

Digital Marketing Strategies, Trends, & Tactics for 2023



What do we see in the market?

Ongoing need for solid, integrated, digital strategy

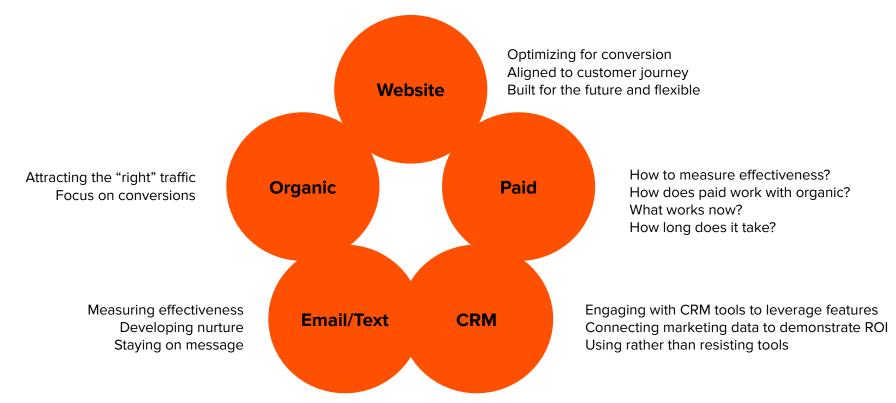


We've All Been Working on All the Pieces ...



Integrating All of the Strategies towards Clear Goals







What do we see in the market?

Evolving Websites, Not Rebuilding Websites



Optimizing Website

Finally! Rather than rebuilding websites every 5–7 years, teams can focus on evolving the existing website.

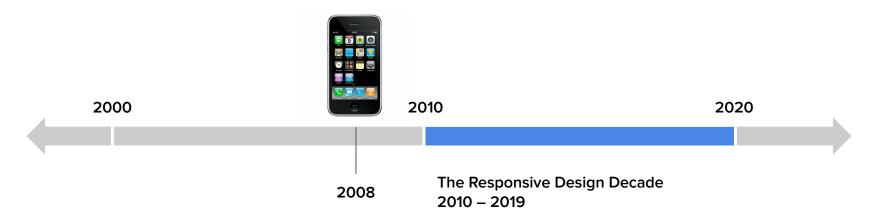


3 Main Reasons



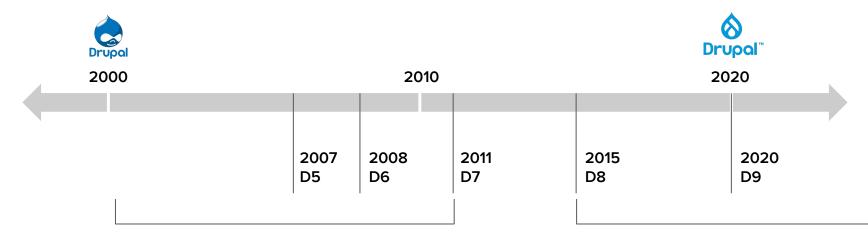
Mobile Design

2008 iPhone 3G launches, pushing the need for websites designed for the mobile web and forcing full-scale rethinking of web design and content presentation. Burn down those websites.



Evolving CMS Platforms

2015 Before 2015, all Drupal sites needed to be rebuilt with every redesign. After 2015, the core can be updated to maintain the content structures.



Burn It Down

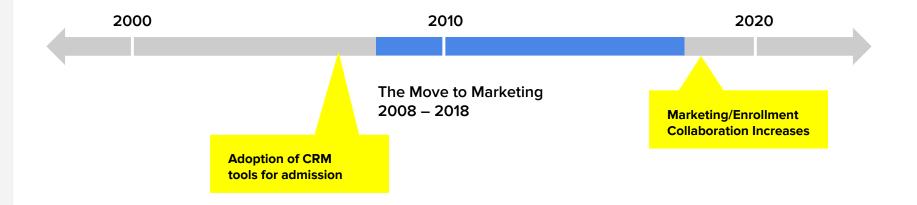
Build It Up





Website Moves from IT to Marketing

2008 The move from the website being a "technical" project to a "marketing" project occurs with the expansion of more specialized marketing tools.





Website Evolution

Institutional Focused Customer Focused Conversion Focused

Site reflects the internal hierarchy of the organization

"Webmaster" posts content

Site aligned to the needs of external audiences

Team of 2-3 people manages the site within governance

Site is further optimized and revised to drive conversion

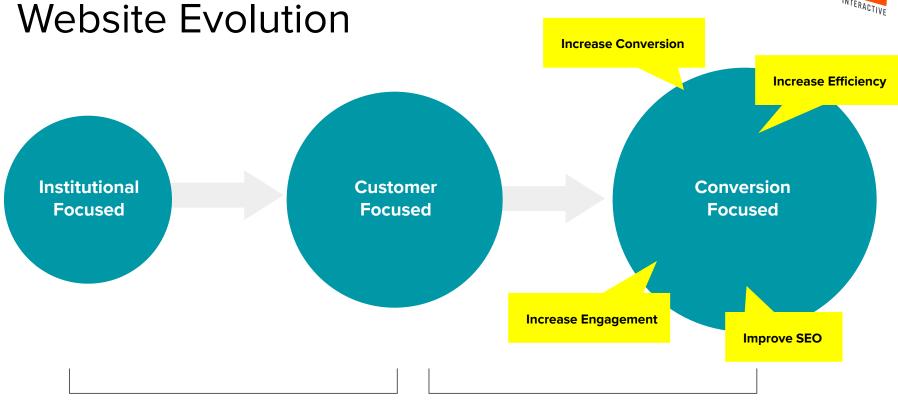
Team of 5-6 monitor, measure, and evolve — content, conversion, enrollment, analytics



Is Your Site Ready for Evolution?

- A user-centered website focused on audience needs (not institutional needs)
- A digital content strategy
- A governance strategy to maintain site quality
- Component-driven design
- CMS that is able to evolve and be upgraded without having to rebuild
- A site that you can edit and publish without the help of a developer
- The staff to support and execute on the strategy





Burn It Down

Build It Up



What should I be thinking about?

Google Analytics 4 Transition



An Opportunity to Rethink What's Important

Transition requires rethinking goals and being proactive about what to track.

Reduced number of standard reports – 78 in Universal Analytics to 19 in GA4.

GA4 focuses on events that are meaningful and important, with less default emphasis on views.



What to do now?

- 1. Start GA4 tracking today!
- Develop a plan for archiving your old data.
- 3. Define what metrics are important and set up tracking in GA4.



What should I be thinking about?

Paid Campaigns

Some Trends



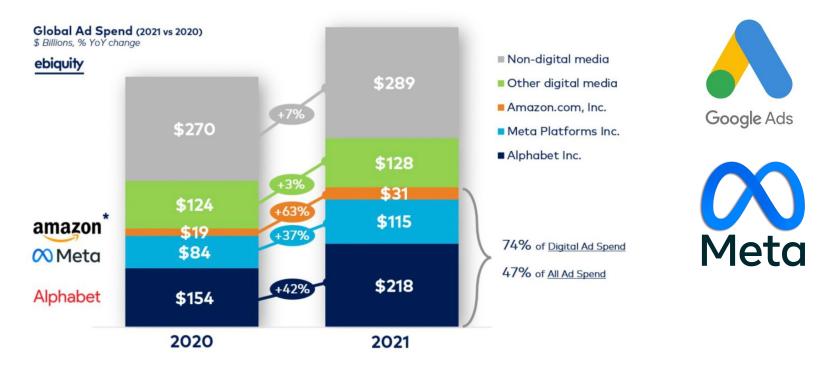
Digital advertising spend is about 65% of all media spends – highest ever.

Meta advertising is decreasing due to reduced tracking on Apple devices.

Expanding video options (such as Netflix and Microsoft partnership) are coming, but still very nascent.



In 2021, 74% of Digital Spend on 3 Platforms

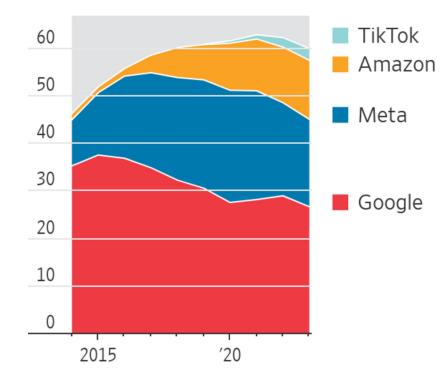


* Amazon breaks down its earnings by 'Advertising Services' for the first time in Q4 2021, this was bundled in 'Other' before. Historical data is provided from Q3 2020, Q1 & Q2 revenues have been normalized using 6 quarter averages.

Sources: quarterly earnings reports & eMarketer



TikTok on the Rise in 2022







Google and Meta combined make up less than 50% of the digital spend.

OHO

The "Old" is New Again



Google is continually evolving the advertising offerings to improve quality and conversions.

- Keyword changes & negative keywords
- Custom Intent Audiences
- RLSA Remarketing List Search Ad (remarketing list + keywords)
- Performance Max
- Responsive ads

But, watch out for platform changes that can expand your campaigns and burn your budget.



Leverage Your Data

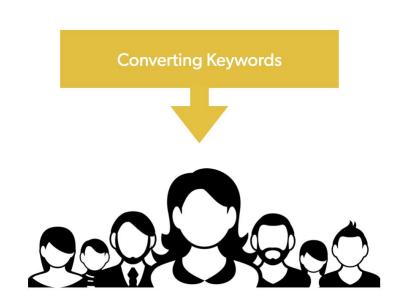
Focus on Building Audiences



Custom Intent



- With user tracking looking to be on the decline over the coming years, it's important to make a move towards leveraging "proprietary" data.
- This begins with using lists and re-targeting which are likely strategies you have in place.
- **Top Performing Keywords:** Using keywords that are leading to conversions and engagement and building an audience around this. We are placing ads in display and paid search.
- **Results:** For one large university client, this approach is performing better than paid search from a conversion perspective more volume, more efficiency.



Custom Intent Audience





Marry broad search with remarketing for a cost-effective solution.

- User has visited your website so there's brand awareness
- User searches broad search term "Best business schools" that shows some intent
- Result: display a more targeted remarketing result in Google Search

Remarketing + Broad Keyword







Let's go all in with Google automated targeting.

- Provide as much information as possible conversion goals, landing pages, audiences, keywords, lists, videos, images
- Google users display, gmail, keywords to maximize the conversions
- Proving an effective way to scale, if you have good conversion data
- Need to closely monitor ongoing conversions for quality

Fully Automated Targeting



Responsive Ads

Google Ads

Allow Google to optimize your campaign creative.

- Reach into a bigger inventory beyond the "standard four" sizes
- Dynamic optimization •
- Leverage lower cost ad units
- Unusual format sizes reduces ad blindness







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New Tactics, New Networks, New Formats, Oh My!



	Streaming Audio	Mobile Video	Social Video
Category Leader	Spotify	TikTok	YouTube
Alternative Provider	Pandora / Audio Go	Snapchat	Facebook & Instagram
Top of Funnel: Awareness	~	~	~
Upper Middle Funnel: Engagement	Some Banner Opportunities	Some	Lead Gen Ads
Lower Middle Funnel: Traffic	n/a	Some	~
Bottom of Funnel: Inquiry or Apply	n/a	Some	✓



Connected TV / OTT

Connected TV

- Comcast / Hulu
- Top of the full
- Self-serve
- Cost-per-impression
- No click-throughs

MNTN – traditional click ads

Bing + Netflix









What should I be thinking about?

Content Strategy and Content Marketing



First, Some Definitions

Content Strategy is a brand-amplification strategy to tell your organization's story more effectively.

Content Marketing is an inbound lead generation strategy that leverages expertise and SEO.

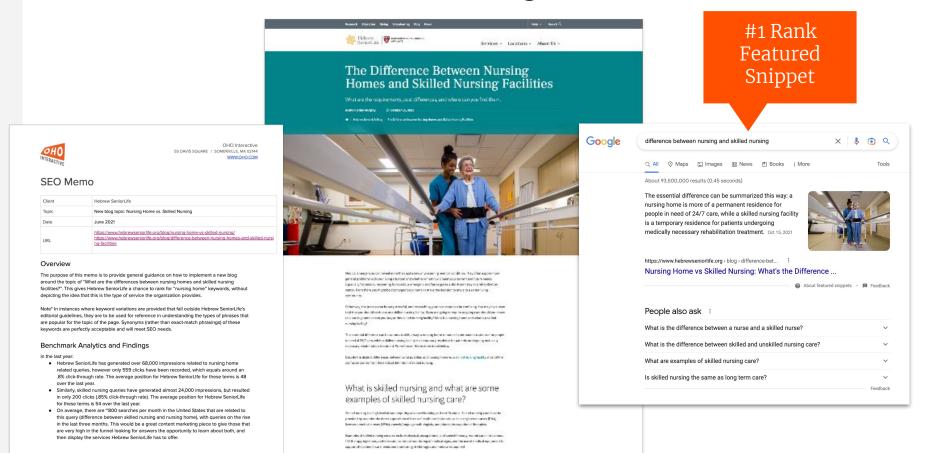


Content marketing for lead generation are articles marry that your organization's expertise with high-volume keywords to drive traffic to your website.

Content marketing continues to pay benefits over the long-terms and **drives the cost of brand awareness and lead generation down**.

The Moat Around Your Marketing





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1 of 3



The Digital Marketing Moat



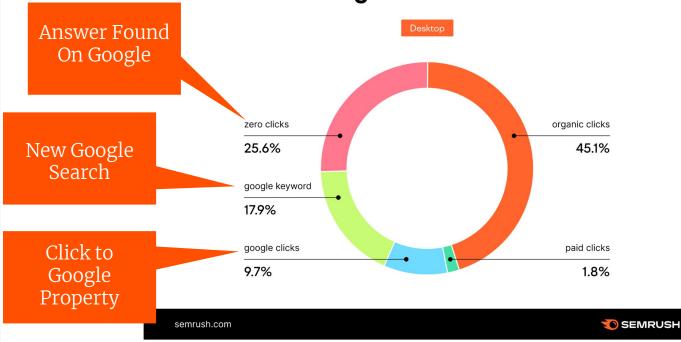


What should I be thinking about?

Changes in search behaviors



Only 45% of organic searches resolve at your website



Google Search CTRs



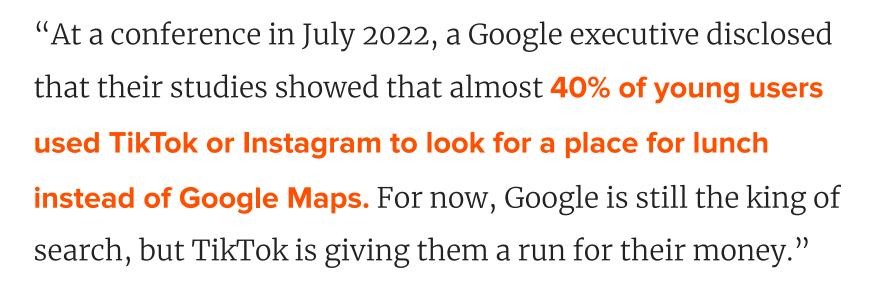
YouTube & Image Search

YouTube is the number one search engine for teenagers.

Google Images is the second largest "search engine"

TikTok Is a Search Engine Too?





TikTok Search Ad Platform?





Not live yet - but in beta testing.

"TikTok's search ads platform will allow businesses **to bid on specific keywords and phrases** related to their products or services, just like they would on Google. However, TikTok's platform will likely offer some unique features and targeting options that Google does not.

For example, TikTok's platform may offer **more robust audience targeting options**, allowing advertisers to reach users based on their interests, behaviors, and demographics."

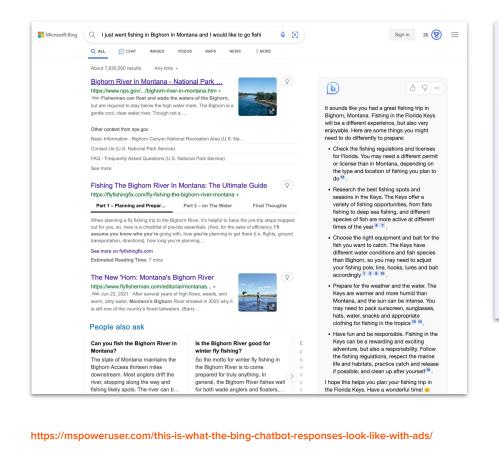
Could Chatbots Replace Google?



"For more than 20 years, the Google search engine has served as the world's primary gateway to the internet. But with a new kind of chatbot technology poised to reinvent or even replace traditional search engines, Google could face the first serious threat to its main search business. One Google executive described the efforts as make or break for Google's future."



Bing + Chatbots



Scarlet and Violet are Pokémon games for the Nintendo Switch system that were released on November 18, 2022¹¹. They are set in the Paldea region and feature over 100 new Pokémon²².

The games received mixed reviews from critics and players, mainly due to several gameplay bugs and performance issues. Some of these issues include visual clipping, invisible Pokémon, frame rate drops, lag, and game crashes ³ ⁴ ⁵.

Nintendo has released several patches to fix some of these issues since launch. The latest patch was released on February 15, 2023 and addressed a game-breaking bug that prevented players from progressing past a certain point [®]. However, some players still report experiencing problems with the games.

Are you interested in buying Scarlet or Violet?





What should I be thinking about?

Suggested Actions



Summary and Suggested Actions



- → Push to develop a long-term and integrated digital marketing strategy be patient and communicate that this takes time.
- → Use the GA4 transition to focus your digital efforts around metrics that achieve business goals.
- → Invest in new paid media strategies and look to leverage video.
- → Use content marketing to drive the cost of brand building and lead generation down.
- → Audit and monitor your Google presence and keep an eye on emerging search engines.