

# How to promote WordPress Plugins and Themes - The Checklist

# **Always be Testing**

 Constantly experiment and track feedback to figure out what works for you and your market

# **Build Something of Value**

- Improve your customer's life in a tangible way, solve real-life problems
- Be unique, meaning better, different or somehow superior to what is already out there
- Concentrate just as much on design and usability as on functionality

#### **Be Focused and Go Niche**

- Limit yourself to a target group and build something that is focused in its functionality
- Pick a niche you understand, a market you yourself are part of or know very well
- Scratch your own itch then sell your solution to others with the same problem
- Use marketing personas and other tools to get to know your target group beforehand

#### **Offer Proper Documentation**

- Invest in the user interface, make sure your customers have all the information they need.
- Annotate your settings, name and explain input fields and buttons clearly.
- Offer external resources (website, FAQs, tutorials, blog posts) to help users help themselves

#### **Make Support a Priority**

- Provide an easy way for your users to ask for help (contact form, social media, WordPress support forums)
- Keep up with the development cycle and offer continuous support for your product

#### **Look Professional**

- Have a professional website with clean design, a good structure that is mobile ready
- Provide testimonials from real customers for social proof
- Invest in your about page to build trust and connect with your users

# **Give Something Away For Free**

- Freemium A free basic product accompanied by a paid version with additional features
- Paid Addons Offer a free core product but ask for money for addons
- Advertisement Include (non-infuriating) ads for your paid offers in a good free product

# Take Advantage of the WordPress Directory

- Include your keyword plus brand name in the plugin name (*Google Analytics by Yoast*)
- Provide a meaningful description and screenshots.
- Add relevant tags (have a look at the most popular)
- Provide a professional-looking header image
- Ask for ratings from existing users

#### **Optimize Readme.txt**

- Optimize the header section, includec ontributors, tags, URLs, WordPress version, stable tag
- Provide a short explanation about the plugin's capabilities
- Include a useful long description with features requirements and other relevant information
- Offer an installation guide and FAQ so users can get started and overcome problems quickly

# **Blog To Build Authority**

 Give away advice and solve other people's problems for free to build trust and authority

#### **Create Video Tutorials**

- Add a transcription and closed captions, search engines use them to determine video content and relevancy
- Use relevant tags to make it easier for users to find your videos
- If you have several recordings on related topics, make sure to combine them into a playlist
- Link back to your products in the video description below





## **Guest Blog**

 Contribute to relevant websites to spread the news about your plugin or theme. Explore related topics to your product or tell your story and lessons learned during development.

## **Sponsored Posts**

 Have your product reviewed in exchange for money to gain permanent links and additional social promotion

# **Networking and Outreach**

- Let blogs and influencers know about your plugin or theme
- Describe your product, its features and the problem it solves, refrain from being too salesy
- If you have a paid product, give away free copies to reviewers
- Be available to answer questions from readers in the comments of review articles
- Alternatively, get in touch with freelance writers who work for relevant blogs

#### **Inform Your Direct Environment**

- Email personal contacts in your niche to let them know about your theme or plugin
- Inform your email list if you have one
- Add a link to your email signature to turn every message into an advertisement

#### **Comment Like There's No Tomorrow**

- Find relevant blog posts and leave (non-spammy) comments to spread the word
- Search for "how to [whatever you plugin does]", set up a Google alert for key phrases

#### **Social Media**

- Make sure to send regular news of your WordPress product through all channels
- Add relevant hashtags (e.g. #WordPress) to your social media posts to increase interactions
- Put a link and short description of your product in your social profiles
- Follow and inform influencers, join conversations, try to be helpful without selling too hard



