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There are web sites and there are web sites. Some may be beautifully and aesthetically designed, but do not give the expected results as they are not visited often enough. If such web sites are optimized in such a way that they are easily found by the prospective customers, they would give much better returns.

Search Engine Optimisation or SEO, as this technique is normally called, is a means of increasing the volume of web site traffic through the means of search engine results, as opposed to generating traffic through the insertion of ad banners. SEO uses the arrangement and combination of keywords and key phrases as well as other HTML tags and techniques to increase the chances of the site appearing higher and more frequently in search engine results. The combination of both, popular keywords and unique key phrases, is a highly effective method in achieving this goal. When a web page, web site, or other media appear higher in the search engine results, it is more likely that viewers will choose to visit that site. Needless to add, the more the visits to a site the greater the chances of getting business from such customers.

There are many ways to employ the use of search engine optimization to increase web site traffic. SEOs can be performed by a webmaster or employed through the use of online tools or professional companies that specialize in the art of performing SEO overhauls to websites. Applying a proper title to the main page of a web site, as well as each additional page within a web site is very important and will help in bringing a page higher into the search result page ranking.

The use of meta tags and meta descriptions can also greatly increase traffic to a website. These are specific words and key phrases incorporated into the actual HTML programming, to assist search engines in finding the correct content. These tags need to be not only accurate but also unique to each page of the site. The host site URL as well as the file name of each page or image can also greatly affect web traffic.

Search engine optimization can also includes improving the readability of the page content through visual appeal, careful proof reading, provision of a site map on each page within the web site, avoiding the use of redirection pages, adding the "alt" tag to describe images, and the proper use of headings and subheadings for page content.

The amount of web traffic that a business receives can play a vital role in that business developing and building a unique brand image. Website traffic can help build reputations, drive sales and promote interest in services.

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