

#### The 7 Deadly Sins of SEO





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### Agenda

- Why SEO matters to Ecommerce
- The Panda & Penguin Updates
- The 7 Deadly Sins of SEO
- Takeaways
- Q&A



### Why SEO Matters

- Ecommerce is more competitive than ever
- Organic traffic is targeted and valuable
- Stores who rank are viewed as legitimate
- 60% of consumers use search engines to research products prior to purchase\*
- SEO results compound over time

\*Source: EConsultancy



### The Panda & Penguin Updates

- Low "quality" pages
  - Over-optimized content, low-quality content & duplicate content
  - Poor user experience / weak engagement metrics
    - High bounce rate
    - Low click through
    - Little time spent on site
    - Low social media
  - Cloaking & deceptive redirect tactics



- Low "quality" links
  - Excessive paid linking, link exchanges & off-site spam
  - Over-optimized anchor text



### Panda & Penguin Also...

- Devalued:
  - Exact match URLs
  - Keyword frequency / keyword stuffing
- Increased the impact of:
  - Search personalization
  - Localization / local results
  - Social media metrics
  - User generated content



#### **Recent SEO Developments**

#### http://www.seomoz.org/google-algorithm-change



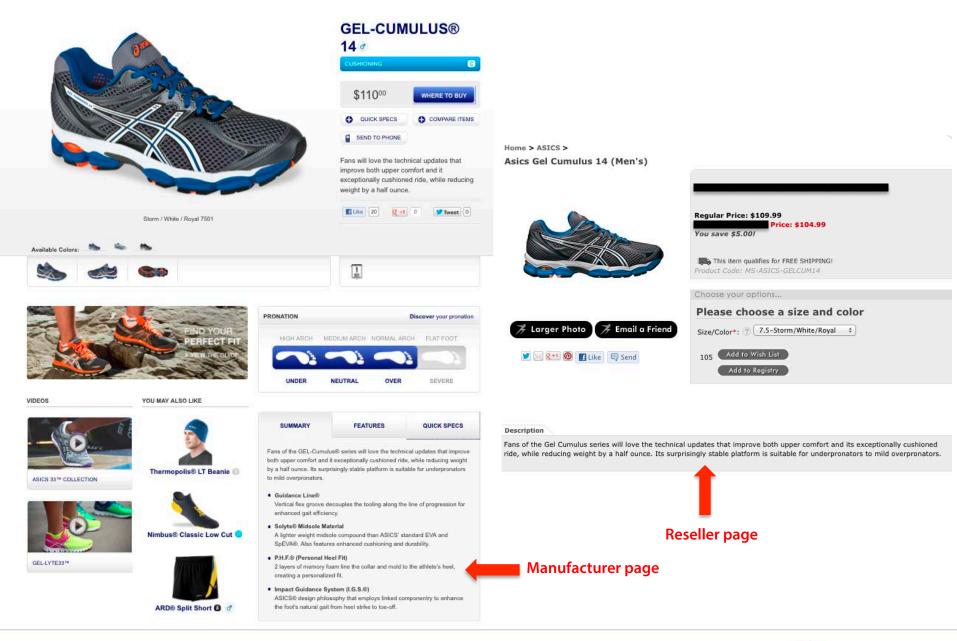


## SLOTH

### Sloth

- Relying on software to "optimize" your website
- "Borrowing" content
- Not improving upon thin content
- Not updating content with reasonable frequency
- Not sharing content via social media and syndication channels









The Asics Gel Cumulus 14 has it all: responsive cushioning, good looks, and a great fit. It has plenty of gel cushioning throughout for great protection during long miles, and a flexible forefoot that delivers a smooth heel-to-toe transition. A good choice for the neutral runner looking for high mileage happiness.

#### Model Number: T246N.7501

#### Important Shipping Note: U.S. sales only.



#### View all colors

Weight: 11.2 oz (size 9)

Stack Height: Heel (31mm), Forefoot (22mm)

#### How it fits (based on width D) Width D=Medium

- Sizing: Standard running shoe length
- Heel: Medium
- Midfoot: Modium to full volume



#### **Product Information:**

Men's ASICS® GEL-CUMULUS® 14 :: Fall in love with this lighter and more nimble version of the Men's ASICS® GEL-Cumulus®. Get all the comfort and cushion you love in the GEL-Cumulus® 14 with improved technology taking your fun in an even more comfortable direction. Enjoy ideal shock absorption through every step thanks to GEL® cushioning in rear and forefoot. You'll swear these were custom made just for you when the memory foam P.H.F™ (Personal Heel Fit) collar wraps your foot and keeps your heel in place. Underpronators and mild overpronators will enjoy the surprisingly stable platform. 11.3 ounces

#### Category Type: NEUTRAL [?]

Neutral (High Arch) shoes have less added stability so your feet guide themselves more naturally through each step. Now determine your body frame using this chart to get your perfect shoes.

Use this chart to determine your body frame and get your perfect shoe fit.

#### Features & Benefits:

- Rearfoot GEL® Cushioning System: Attenuates initial shock during impact phase and allows for a smooth transition to midstance
- Space Trusstic System®: This midfoot stabilizer creates a pocket between the Trusstic System® device and the midsole, allowing for controlled midsole deformation and more efficient foot function
- Forefoot GEL® Cushioning: Enhances shock attenuation during propulsion
- Solyte® Midsole Material: A lighter weight midsole compound than ASICS' standard EVA and SpEVA®, with features enhanced cushioning and durability
- P.H.F.™ (Personal Heel Fit): 2 layers of memory foam line the collar and mold to the athlete's heel, creating a personalized fit
- Guidance Line®: Vertical flex groove decouples the tooling along the line of progression for enhanced gait efficiency

#### Specifications:

- Predecessor Product Type: <u>GEL-Cumulus 13</u>
- Country of Origin: China



### **Sloth Repentance Tips**

- Craft useful, unique, descriptive content
  - Do not borrow content from another site, ie. manufacturer product descriptions.
  - Google snippets display product descriptions. Stand out from the crowd to convert.

Men's ASICS GEL-Cumulus 14 - Road Runner Sports www.roadrunnersports.com/rrs/products/ASC1556/

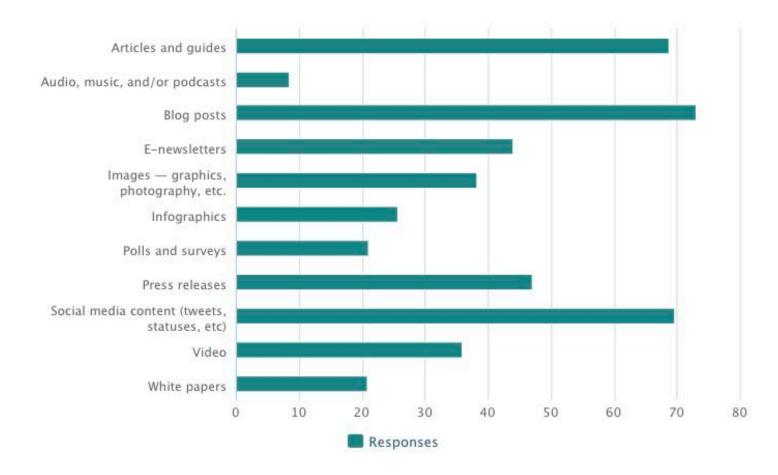
Buy Mens ASICS GEL-Cumulus 14 Running Shoe - Men's ASICS® GEL-CUMULUS® 14 :: Fall in love with this lighter and more nimble version of the Men's ...

ASICS® Gel - Cumulus 14 - Men's - Running - Shoes - Onyx/Black ... www.footlocker.com/product/model:180080/sku:2469990/ The ASICS® GEL-Cumulus® 14 running shoe features technical updates that improve both upper comfort and its exceptionally cushioned ride, while reducing ...

• Content is more than just text. It's images, videos, infographics, spec sheets, product reviews.



#### **Content-related SEO tactics**



Source: Seomoz



### **Sloth Repentance Tips**

- Utilize user generated content (UGC)
  - Boosts keyword relevancy
  - Produces valuable long-tail keywords written in user syntax
  - Constantly updates page content
  - Signals high user engagement
- Regularly update content on your website
  - Write about new features, product comparisons, how-to articles, use social channels, ask customers for reviews, create videos
- Share content on social networks and via syndication channels





# INVISIBILITY

### Invisibility

- Letting design trump content
- No indexable HTML content





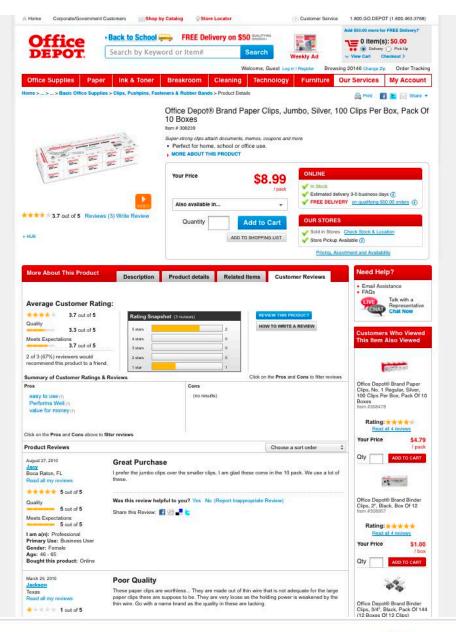
### Invisibility

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Office Depot misses the mark on making its highly valuable user-generated content indexable!



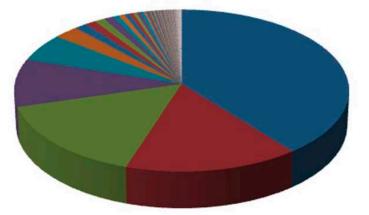


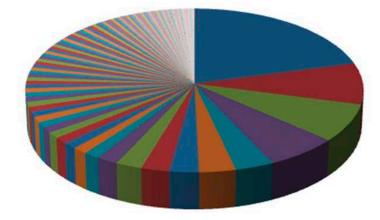
### Invisibility

- Undiversified or no inbound link profile
  - Not engaged in social media channels
  - Exact match keyword anchor text

Inbound link profile of a site affected by Penguin

Inbound link profile of a site NOT affected by Penguin







Source: Searchenginejournal.com

### **Invisibility Repentance Tips**

- Ensure your pages contain indexable HTML content
- Know your anchor text distribution
- Build a diverse and descriptive inbound link profile



# OBSESSIVENESS

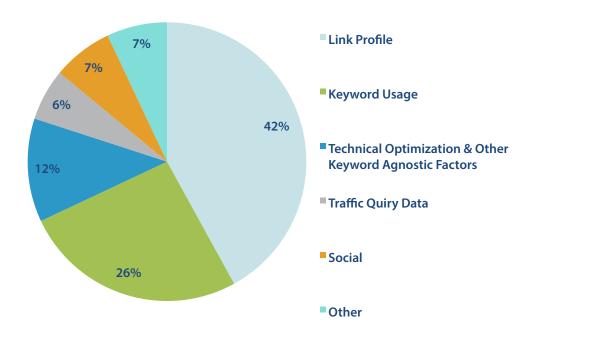
#### Obsessiveness

- It is unhealthy to obsess over...
  - Optimization in general
  - A single SEO tactic
  - "Rankings" or PageRank
  - A single keyword
  - A competitor



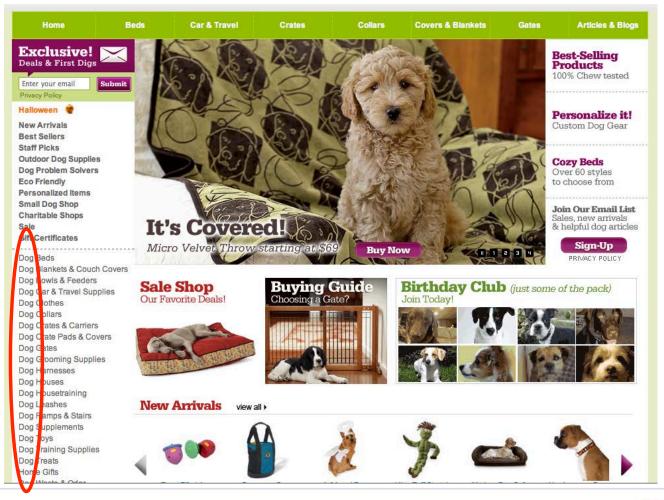
#### Obsessiveness

#### Don't obsess over a single piece of the pie!





#### Over-Optimization We Get it – They're Dogs Products





#### Only SEO Strategy = Keyword-Rich URL

Kitchen Utensils | Kitchen Utensils USA | Kitchen Utensils Wholesale www.KitchenUtensils.com KitchenUtensils.com Get your kitchen utensils here! We sell kitchen utensils! Kitchen utensils for less. We love kitchen utensils so much we bought the URL!

#### • For years, this worked!

- Dominated SERP results
- Made them a lot of \$ and led to aggressive company expansion (more keyword rich URLs!)



#### What comes up for Kitchen Utensils Now?

Google	kitchen utensils	٩
Search	About 25,300,000 results (0.18 seconds)	
Web	Ads related to kitchen utensils Why these ads?	Shop for kitchen utensils on Google Sponsored ()
Images	Kitchen Utensils   FoodServiceWarehouse.com	shopping.google.com
Маря	www.foodservicewarehouse.com/ Wide Selection of Restaurant & Kitchen Utensils on Sale.	OXO Kitchen Tools, 15 Piece
	Kitchen Tongs Kitchen Utensils	\$99.99 - Mag/s
Videos	loe Cream Scoops Serving Spoons	Shop Online or In-Store Now!
News		
Shopping	Kitchen Utensils at JCP®   jcpenney.com www.jcpenney.com/KitchenUtensils	OXO 6-Piece Kitchen Essentia
More	5.053 reviews for japenney.com Shop For Kitchen Utensilis Today. Free Shipping on Orders Over \$50.	S39.99 - Zappos.com Fast, Free Shipping and Free Returns!
United States	Crate&Barrel Kitchen Utensils   crateandbarrel.com	Des mars rissening partite en Casala
Change location	www.crateandbarrel.com/	See more shopping results on Google
5	Wide Selection of Cooking Utensils. Shop Online at Crate&Barrel Now!	Shop by price
Show search tools	Amazon.com: Kitchen Utensils & Gadgets: Home & Kitchen www.amazon.com/kitchen-utensils-gadgets-oooking-toois/b?ie.	Up to \$15 \$15 - \$35 \$35 - \$60 Over \$60
	Results 1 - 24 of 451699 – Online shopping for Kitchen Utensils & Gadgets: Home & Kitchen at Amazon.com.	Ads - Why these ads?
	Penazori soliti -	an a
	Kitchen Gadgets, Kitchen Utensils & Baking Tools   Williams-Sonoma	Kitchen Utensils
	www.williams-sonoma.com/shop/cooks-tools/ Shop Williams-Sonoma for top-quality kitchen gadgets, kitchen utensils and baking tools.	★★★★ 8,264 seller reviews
	Specialized kitchen utensils help simplify any kitchen task.	Buy kitchen utensils at Amazon! Qualified orders over \$25 ship free
	CHEFS: The Best Kitchen Starts Here	
	www.chefscatalog.com/	Kitchen Utensils
	Shop CHEFS for the best cookware, outlery, kitchen electrics and tools for the cooking enthusiast and home chef since 1979.	Select From Our Wide Varlety Of Kitchen Tools. Shop Target® Now!
	Utensils at Mao/s - Kitchen Utensils, Cooking Utensils - Mao/s	Modern & Unique Utensils
	www1.macys.com/shop/kitchen/kitchen/kitchen/utensils-utensil-sets Shop Utensils, Kitchen Utensils, and Cooking Utensils at Macy's and Get Free Shipping with	shop.walkerart.org/
	\$99 Purchase at Macys.com.	Colorful Kitchen Utensil Set From Walker Art Center Shop.
	Kitchen Utensils Buying Guide   Overstock.com	Kitchen Accessories at UO
	www.overstock.com/guides/kitchen-utensils-buying-guide	www.urbanout/itters.com/
	Kitchen Utenslis Buying Guide from Overstock.com. Our guides provide customers with Information about kitchen utenslis and advice about our many	★★★★ == 68 seller reviews     Free Shipping On Orders Over \$50.
		Plus Free Returns. Start Shopping.
	Kitchen Utensils - Kitchen - Ace Hardware www.acehardware.com/famil//index.jsp?categor/id=1306304	
	Shop Kitchen Utensils at acehardware.com and receive free shipping to your local Ace, the	Kitchen Utensils
	Helpful Place.	★★★★ 1,094 seller reviews
	Kitchen Utensils, Eat - Bed Bath & Beyond	Top Rated Kitchen Tools & Gadgets Free Shipping On Orders Over \$25!
	www.bedbathandbeyond.com/stylePage.asp?RN=2191	The onpoling on order order etc.
	Shop for Kitchen Utensils, Eat at Bed Bath & Beyond.	Which Cookware is Best?
	Kitchen Gadgets & Kitchen Utensils   Crate and Barrel	www.consumersearch.com/cookware We do the research so you don't
	www.crateandbarrel.com/kitchen-and-food/gadgets-utensils/	have to. Find the right Cookware.
	Crate and Barrel has kitchen gadgets and utensils designed to simplify everyday tasks. From baking mats to pastry blenders, egg timers to spoon rests, browse	Daily Cashyara Civarya
		Daily Cookware Giveaway wh.bhg.com/
	Kitchen utensils - IKEA	Better Homes & Gardens@ Sweeps.
	www.lkea.com/us/en/catalog/categories//oooking/20647/ loe-cream.scoop. \$1.99. Length: 7 " Length: 18.5 cm. Save to list. DIREKT 3-piece kitchen utensil	Win Cooking Utensils - Enter Daily!
	set, stainless steel, black - DIREKT. 3-piece kitchen utensil set	Buy Restaurant Supplies
		www.cateringplanet.com/Supplies



### **Obsessiveness Repentance Tips**

- Acknowledge that algorithms are complex!
- Craft a multifaceted online marketing strategy
- Take it easy with your keywords and exploit semantic indexing
- Be outcome-focused not activity-focused
- Regularly measure results so that you understand what is working and adjust your campaign





### Greed

- Excessive paid advertising
- Disproportionate # of paid links
- Trying to be Walmart
- Diluting your product focus
- Creating duplicate sites



#### Paid Advertising Everywhere





#### **Excessive Paid Links**

#### Google Eliminates Another Link Network, BuildMyRank.com – Just One Of Several?

in Share 221 🙆 14

Mar 26, 2012 at 9:16am ET by Barry Schwartz

🛃 Like 219 😏 Tweet 516

The battle between Google and those trying to artificially manipulate its search results is an ongoing battle. Google on March 19th took down one of those blog/link networks named BuildMyRank.com.

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BuildMyRank.com <u>confirmed</u> Google has deindexed an "overwhelming majority" of their network as of March 19, 2012. The management of BuildMyRank.com has decided to immediately shut down their service and provide refunds to customers.

BuildMyRank.com thought that Google would allow their network since they felt they provided "better quality service," which was a "bit different from other networks." But as they admitted on their blog, "this was not the case."

On one hand, I am surprised so many people still participate in quick and easy tactics like



#### BuildMyRank How IT WORKS PRICING FEATURES FAQ BLOG AFFILIATES CONTACT US

#### Rank Higher with High Quality One-Way Backlinks

Serious internet marketers know the only way to improve a site's ranking is to build high quality, one-way backlinks - and tons of them. Rather than placing these links one at a time, build links quickly by tapping into our wholly-owned network of hundreds of aged, high page rank domains.

START FREE TRIAL NOW! 10 Free Links. No Credit Card Required.



#### How Can Build My Rank Help Build My Search Engine Rankings?

It's quite simple really. To rank higher, your site needs incoming links from many different sources. And we're not talking about garbage blog comments or forum spam. You need links from authority sites with targeted anchor keywords and surrounded by relevant content. The more competitive the keyword, the more links you need. If you've tried to find links on relevant, high page rank sites, you already know what's required – deep pockets. You might spend \$50 per year to rent a meaningless footer link on one high page rank site. That gets expensive quickly. That's where we come in.

You can build unlimited, permanent backlinks to your domains. Get 10 free links now!

#### What Other Users Say

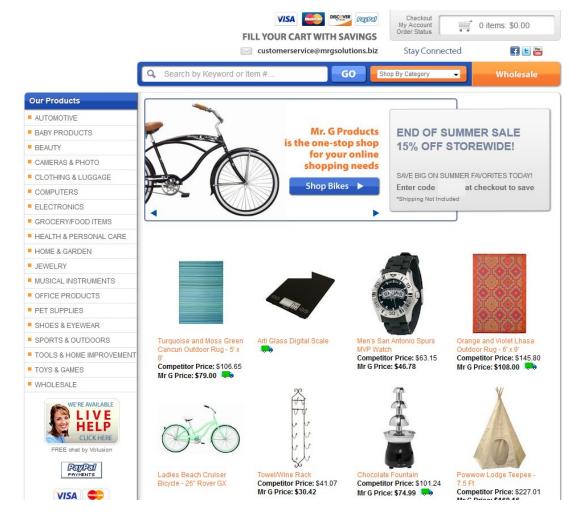
"I'll cut to the chase. BuildMyRanks.com's ownership has created a SEO tool that is dominant against its peers. BMR's service is a few notches above any competing SEO service. My serps have increased dramatically. The monthly cost is a fraction of its value. This is one SEO service that is under priced and over delivers in serp results. BMR management simply does not hype the product, so you have to figure this one out on your own. Subscribe and see if this review doesn't accurately state the facts. Your serps are going up." Paul J.

#### Features Overview

- Unlimited, permanent 1-way backlinks for any number of domains
- Network consists of high quality, aged domains only (PR1-PR6)
- Natural looking, contextual links
- Automatic social bookmark submission of your content for extra

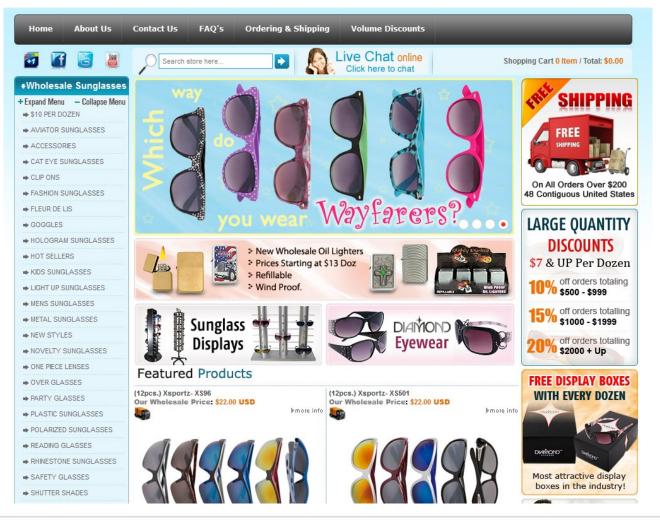


### So You Think You Are Walmart?



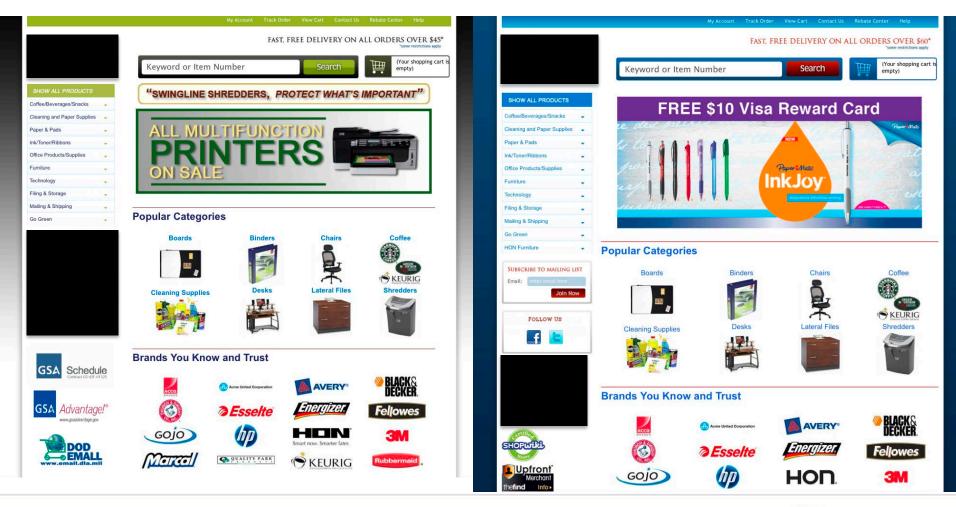


### **Diluting Your Product Focus**





### 2 is better than 1, right?





### **Greed Repentance Tips**

- Take is easy with the advertising
- Avoid / limit paid links
- Don't take a hatchet to your links
- Don't create duplicate stores
- Don't dilute your site relevancy with random products



# IGNORANCE

#### Ignorance

- Trusting fly-by-night "SEO Experts"
- Implementing outdated SEO tactics
  - Meta keyword optimization
  - Keyword density
  - Search engine submission
  - Link exchange
  - Exact match domain name
  - Non-varied anchor text, etc.
- Doing the wrong type of work
  - Writing content for content's sake
- Improper use of redirects



#### 302 or 301?





#### Ignorance Repentance Tips

- Stay up-to-date on SEO developments
- Do your homework when hiring an SEO firm
  - Make a checklist of questions to ask
  - Show them the door if they guarantee top position, talk about outdated tactics, don't touch your site, report on just rankings, charge by the link, etc.
  - If it's too good to be true, run!
- If you're doing your own SEO,
  - Stick to best practices
  - Ask an expert, if you don't know how



## DENIAL

### Denial

- Unwillingness to invest in SEO
- Trying it out
- Not listening to your audience

Compare by	Search terms	Filter			
<ul> <li>Search terms</li> <li>Locations</li> <li>Time Ranges</li> </ul>	Tip: Use a comma as shorthand to add comparison items. (tennis, squash)	Web Search			
	<ul> <li>hooded sweatshirt</li> </ul>	United States VAII subregions All metros			
	hoodie + Add search term	Last 12 months			
		Shopping	Search		

#### Web Search Interest: hooded sweatshirt, hoodie

United States, Last 12 months
All Categories > Shopping
Subcategories: Apparel
All Categories: Apparel
Totals
hooded sweatshirt #2
hoodie

An improvement to our geographical assignment was applied retroactively from 1/1/2011. Learn more





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## Denial

- Denial of reality
  - New business?
  - No data?

#### • Denying what the data says

- Unbranded SEO traffic
- Inbound links
- Rankings

Google	iphone accessories					
Search	About 775,000,000 results (0.19 seconds)					
Web	Ads related to iphone accessories	Why these ads?				
Images	iPhone Accessories - Huge Selection of iPhone Acc.					
	iphonegadgets.miniinthebox.com/					
Maps	All Wholesale Price &Free Shipping!					
Videos	iPhone Accessories   CellPhoneShop.net					
News	www.cellphoneshop.net/ - *** * * 7,326 seller reviews					
Shopping	80% Off Apple iPhone Accessories! Free Shipping on Orders Over \$20. 2,455 people +1'd or follow CellPhoneShop					
11 5	Batteries - Chargers - Car Chargers - Memory Cards					
More	Salenes shargers car shargers memory sares					
	iPhone 4S Cases On Sale   HDAccessory.com					
Austin, TX	www.hdaccessory.com/					
Change location	2000+ Largest Inventory Available. Up To 75% Off. Same Day Shipping.					
	iPhone Accessories - Buy iPhone Cases, Docks, Headpho	ones				
Show search tools	store.apple.com/us/browse/home/shop_iphone/iphone_accessories					
	Accessories for your iPhone. Fast, free shipping on orders over \$50. Ex gear to enhance your iPhone experience.	plore the latest				
	Cases & Armbands - iPhone Power Accessories - Car Accessories - Cables & Docks					
	Amazon.com: iPhone Accessories www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=2459921011					
	Results 1 - 24 of 13727 – Online shopping for iPhone Accessories from	a great				
	selection of Electronics; & more at everyday low prices.	- 3				
	And Disconting					
	Apple iPhone Accessories - Cell Phone Accessories www.cellphoneshop.net/appleiphone.html					
	Cellphoneshop.net carries an array of Apple iPhone accessories at extre	emely low				
	prices! Our collection includes cases, screen protectors and more.					
	iPhone Cases, Covers & Accessories by Case-Mate   Cas	Mato				
	www.case-mate.com/Apple-iPhone-Cases/Apple-iPhone-Cases.asp	se-mate				
	You recently searched for case.	determine the restricted of the				
	Case-Mate.com offers premium form fitting iPhone Cases, covers and holsters in a wide assortment of styles and colors. Get the style you want with the					
	iPhone 4 Cases - iPhone 3G Cases - Verizon iPhone 4 Cases - iPhone H	olsters				
	iPhone Accessories: iPhone Case, iPhone Dock, iPhone www.bestbuy.com > Mobile Phones > Mobile Phone Accessories	Protector				
	Find all of the iPhone accessories you are looking for. Need an iPhone	case, iPhone				
	dock, iPhone protector or iPhone headset? Best Buy has you covered.					



### **Denial Repentance Tips**

- Set realistic SEO goals and measure performance
- Use Google Analytics, it's free!
  - SEO Queries report
  - SEO Landing pages report
  - Custom reports Page Efficiency <u>http://www.kaushik.net/avinash/best-</u> <u>downloadable-custom-web-analytics-</u> <u>reports/</u>

Г		Page T	itle				
	Initial Imp Great / S	Consumption & "Engagement"			So What? I♥Outcomes		
•	Entrances ↓	Bounces	Unique Visitors	Pageviews	Avg. Time on Page	Per Visit Goal Value	Total Goal Completions
Raz	18,925	12,299	12,830	24,642	00:08:44	\$2.05	7,027
a An	6,335	5,061	4,976	7,976	00:13:26	\$0.82	1,092
antit	3,100	2,405	2,109	4,221	00:13:26	\$1.15	793
ity: S	3,030	2,131	2,530	4,344	00:11:55	\$2.08	1,303
uest	1,772	1,481	1,810	2,098	00:04:28	\$0.45	171
f Wo	1,540	1,254	1,459	1,796	00:09:04	\$0.40	139
Нор	1,523	1,203	1,557	1,997	00:02:07	\$0.29	96
(eb 4	1,451	1,056	1,439	1,900	00:01:40	\$0.10	35
usto	1,076	909	978	1,228	00:09:01	\$0.58	131
s: Gc	1,040	740	1,267	2,115	00:09:05	\$3.47	727



#### **Denial Repentance Tips**

#### • Use Google Webmaster tools. That's free too!

- Fix crawl errors and 404 pages
- Analyze search queries
- Analyze inbound links and anchor text
- Fix duplicate content issues

Google

Webmaster Tools							
Dashboard Messages (1) ▹ Configuration	New and i No new mes	mportant sages or recent criti	cal issues. View all				
Health	Current St	atus					
Traffic	Crawl Errors		Search Queries		>> Sitemaps	All (2) 🚿	
Optimization	Site Errors		-				
Labs	DNS	Server Connectivity	Robots.txt Fetch	7,438 queries	60,000 clicks	<ul> <li>2,858 URLs submitte</li> <li>2,802 URLs indexed</li> </ul>	
	•	۲	ø	28,000		3.000	
Help with: No data available yet	URL Errors		21,000	VL	2,250		
Search queries About Sitemaps Additional support	0 Server error 99 Soft 404 1,691 Not found 1 Other		14,000 7,000	~~~~	1,500 750		
Crawl Errors Help center Search help Go			ī	8/9/12 8/14	12 8/19/12 8/24/12 8/29	Web	

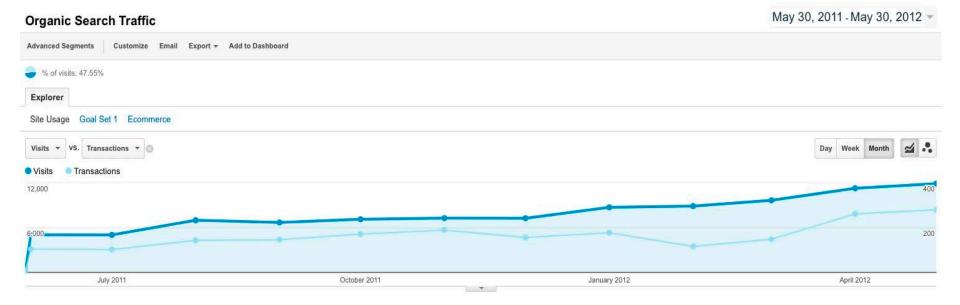


# IMPATIENCE

### Impatience

- SEO is an ever-changing, experimental science
  - Time is an algorithm variable
  - A stop & start approach is **not** effective
  - There are only ten 1<sup>st</sup> page positions
  - You are competing with large established brands who have been involved with SEO for years
- You eat an elephant one bite at a time!







#### **Impatience** Repentance

- Remember that SEO is an investment in your company's future
- Start with niche keyword terms
- Become data driven NOT reactionary



#### 7 Deadly Sins You Must Repent!

- Sloth
- Invisibility
- Obsessiveness
- Greed
- Ignorance
- Denial
- Impatience



### Specials

- We have 5 slots open for a quick SEO analysis! Submit your site at <u>Services@Volusion.com</u>
- Get 10% off 3 months of SEO services. Call 800.646.3517 x105
- Check out our infographic
   <u>SEO for Ecommerce: How to train</u> for the SEO games on our blog.



Like everyone else, we've spent the last month cheering on the world's greatest competitors in this summer's games. We're almost as obsessed with track and field as we are with SEO. Any seasoned SEO expert will tell you, ecommerce sites are a unique challenge. So if you're ready to take your shot at gold in ecommerce SEO, it's time to start training.

#### KEYWORD RESEARCH POLE VAULT

Success in the pole vault depends as much on the running start as on the jump itself. Broad terms are attractive because they have high search volume, but these terms appear early in the purchase cycle and have extremely high competition.





