# 7 ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES FOR MONEY-MAKING MEMBERSHIP WEBSITES

we will begin in just a moment...



# 7 ESSENTIAL STRATEGIES FOR MONEY-MAKING MEMBERSHIP WEBSITES



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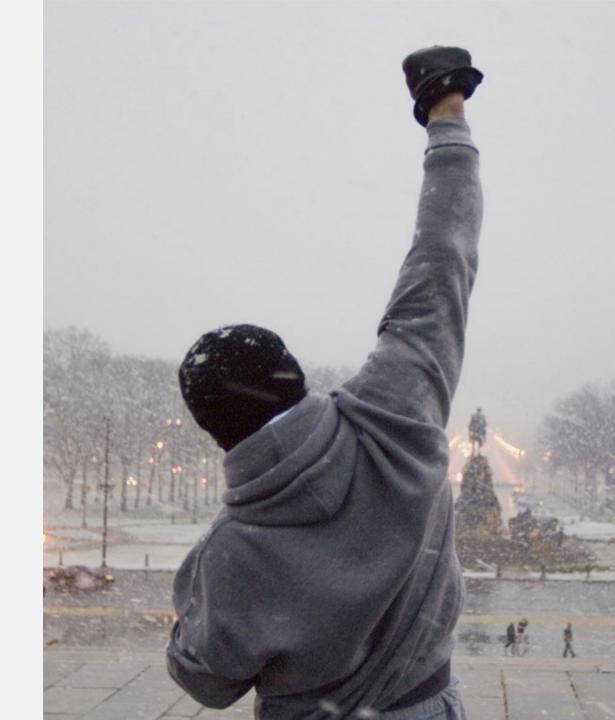
### What's the goal?

Cut through distractions and launch a successful membership website.



# How do we reach the goal?

Prioritize your tasks, eliminate distractions, and keep things simple.



### Strategy #1

Understand membership websites



### What is a membership website?

An online community of members, or collection of content, that serves a specific purpose for a specific audience.

With Brilliant Directories, specific sections of the website can be protected and reserved for members only.



### What membership websites do:

- Serves as your main company website
- Automatically manages members & signups
- Automatically collects member payments
- Includes private / public member search directory
- Schedules & promotes events
- Publishes & manages company blog articles
- Restricts access to specific web pages



### Types of membership websites:

- Trade associations
- Private organizations
- Company intranets
- Lead distribution networks
- Chamber of commerce
- Clubs, teams, groups, etc.

- Non-profits / government & educational institutions
- Membership management
- Private client management
- Members-only content
- Private online courses

And more!



Are you a member of any professional membership websites?



### **Strategy #2**

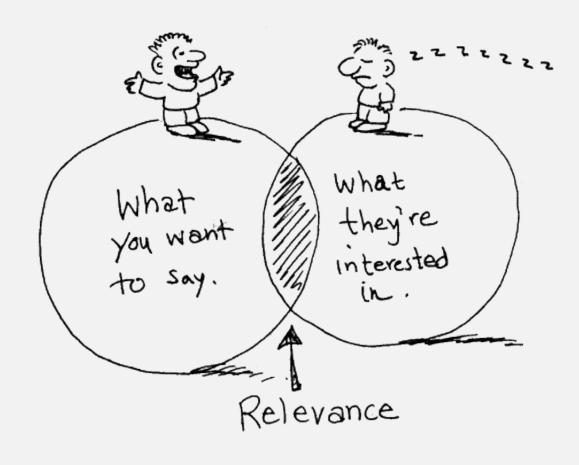
Key elements of membership websites



### Know your audience

Define who your members are, what they do, and where they are located.

Know what's important to your members and how your website will fulfill their needs.





### E.g. Lawyer membership website

#### Who are your members?

My members are lawyers and law firms in the United States.

#### What's important to them?

My members want better online visibility to attract more clients.

#### How will you fulfill their needs?

My website will provide members with online visibility and exclusive members-only content.



### Explain your mission

#### A clear mission helps members:

- Understand your website
- Relate to your website
- Join your website

#### A good mission page includes:

- Who you are
- Who you serve
- What you offer





### E.g. Lawyer membership website

#### Who we are:

An organization helping lawyers grow their practices by providing online visibility & access to exclusive members-only content.

#### Who we serve:

Lawyers seeking to grow their practices with the latest online marketing strategies.

#### What we offer:

A membership community where lawyers can promote their services and learn about online marketing strategies.



### Define membership benefits

# More members will sign up when the benefits are clear.

- What should they do?
- Why should they do it?
- What happens next?

Learn about clear messaging in Webinar 2: www.BrilliantDirectories.com/Webinar2





### E.g. Lawyer membership website

#### What should they do?

Select a membership package to add your practice to the searchable lawyer community in less than 90 seconds.

#### Why they should do it?

Increase your online visibility with a professional public profile and gain access to exclusive members-only content.

#### What happens next?

After signing up, you can customize your public lawyer profile and gain instant access to exclusive strategy articles.

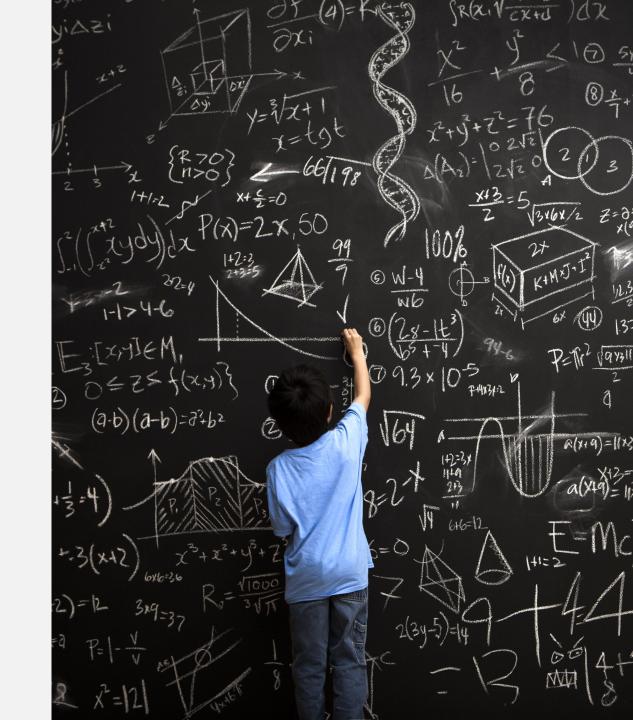


So, how many times have you tried launching a membership website?



### Strategy #3

Don't complicate things for yourself





# Remember, people have done more with less...

Jason Haloossim



### Keep things simple

- Don't waste money on customizations
- Don't build out unnecessary pages
- Don't clutter information

#### Focus on core functionality:

- Is your website live & online?
- Do you have a strong mission page?
- Can your members sign up?
- If so... your website is ready to go!





### Myths that entrepreneurs DO NOT believe

Your website must be 100% perfect when you launch.

You only get one chance to make a good impression.

If kittens are not dancing on the screen, your idea won't work.

\* There is no such thing as a perfect website. Websites are always evolving and get better with time. Start your project and focus on gaining members as quickly as possible.



### If you've tried your idea several times...

#### Your idea may not be clear to you or to others

- Simplify your plan and concept
- Do not focus on unimportant features

#### Your idea is simply not going to work

- That's okay! Fail quickly
- Don't waste time & money

#### You're getting in your own way

- Don't be stubborn
- Trust the advice of experts
- Don't overcomplicate things
- Don't be afraid to launch an "imperfect" website



### **Strategy #4**

Understand revenue streams



### What will people pay for?

- Membership fees to join your community
- Upgrades to memberships with more perks & access
- Premium rates to be individually featured on your website
- Automated recurring payments: monthly, yearly, etc.
- Sponsored banner ad sales
- Lead purchases



#### Demonstration

### LETS SEE SOME EXAMPLES



### How else can you make money?

#### By not wasting time & money on:

- Less effective solutions
- Expensive development
- Tasks that don't make you money

\* Do not underestimate the value of your personal time. Focusing on unimportant tasks or spending excessive funds on unneeded development typically slows your path to success.



### **Strategy #5**

How to publish premium content



### Ways to publish content

- All content is public
- Specific web pages are members only
- Entire website is members only
- Premium content for specific membership levels



#### Demonstration

### LETS SEE SOME EXAMPLES



### **Strategy #6**

Recognize viable marketing channels



### Do you need marketing? not everyone does...

#### Ask yourself:

- Are you interested in more online visibility?
- Do you need / want more members?
- Are you equipped to take on more members?



### Utilize the platforms your audience uses

#### Does your target audience spend lots of time:

- Interacting on Facebook
- Scrolling through Twitter
- Browsing Instagram
- Watching YouTube videos
- Searching for related topics on Google

Once you know where your target audience spends time online, you can market on those platforms.



### Ad platforms we love

- Facebook ads
- Google AdWords

We've found the best ROI utilizing these two ad platforms because this is where many of our customers spend time online.

Find out where **your potential members** spend time online!



### You don't need to spend money

Many non-traditional marketing strategies don't require you to spend any money.

- Blogging / guest blogging
- Target industry icons
- Optimize your website (SEO, relevant images / text)
- Submit keyword-heavy, yet news worthy, press releases
- Develop a presence on social networks

Learn about targeting industry icons in Webinar 1: www.BrilliantDirectories.com/Webinar1



Download Our Free 10 Step

#### DIRECTORY MARKETING GUIDE

www.BrilliantDirectories.com/Webinar3



### Strategy #7

Avoid common misconceptions



### Have you ever had these thoughts?

- It's expensive to start a membership website
- I need to know programming to start a website
- I need to have an email list before starting
- I need to set up an official corporation before starting
- I need to have an official logo before starting
- I won't be successful because similar concepts exist
- I'm not 100% sure about my idea, so why should I start?



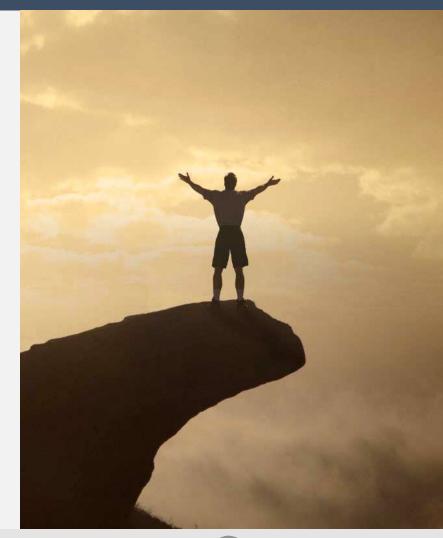
### Believe in yourself

Taking the first step is half the battle

Save money, save money

#### But... invest when needed

- Quality platform
- Strategic marketing
- Hire when it hurts





### WEBINAR RECAP



### Summary

- Understand the potential of membership websites
- Provide your audience with what they need
- A clear mission page helps visitors understand your website
- Clearly define member benefits
- Keep things simple focus on core functionality
- Explore the various revenue streams of membership websites
- Market on the platforms your target audience uses
- Utilize free, non-traditional marketing strategies
- Don't get caught up in common misconceptions



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#### STRATEGY-GUIDE WORKSHEET

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#### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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