

Guest Post Guidelines on the MonsterPost Blog

Content

- We highly appreciate the authors that include both in their articles: theory and practice tips. Our blog readers always seek for professional advice, so practical examples are very important. After reading the article, readers should not only have gained new insights and ideas, but also know how to actually implement them in practice. The more practical your tips, techniques and ideas are, the better.
- We highly appreciate the authors that aren't afraid to show their own opinion. The more thought-provoking your article, the better. Please don't forget to support your thoughts with links to the sources that illustrate your ideas. Our ultimate goal is to engage the blog audience in a meaningful design discussion.
- Please provide links and references to related articles, tools, services and other resources at the end of the article.

Key Points

- The post must be well-written in English.
- High-quality, original, controversial content, not boring and not previously published elsewhere on the web.
- Once the content is published on the MonsterPost Blog, you must not republish it elsewhere online.

Comments

- Reply to the comments on your post after it's live on the MonsterPost Blog.
- Be ready to take some flak, you need to argue well and explain your position properly sharing your viewpoint.

Bio

- Please include an author's bio that is 2-3 sentences long explaining who you are and what you do.
- Provide an email address linked to your Gravatar image and a link to your Google+ profile in the format of `Google+`.
- You can put maximum 2 (dofollow) reference website links in the author's bio section.

Editing

- Please note that we reserve the right to edit the post for grammatical errors, facts, and easier legibility. If we do, we will send the complete text of the post for your final review.
- We can send a post back to you with changes or suggested additions to further enhance the post in ways that go beyond basic editing.
- Anything that requires more than basic editing on our part will be sent back for you to edit.

Submitting

- If you have any questions or an idea about your guest post, please contact us via this page: <http://blog.templatemonster.com/become-an-author/>.
- If your guest post is accepted, it usually takes between two to four days for your guest post to be published.
- We will do our best to notify you the day your post goes live.

Post Topics

- Web Design: graphic design, Photoshop, web design trends, etc.
- Web Development: all the tech tools that people use to build websites and make them work the way they should – including HTML, jQuery, AJAX, JavaScript, CSS, etc.
- eCommerce: all about eCommerce platforms and aspects of having an eCommerce business – including online payments, shipping, etc.

- Industry news: in case there's something new in the web design industry, and you know of any significant impact it will have on us all, that's exactly the kind of content we're interested under this topic.
- Web Hosting: some unique content related to web hosting, especially the technical side of it; useful tips for website owners, tutorials, and roundups are very welcome here.
- HTML5 & CSS3: everything related to the new version of HTML markup language and CSS3. Website building aspect is of special interest here, although other interesting content on this topic will be also accepted.
- CMS and Blogging: got anything interesting to say about Joomla or WordPress? Any kind of topic related to CMS and blogging solutions is very welcome here.

Post Structure

- Create exciting headline.
- Write an excerpt – a quick, attractive summary of your content (usually 2-3 sentences).
- Break up the paragraphs into easy-to-digest chunks.
- Use bulleted lists with a brief description and links if necessary.
- Use bold and italics for emphasis, not underlining.

Post Length

- Length isn't the main factor, but quality content is. Your post should be as long as it needs to be to convey the message, but no longer.
- Roughly 500-600 words in length minimum.

Headings

- The title and all headings should be appealing, concrete and descriptive.
- Markup headings within the article: `<h3>Heading</h3>`.
- In `<h3>` headings, please capitalize the first letter of every word, e.g. "How to Build Tabbed Content Boxes Using Twitter Bootstrap".
- Do not capitalize articles (a, an, and the), nor prepositions of three or fewer letters (such as of, in and for).
- Please do not use full stops (periods) at the end of your headings.

Commas & Abbreviations

- Add a comma before etc.: "Use Photoshop, Illustrator, Gimp, etc."
- Please do not abbreviate or use symbols for everyday words: give and take, not give & take; design and develop, not design/develop; versus, not vs. (except in headings).
- Using "i.e." to precede a clarification is OK. It comes from the Latin "id est" and means "that is" or "in other words." E.g. "Your client (i.e. the one in charge) will have final say."
- Using "e.g." is also fine when brevity is required. It comes from the Latin expression "exempli gratia" and means "for example." Use it when listing only some of all instances of a concept, and do not follow it with a period, e.g. "Open your browser of choice (e.g. Firefox, Chrome, Safari)."

Images

- High-quality images and screenshots are important in our articles. Please always store full-size images locally in case we may need them again. Images should be attractive and relevant and should not have low-quality artifacts. They should be legible and properly cropped.
- Do not rescale images and crop them to focus on the point of interest.
- Images should be 670 pixels wide and a maximum of 600 pixels high.
- Make sure you own the copyright to any images you submit with your posts. Otherwise, provide the links to image sources.
- We do not require an intro image with the post, still it would be preferable if you attached the head shot in the email with your guest post (900 x 536 pixels).

Links

- Link to an external web page only once. Linking to different pages from a single website is OK if warranted.
- Use readable text for link anchors, not URLs (unless significant). So Facebook, not <http://facebook.com/>.
- Make sure any links in your post are relevant and valid.
- Cite your sources and back everything up, provide the links to a study or an article, to any resources or tools, to support your claims.
- Do not include affiliate links or self-promotion links to your own websites within the body content of your post.

Spelling

- Monster Post follows US spelling (e.g. “color” instead of “colour”). Please follow the spellings below, and refer to the Merriam-Webster dictionary (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/>) for all other spellings.

Once again, if you have any questions or an idea about your guest post, please contact via <http://blog.templatemonster.com/become-an-author/>, we'll get back to you ASAP.

NOTE: *The MonsterPost blog editors reserve the right to reject any content suggested by authors without ever publishing it.*