

# 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

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