



Without strategy, content is just stuff, and the world has enough stuff.

- @arjunbasu



Stay Informed

Social media evolves constantly, but not all updates require action. Determine what trends and updates are right for you.



Make a Plan

Outline your objectives and build your content strategy based on what you can realistically manage.



Test, Test, Test

Not everything can be a home run. Track channel performance and make realistic adjustments to your content.



Listen

Pay attention to your audience and how they're interacting with your content and plan ahead with their feedback in mind.



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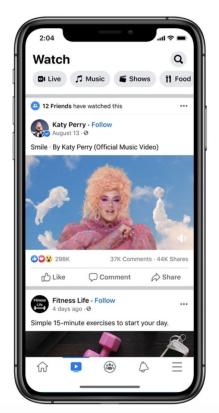
What's Trending: Facebook

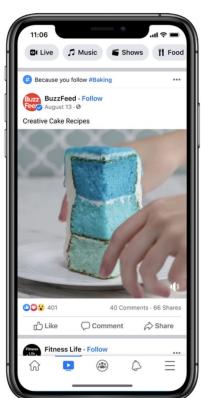
Video

Today, more than 1.25 billion people visit Watch every month. If your video is uploaded via a brand page, it will appear in the Watch section.

Live Content

Facebook has brought back their "Live With" feature, which allows users to add a guest speaker to their video as well as integrations with Facebook Events.









What's Trending: Facebook

Small Business Support

Launched in May, Facebook Shops allows businesses to set up free online storefronts on Facebook and Instagram, allowing users to directly purchase from the app. Facebook Business Suite was introduced in September, designed to better allow small businesses to manage their pages across both apps in one place.

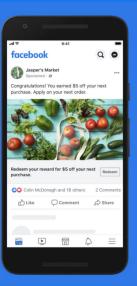
Messenger

Watch Together, released this month, allows you to enjoy Facebook Watch videos with friends and family over Messenger video calls.









Facebook Considerations

Don't expect your videos to automatically show up in Watch. Remember these tips to help your videos show up in the Facebook Watch tab:

- Don't use excessive promotion: Don't upload videos that play like advertisements for your business or product. Make sure they are informational and entertaining.
- Create polished-looking videos: We understand most video content won't feature movie-worthy editing, but do ensure you are taking time to include steady, clear assets and graphics.
- Produce several videos: If you have a series of videos ready to go, Facebook Watch is more likely to include your videos. Take time to develop a strategy.





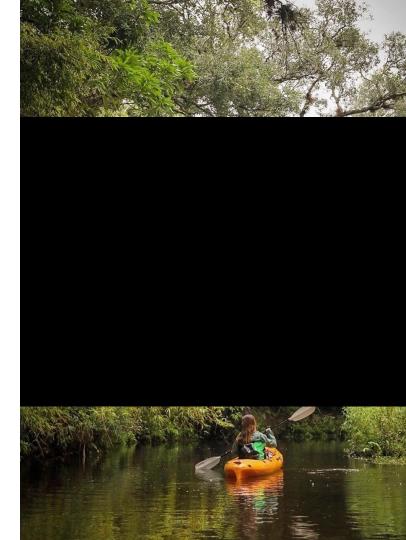
What's Trending: Instagram

Reels

Launched in August, Instagram Reels focuses on short-form video, similar to TikTok. Reels are a maximum of 30 seconds and appear both on their own section of users' profiles and in Instagram feeds.

Stories

Users continue to spend more and more time using Stories. Additionally, 62% of users report being more interested in a brand after seeing its Stories, demonstrating the importance of using the feature to its fullest to spark interest.



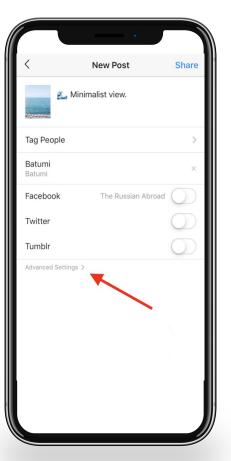
What's Trending: Instagram

GIFs

Facebook acquired Giphy in May, highlighting Facebook likely has an interest in amplifying usage of GIFs across FB and IG. Currently, 50% of Giphy's traffic comes from Facebook platforms, which demonstrates the wide adoption of GIFs on social media platforms.

Alt Text

Aimed to describe, with utmost accuracy, what your image is all about. Adding alt text makes your content more inclusive, sends clues the algorithm can pick up on and expands your content's discoverability.









Provide content that aligns with what your audience cares about and consider the length of your message when determining how to share on the platform.

- Embrace different content formats: Try short, clever captions for in-feed posts, use Stories for storytelling, or test out IGTV with any video assets that have performed well on Facebook.
- Focus on user-generated content: Now more than
 ever the authentic lens UGC provides is very relevant. Utilize
 UGC to showcase changes in the travel experience, but
 always make sure you're asking permission first!
- **Incorporate GIFs and emojis**: Used right, both features will help insert your personality and fun into your content, building a more emotional connection with your audience.







Travel Trends

For travelers, Pinterest is often the first place they go when starting to plan their next adventure. Cross-country road trip, up 89%, and road trip routes, up 248%, are two strong content focuses to take advantage of when creating pins for the platform.

Responsible Travel

People are looking to lessen their impact, but keep the fun. Searches for <u>zero-waste travel</u> <u>essentials</u> are up 48%, <u>travel stories</u> up 125%, <u>eco-friendly travel</u> up 73% and <u>agritourism</u> searches are up 57%.







What's Trending: Pinterest

Finding Balance

<u>Solo Journey</u> searches have increased by 49% and <u>art therapy activities</u> have increased 444%.

Positivity

Searches for positivity have increased by 64% in 2020. Users are turning inwards, both physically and mentally, in order to focus on the areas in which they have the most control. Photo shoot ideas is searched **56x** more in 2020.

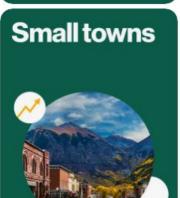


- Make sure you have the content to back up your Pins. You won't keep your audience if they're not finding relevant information on the other side of each pin.
- **Pick an eye-catching image**. Vertical imagery will stand out in the feed, Pinterest recommends a 2:3 aspect ratio.
- Give context. Your Pins should help people understand why your service, product or content is the right fit for them.
- **Keep text concise**. Make it easy to read and include top search keywords to grab attention.
- Don't rely on audio. Unlike Facebook and IG, videos are played with sound off. Make sure your video does not rely on audio but text.











What's Trending: Twitter

Time Spent

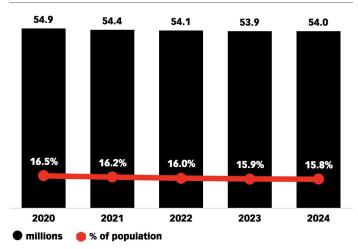
Twitter is the only major social network whose audience and ad revenues are expected to decline in 2020 as a result of the pandemic.

Video

Unsurprisingly, video is the best performing content type across all social platforms, and Twitter is no exception. According to research, Tweets with video see 10x more engagement than those without. Promoted Tweets with videos save more than 50% on cost-per-engagement.

Twitter Users

US, 2020-2024



Source: eMarketer, August 2020 (see below for notes and methodologies).

www.eMarketer.com





Twitter Considerations

- Cultivate your voice. Twitter is a chatty platform and allows you to let your personality shine through.
- Twitter is focused on conversation, you won't find as many creative options but they do offer Twitter polls.
- Always add an image, video or a GIF to boost performance - GIFs can results in a 55% increase in engagement when done right







What's Trending: TikTok

App Uncertainty

As of today, TikTok remaining in the U.S. is still uncertain. While a deal with Oracle is in place, security concerns have led to a potential ban of the platform.

Authenticity

Should the app not be banned, brands do best when they can have the same experiences, connections and engagements as an equal part of the community. Ensure content is aligned with the TikTok community just as much with the brand.

Trend Culture

Unlike other platforms, it takes time to zone into popular trending topics. While original, creative video concepts can work well, the best performing TikToks are often those that are easy to replicate by the masses.

Don't Focus on Followers

The algorithm takes into account interactions on individual videos, rather than your profile as a whole.





TikTok Considerations

- Storytelling > promotion. If creating content for TikTok it needs to be specific to the platform and not promotional in nature
- How-To's perform extremely well. Think about your services and what could be quickly conveyed or explained in under 60 seconds
- Music and sound effects are huge on the platform and your videos should appropriately capitalize on current music or sound trends, avoiding any popular music that might be offensive in nature













Easy, simple interface for quick build

Can source free, royalty-free images if needed

Limited image customization



Free & paid subscriptions

Best for template-based graphic creation

Can be used to resize assets to ensure channel optimization



Free & paid subscriptions

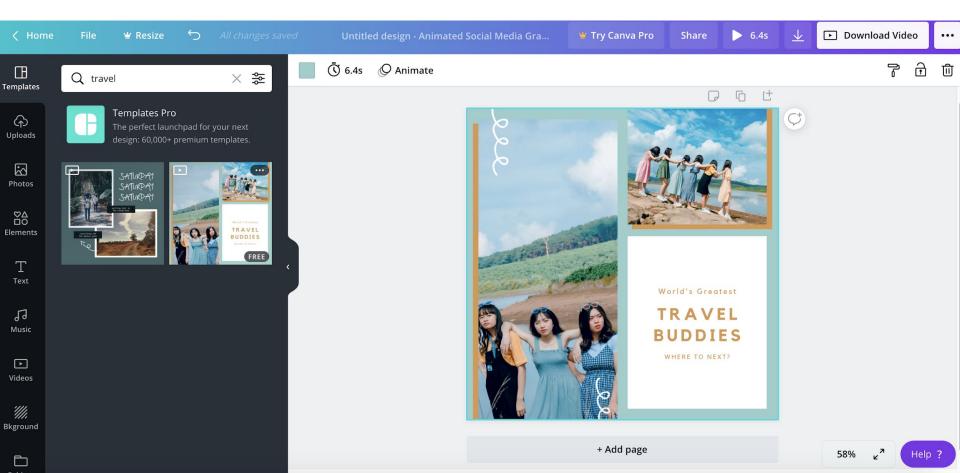
Allows you to edit and create videos with a simple, easy-to-use design

Can use your own imagery or search for free images within platform



Creative Resources







What to Read?

The best source for updates? The platform's blogs! For creative inspiration, follow each of their own social handles.

Facebook Newsroom: about.fb.com/news/ @facebookbusiness

Instagram: <u>business.instagram.com/blog</u> @Instagramforbusiness + @creators

Twitter: <u>business.twitter.com/en/resources.html</u> @Twitter

Pinterest: business.pinterest.com/
@PinterestCreativeGallery

TikTok: newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/

@tiktok



Pinterest Creative Gallery

business.pinterest.com/en/make-great-pins · @PinterestCreativeGallery · Inspiration to help you picture what success looks like on Pinterest. Curated by the Pinterest Creative Strategy team.

16k followers · 49 following

26.7k monthly viewers





Make a Plan

Outline your objectives and build your content strategy based on what you can realistically manage.



Content Strategy 101

Step 1 Identify and set goals

Step 2 Plan your social content by conducting an audit of the content you've created so far

Step 3 Take inventory of your time and the content available to determine posting cadence

Step 4 Distribute and promote

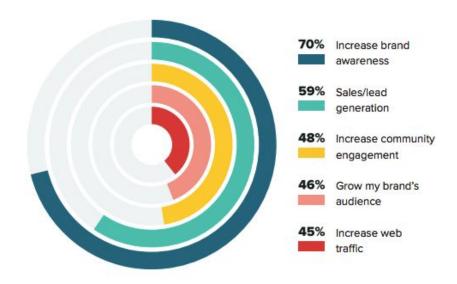




What Are My Goals?

GOALS are the outcome you intend to achieve. Start by getting a clear understanding of your overall marketing goals and how you want social media to help serve those goals. A few points to remember:

- Prioritize business needs and de-emphasize vanity metrics
- Don't go overboard: having one or two clear, measurable goals is stronger than outlining many
- Select goals that can be built upon quarter to quarter or year over year





Reach or Impressions

Recommended if you're looking to increase brand awareness

Recommended if you create a lot of blog content or informational pieces that live on your website

Engagements

Recommended if you are looking to increase the quality of the content you share, establish goals around video performance or want to increase brand sentiment

Revenue or Bookings

Web Traffic

Recommended if you have a booking engine on your site and are looking to increase room nights, ticket sales, etc.



What Are My Objectives?

OBJECTIVES are actions that help you achieve a goal. Objectives should be built to provide a quick highlight for your team to understand how you'll achieve your goals.

Objectives can change as your goals progress. Examples include:

- Develop and share one new video asset per month highlighting activity offerings [Goal: Engagement]
- Drive 500 visits to our website by sharing a minimum of 5 posts including website links [Goal: Web Traffic]



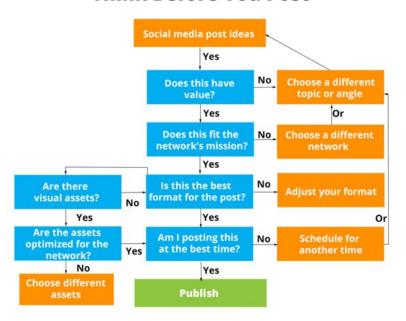


Social Content Planning

Once you're clear on goals, conduct a quick audit on the content you've shared for the past few months and make note of:

- What performed well
- What didn't perform as expected
- What content received a lot of comments were there certain words included in those posts that can be considered a trend?
- Pay attention to posts you thought would do well but didn't -- look closely at tone and language
- Take note of which platforms your content succeeds on and allocate resources accordingly

Think Before You Post







Where Should I Share?

FACEBOOK

Information and updates, video, long-form campaigns, traffic driver

INSTAGRAM

Discovery, inspirational photography and video

STORIES

Real-time updates, audience engagement, traffic driver

TWITTER

News, events, customer service

PINTEREST

Travel planning, inspiration, traffic driver

TIKTOK

Awareness, creative video, interaction





Develop Content Buckets and Cadence

Utilize audit findings to determine what you should focus on by channel.

Events & Happenings

3x/month Facebook

5x/month Twitter

2x/month IG Stories

Travel Inspiration

2x/month Facebook

2x/month Instagram

1x/month Twitter

Community Highlights

2x/month Facebook

1x/month Instagram

1x/month IG Stories

Deals & Offers

1x/month Facebook

1x/month Twitter



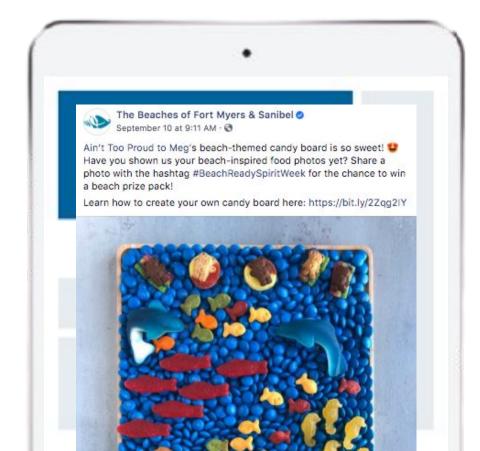




Diversify Content by Platform

Key message points can be the same but utilize learnings to keep content fresh and optimized for the channel it will be shared on.

- Drive to additional information on channels that allow links
- Utilize hashtags when and where appropriate
- Use native tools to each platform: Facebook polls, Instagram Story Question box, etc.















Sanibel Island

A triangle-shaped vacation rental on

Sanibel Island.

Stay Organized

#FtMyersSanibel views come in all shapes and sizes.

ii: @tara923

Wednesday

Spend time building an organized method for storing content and sharing with internal teams. Building a content calendar will help you stay organized and visualize your ideas in order to simplify execution.

Day/Time	Week 1 (9/28-10/4)	Image	Link in Bio	Alt Text	Location Tag
Tuesday	With great wildlife viewing opportunities all around, what is your favorite animal sighting in #FtMyersSanibel? Head to the link in our bio to learn more about the wildlife you could spot when you're here! iii: @travelswitht Photo: https://bit.ly/33KeuLw		https://bit.ly/2D1t3R1	A flamingo at the Everglades Wonder Gardens.	Everglades Wonder Gardens



DO

- Share thoughtfully
- Prioritize your channels. Take a look at your capabilities and realistically what you can accomplish before jumping on a bandwagon
- Stop and think. Ask yourself if this trend is right for your goals and objectives
- Prioritize quality over quantity
- Post regularly: shoot for 2-3 times a week

DON'T

- Get overwhelmed! Social media can change every day but you don't necessarily need to do it all
- Go overboard: set a realistic cadence and do not spam your audience with too many posts, reshares or updates
- Post without proofing. Mistakes happen, but try to give your content a second look to avoid any errors
- Get hung up on the numbers.
 Building a social presence takes time



Test, Test, Test

Not everything can be a home run. Track channel performance and make realistic adjustments to your content.

Resources



Native Platforms



Provides audience and performance metrics

Requires more time to gather cross-channel data as you will need to visit each platform



Paid subscription

Cross-channel social media analysis

Includes customizable reports that can show a quick overview of all channel performance



Paid subscription

Cross-channel social media analysis

Allows for both individual and group reports for all social media profiles

Pricing includes both monitoring and reporting features







Elements of Successful Report

Progress to Goal Include a snapshot of monthly or quarterly progress to your goals. Highlight social performance that aligns with overall business goals.

Performance by Channel Prioritize engagement rate or % of audience engaged over total followers. See if there are trends in the type of content that performs well on each channel.

Insights and Recommendations What have you learned that can help improve content strategy and process? What simple, actionable items can be put into place to quickly adjust your strategy.





DO

- Track your progress.
 Month-over-month
 performance is a great way to
 see if you're pushing your
 content forward
- Focus on the bigger picture. Not every post will be a home run
- Prioritize your recommendations based on how well they support your goals
- Summarize a plan of action with defined roles, responsibilities and target deadlines

AVOID

- Thinking that your platforms will grow overnight - building a strong social media presence takes both time and energy
- Making sweeping changes week over week. Take some time to analyze channel performance, especially if you're posting around 2-3 times a week



Listen

Pay attention to your audience and how they're interacting with your content and plan ahead with their feedback in mind.





Net Sentiment = [Positive + Neutral

Mentions - Negative Mentions / Total Mentions

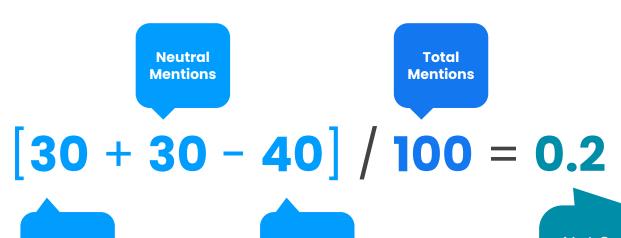


Track Sentiment

Positive

Mentions





Negative

Mentions

Net Sentiment will vary between -1 to 1. Aim for a score of .5 to 1.





Realize your social journey is never over.

While this might sound daunting, social media is constantly growing and evolving - becoming more and more important in the marketing ecosystem. Just like all marketing channels, your social accounts require constant care. Set priorities and focus on your top-performing channel.







Partner Resources

Email **Jlambert@leegov.com** to be added to our *This Month in Social Media* emails and to receive information about our upcoming boot camp sessions.















Dates to Remember

OCTOBER 15

Social Media Advertising Deep Dive



