

Website Post-Launch Checklist

5 Essentials After Hitting Publish

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1. Security & Backups

Set Up Regular Backups: Choose a plugin that both backs up your site and allows easy restoration. Some recommended options:

- <u>UpdraftPlus</u>
- WP Time Capsule
- <u>BlogVault</u>
- Duplicator

Tip: Check if your hosting includes nightly backups or real-time backup capabilities.

Enable Automatic Updates: Keep your plugins up-to-date. Services like <u>BlogVault</u> can help if you manage multiple websites.

Create a Staging Site: Test changes in a staging environment to avoid impacting the live site. Use tools like:

- <u>InstaWP</u>
- Local by Flywheel

→ Some hosts like WP Engine, Flywheel, or GoDaddy offer seamless staging site options.

Enhance Security: Install and properly configure security plugins like:

- <u>AIO Security</u>
- <u>SolidWP</u>

→ Both allow setting up <u>CAPTCHA</u> and enforcing two-factor authentication (2FA) for added security.

2. Measurement & Monitoring

Install Google Analytics: Set up Google Analytics to track website traffic and user behavior.

Implement Google Tag Manager: Use Google Tag Manager to easily add/manage tracking tags, conversion pixels, and monitor events such as clicks or form submissions.

3. On-Page SEO

Optimize Pages for SEO: Use plugins like:

- <u>AIO SEO</u>
- Yoast SEO

→ These plugins guide you through optimizing title tags, meta descriptions, and headings. They also generate sitemaps to improve search engine indexing.

Claim Your Business on Search Engines:

- <u>Google Search Console</u>
- Bing Webmaster Tools

After verification, submit your sitemap

and start indexing your site pages.

4. Local Listings Management

Get Listed in Key Directories: Ensure your business is listed in relevant directories:

- Google My Business
- <u>Yelp</u>
- <u>Manta</u>

→ You can also use tools like <u>Yext</u> or CANI Marketing Group's Local Distribution Pro and Listing Sync Pro products to streamline this process.

5. Regular Updates & Maintenance

Update Content Regularly: Keep your blog, products, and other key pages up-to-date.

Keep Plugins & Themes Updated: Always ensure your WordPress installation, plugins, and themes are up to date.

Check Website Speed & Performance: Use <u>Google PageSpeed Insights</u> to monitor how fast your site is loading.

Ensure Mobile Optimization: Use browser tools like Google Chrome's "Inspect" function or <u>Firefox Inspector</u> to see how your site renders across different devices.

Tools Mentioned:

<u>AIO Security</u>

AIO SEO

<u>BlogVault</u>

Google Analytics

Google Tag Manager

<u>InstaWP</u>

Local by Flywheel

<u>SolidWP</u>

<u>UpdraftPlus</u>

WP Time Capsule

<u>Yoast SEO</u>



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