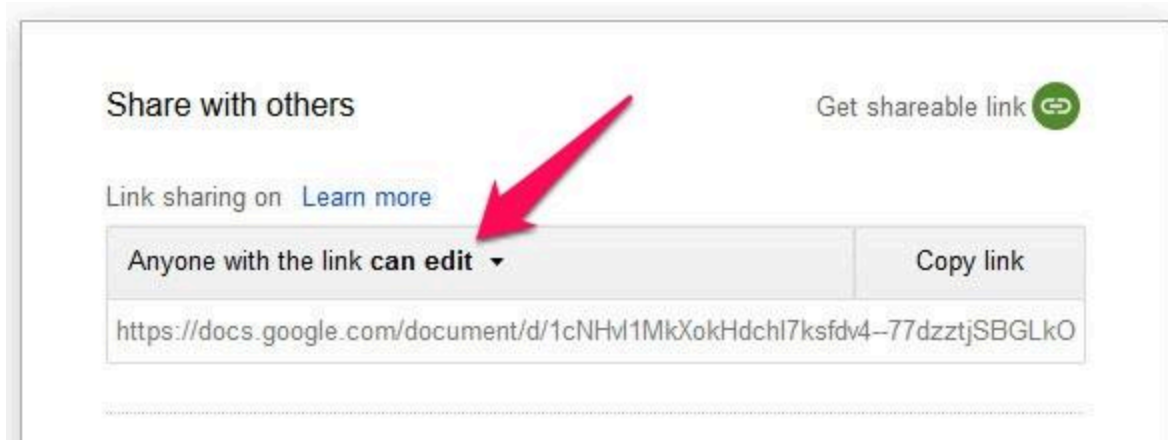
For that, make the Google document available with editing rights. The best way to do so is to click on the *Share* button in the upper right corner.



In the popup, click on *Get shareable link*.



Then, use the drop-down menu to change the setting to *can edit*.



Copy the link and send it to your editor.

## 7. Thanks for Your Attention!

Thanks for taking the time to go through the entire style guide. Please reach out if anything is unclear or if you have any other questions. Hope to read your content soon!