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**Each Module  
Has a PDF  
Checklist**



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**Search Engine Optimization  
("SEO") Basics**

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**What is SEO?**

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### What is SEO?

- Search Engine Optimization

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### What is SEO?

- Search Engine Optimization
- Although WordPress is already very **search engine friendly**, there are **a few small things** that you can do to **boost your SEO** results

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### What is SEO?

- Search Engine Optimization
- Although WordPress is already very **search engine friendly**, there are **a few small things** that you can do to **boost your SEO** results
- **Without** needing to hire a SEO expert!

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### What is SEO?

- By **implementing** these strategies, you can **greatly improve** your website's (or your client's) **visibility**.

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### Two components of SEO

**Onsite**  
(things YOU can do on your site)

**vs**

**Offsite**  
(things OTHERS can do off of your site)

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**We will Focus on "Onsite" Optimization!**

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# 'Organic Search' vs. Paid Search

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# Organic Search

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**'Organic Search' = Free Listings on the Left**

The screenshot shows a Google search for 'ebooks'. The search results are divided into two sections: 'Free Search Results' on the left and 'Paid Search Results' on the right. The organic results on the left include links to 'ebooks.com Official Site', 'Free E-books - Access to Free Digital Library', 'ebooks.com Buy Fiction, Non-Fiction, PDF Textbooks Online', and 'Free ebooks by Project Gutenberg - Gutenberg'. The paid results on the right include 'Free eBooks Online', 'Download eBooks - Free', 'Read Free eBooks', 'Free Audi Book Download', and '33 eBooks'. Red arrows point from the text above to the organic search results on the left.

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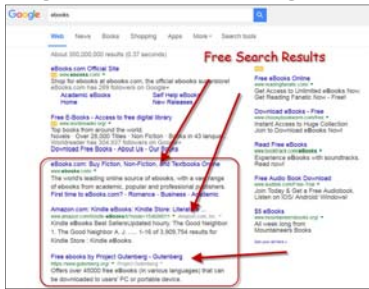
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### Improving SEO Helps Your 'Organic Search'




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### Paid Search (Google Adwords)

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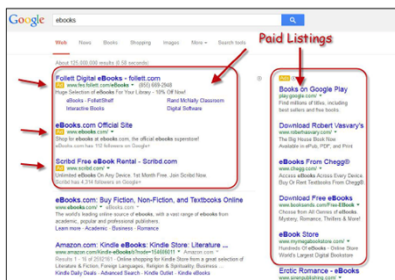
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### Paid Search (Google Ads) = the very top & right




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### Paid Advertising (AdSense Ads)



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**Let's Be Clear:  
Doing Google Ads, Facebook Ads,  
or other paid services is  
NOT doing Search Engine  
Optimization  
(SEO is Free Search)**

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**Using Keywords on Your Site**

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## What Are Keywords?

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## Your Keywords

- Your Keywords are **what people search on** to find your site. So brainstorm a lot of keyword ideas.

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## Your Keywords

- Your Keywords are **what people search on** to find your site. So brainstorm a lot of keyword ideas.
- Google has a **FREE** Keyword tool to research your keywords (Search for 'Google Keyword Tool')

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### It's OK to go Back and Update Keywords

- Google knows we are humans, so go back and update your old blog posts and add more keywords if you forgot to do it the first time around.

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### Keyword Tools

#### Google AdWords Keyword Planner

<https://adwords.google.com/select/KeywordToolExternal>

[Video] How to use Google AdWords Keyword Planner

<https://youtu.be/8Jyk-blGOeY>

#### WordTracker

<http://www.wordtracker.com/>

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### Optimizing Your Site for SEO

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## What Are 'Title Tags'?

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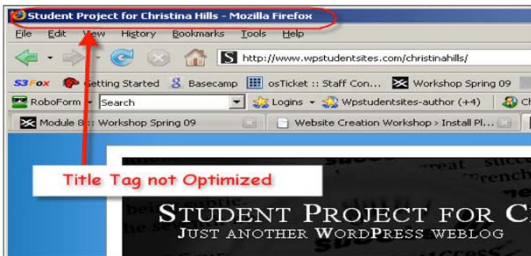
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## 'Title Tag' = Top Line in Browser



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## 'Title Tags' Show Up as the Blue Headlines in Free Search Results



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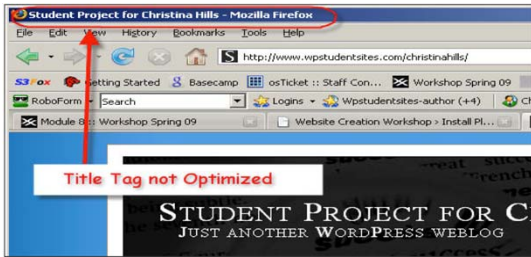
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### Example of a BAD 'Title Tag'



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How DO You Optimize Your 'Title Tag' for Better SEO Results?

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Use the "Yoast SEO" Plugin!  
(It's FREE!)

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### “YoastSEO” Plugin Installed in WordPress



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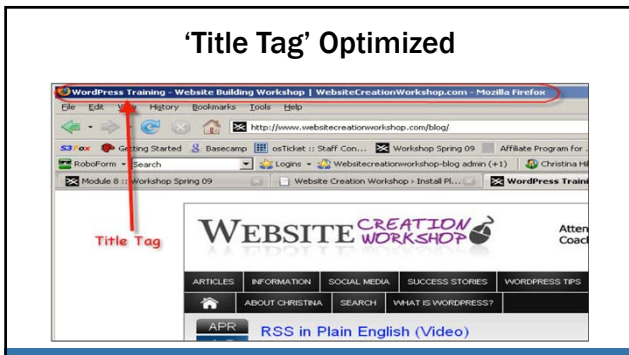
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### 'Title Tag' Optimized



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# How to Set Your Website "Title Tag"

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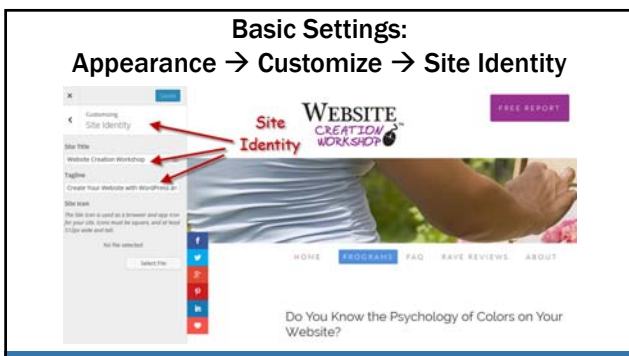
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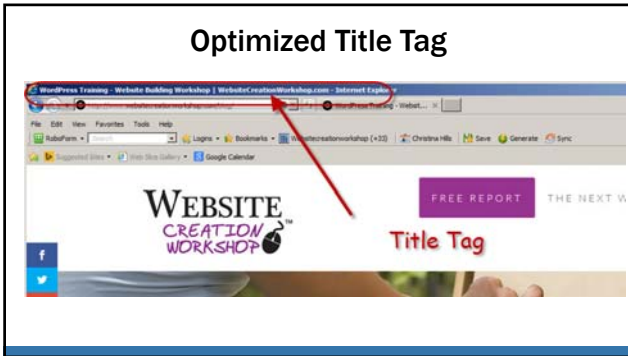
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### Optimized Title Tag



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### Article Title



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### Page / Post Headlines (Titles)



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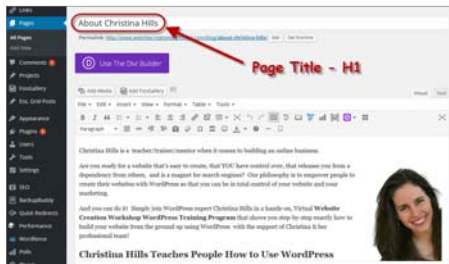
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## Title



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## Headline "H" Tags



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## Optimizing Your Images in Your Pages/Posts

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## Image File Name



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## Image Alt Tag



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## Links

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**What are  
Internal Links?  
vs.  
External Links?**

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**What are  
Inbound Links?  
vs.  
Outbound Links?**

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**What are Inbound and Outbound Links?**

- Inbound links: links coming to your website from other websites. Also called "backlinks."
- Outbound links: links on your site that are going to other websites.

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## Inbound and Outbound Link

Penny Imeson

**Description:** This is a site by Penny Imeson, Executive Director of The Heritage Museum, to increase awareness, draw in visitors, and inform members about the programming and activities at The Heritage Museum.



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## Inbound and Outbound Links and SEO

- Inbound links (“backlinks”) from quality sites play a big part in SEO.
- Outbound links are also looked at by Google when it tries to determine the nature of your site.

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Have Good “Permalinks” URLs for Best SEO Results

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What are “Permalinks” ?

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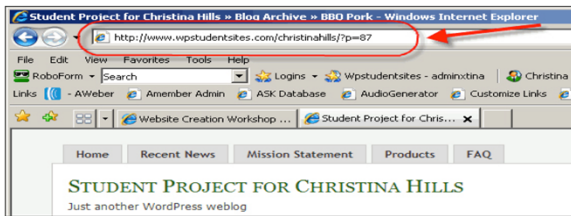
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Permalinks are the URLs in Browser Windows



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Example:

<http://www.yoursite.com/blog/?p=87>

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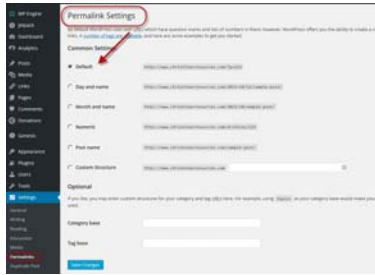
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### The Default Permalinks Settings



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So, Let's Make  
"Pretty" Permalinks!

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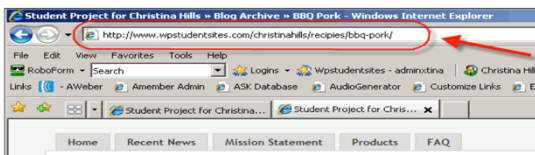
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### "Pretty" Permalinks with **Keywords** in the Link



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**Example:**

<http://www.yoursite.com/recipes/bbq-pork>



vs.

<http://www.yoursite.com/?p=87>



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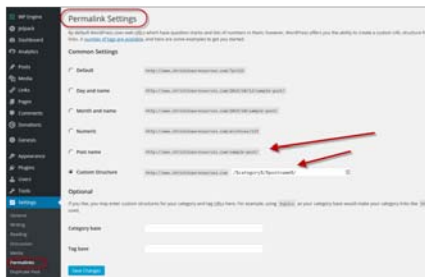
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**Set Your Site for Custom “Pretty” Permalinks**



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**This Sets the links for  
your whole site!**

**You Do This ONLY ONCE.**

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## Setting Links Individually on Your Pages/Posts

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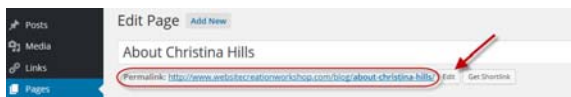
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## Editing Permalink



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## Use Keywords in 'Page Titles' and 'Page Slugs' (URLs)

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What is a “Page Title” and a “Page Slug”?

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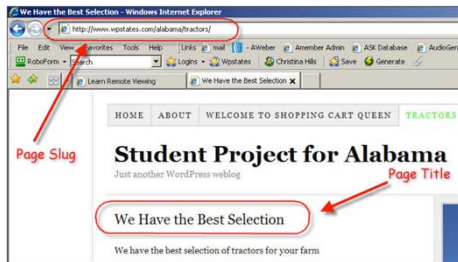
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‘Page Title’ is the Title of the Page  
‘Page Slug’ is the URL



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### Page Title and Page Slug

- When you create a Page/Post, WordPress makes them the same

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### Page Title and Page Slug

- When you create a Page/Post, WordPress makes them the same
- But you can **improve your SEO** results on an individual basis by **editing the single Page or Post**

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### 4 Things to Do in Every Post to Quadruple Your SEO Results

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### 4 Things to Do in Every Post

- Get the Keyword in Your Headline

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**4 Things to Do in Every Post**

- Get the Keyword in Your Headline
- Get the Keyword in Your Body Content

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**4 Things to Do in Every Post**

- Get the Keyword in Your Headline
- Get the Keyword in Your Body Content
- Get the Keyword in Your Page Slug

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**4 Things to Do in Every Post**

- Get the Keyword in Your Headline
- Get the Keyword in Your Body Content
- Get the Keyword in Your Page Slug
- Get the Keyword in Your Images

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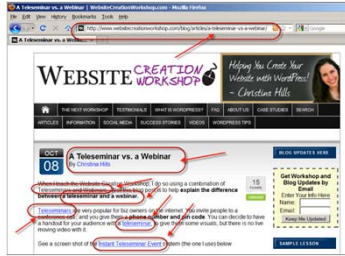
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## Use Keywords In Your Blog Posts




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## Live Demo of the Yoast SEO Plugin

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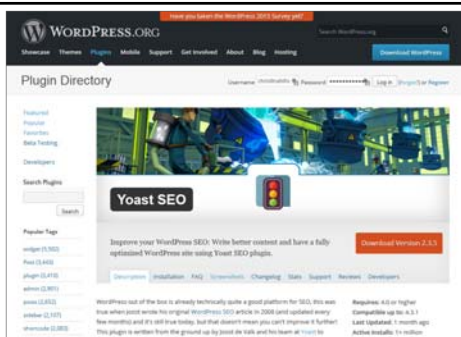
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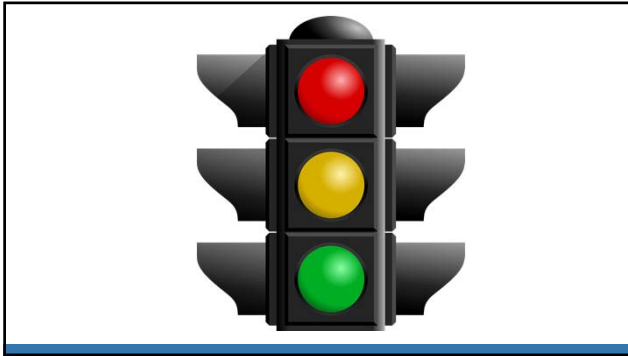
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## Site Maps for Usability and SEO

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## Site Map for Humans




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## Site Map for Search Engines

**XML Sitemap**

This is a XML Sitemap which is supposed to be processed by search engines like Google, MSN Search and YAHOO. It was generated using the Blogging-Software WordPress and the Google Sitemap Generator Plugin by Arne Brachhold. You can find more information about XML Sitemaps on [sitemaps.org](http://sitemaps.org) and Google's [list of sitemap programs](#).

URL	Priority	Change Frequency	LastCh
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/">http://www.christianahills.com/</a>	100%	Daily	2009-04
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/sitemap/">http://www.christianahills.com/sitemap/</a>	60%	Weekly	2009-04
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/feedburner-email-sign-up-box/">http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/feedburner-email-sign-up-box/</a>	20%	Monthly	2009-03
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/only-10-months-since-we-posted/">http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/only-10-months-since-we-posted/</a>	20%	Monthly	2009-03
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/contact/">http://www.christianahills.com/contact/</a>	60%	Weekly	2009-02
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/only-21-weeks-ago/">http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/only-21-weeks-ago/</a>	20%	Monthly	2009-01
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/what-makes-you-happy/">http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/what-makes-you-happy/</a>	20%	Monthly	2009-01
<a href="http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/setting-up-my-new-wordpress-workshop/">http://www.christianahills.com/2009/01/setting-up-my-new-wordpress-workshop/</a>	20%	Monthly	2009-01

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## Adding Site Map




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## How Will Google Find My Site?

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## First Check the Settings Inside WordPress

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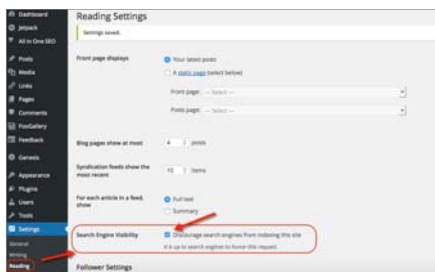
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## Block or Unblock the Search Engines for Your Site



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### IMPORTANT!

If you are in my beginner Website Creation Workshop, DO NOT tell the Search Engines about your Student Project!!

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### Your New Website

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### Use Google Add URL Tool [www.google.com/addurl](http://www.google.com/addurl)



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**You Will Need a Google Account:  
gmail, or Google Plus, etc**

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**Once Google Knows about your site,  
Your New Content (pages/posts)  
automatically gets added**

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**SEO – Should I Hire an Expert?**

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### How Much Does It Cost?

Professional SEO services - Pricing varies  
(source: <https://moz.com/blog/seo-pricing-costs-of-services>)

- hourly rate (common rates: \$76 - \$200/hr)
- per project (common fee: \$1,000 - \$7,500 per project)
- monthly (common rates: \$251 - \$5,000/month)

Example: SEO services offered by a major hosting company

- \$99/month for basic
- \$350/month for 3 keyword package

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### Search Engine Optimization in the "Cycle of Improvement"



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### Pick What You Want



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**Relax Into It**



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**Have Fun in the Process!**



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Website  
Transformation  
Workshop



with Christina Hills

Questions on  
Search Engine  
Optimization ?

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