# 24 Things I Learnt from These 8 Popular Niche Bloggers

Bloggers often don't look into or read other industry blogs, but there's so much we can learn from them. Let's look at niche blogging for instance, It basically comprises of bloggers who blog in industries other than blogging / online marketing. You're an expert swimmer? time management coach? Fitness coach? Sure, niche blogging will allow you to present your expertise to your audience and also make a ton lot of money.

Believe me when I say that I awestruck by many of the popular niche blogs and today I want to share a few things that I personally found to be of help and hope that it could help you create/start a rocking blog!!

## 1. Photography schools:

So if you folks are into photography I strongly recommend you to check these niche blogs!

### a) Rob and Lauren:

I consider myself really lucky to come across such an appealing blog, there are very few bloggers who understand that the way to a successful blog does not comprise only on generating amazing content (one of the driving factors). Let me list a few:

#### 1) **DESIGN**:

The first time I opened the site, for the first 5 min I was just eyeing the design. Well, they always say that a first impression always lasts and they make the cut! It so well designed with complementing colors, user-friendly theme, establishes their brand image.

The theme just hits the ball out of the park with the wonderful photos that they post! An appealing sight always adds to your benefit and makes sure to tempt users to revisit or even go onto subscribe.

A good design leads to higher conversion rates and more customer engagement! Thus you know the first step is to make sure you have a perfect design/theme!







#### 2) CREATE PRODUCTS COVERING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF YOUR AUDIENCE' DAY TO DAY LIFE:

What makes Lauren & Rob stand out as experts you may ask? Well to witness that personally check out their tutorials listed on the site which include "Extremely Essential Camera skills", "Super Photo Editing skills", etc. proving that they have a strong foundation and shows that they are experts in photography!

## There are **4 Core Topics** in Digital Photography

Want to take better photos? You have to master these skills.



There are key settings on your camera, like aperture, shutter speed, ISO and white balance, that change the look and feel of your photo. You need to know what they mean, how they work, and how to adjust them to suit your needs. To learn these crucial skills, check out:



They cleverly market their products to the audience on the website and monetize their blog in the best way which proves worthy to both sides! They even offer various ebooks on the same and these around day-today activities of people. An excellent strategy executed to the point!



#### Simple Wedding Photography

A complete guide to photographing every step of a wedding, beautifully. PLUS learn how to build a successful business and make more money, with less effort!

Reg. US\$49.95

Add to Cart



#### Awesome Album Design Skills

Albums equal serious profits. Get the skills you need to design beautiful albums with Adobe InDesign, quickly, easily and profitably. In just one day!

Reg. US\$79.95

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Learn More



#### Backup or Die

You will lose your photos some daymake sure they're not gone forever. Create your perfect backup system the simple way- and save money with this fairytale eBook. Reg. US\$19.95

Reg. US\$19.95

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#### Before/After

Gain powerful editing skills super fast as you watch me edit 11 unique photos in Lightroom. Learn how the essential tools work and when to use them.

Reg. US\$18.95

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#### Before/After: Black & White

Learn how to get creative and dramatic black and white images with Lightroom as you watch me edit 10 photos from start to finish in this video tutorial.



#### The Creativity Field Guide

Boost your creativity with this illustrated guide, packed with 100+ ideas, activities and sources of inspiration. Your next great idea is just a few pages away!

## 3) SHARE MORE ABOUT YOURSELF WITH YOUR AUDIENCE (PERSONAL STORIES CONNECT WITH THE AUDIENCE):

You would have noticed in the initial images that the home screen is where the bloggers (Rob and Lauren) greet us personally or it seems to be! It has a wonderful effect on the visitors and may even lead them to become frequent visitors/subscribers!

Let me explain why! How do you connect with another person? When you make conversation and they entrust you with a personal story and well these guys do just that! Sharing their story of how they met, how they started out, etc only allows the audience to connect more to them.

So what have you learnt? People are always interested in other people's lives! Not only that, it feels like a welcome sign into their lives which makes it easy for you to gain their trust! Nothing intrusive but short everyday interesting memories will do!

Here's a blog post about their little baby boy:



## d)Scott Bourne:

The tagline of Scott Bourne's blog (photofocus), says it all! "Education and Inspiration for visual storytellers", firstly let us appreciate them for summarizing what their blog is about. Here are a few things to take note from their blog:

#### 4) EDUCATING THE AUDIENCE IS THE KEY:

A niche's blog aim is to circulate the passion centered around it. Photofocus does exactly this, it has various posts which are aimed directly at visitors looking for basics on photography. You will

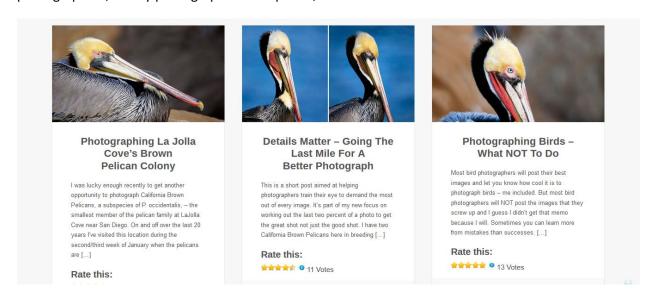
find a "learning centers" option in the menu where they teach you to work on basic tools & techniques such as photoshop, HDR, video, lightroom.



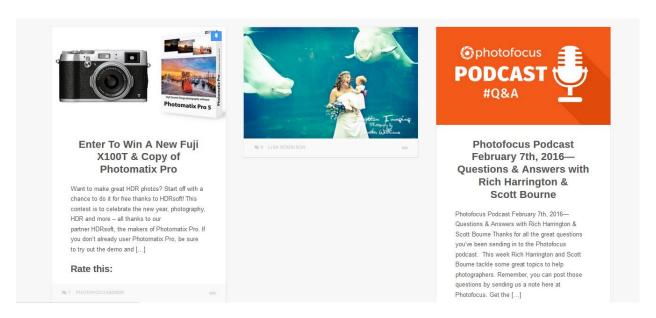
So the takeaway from here is that when the audience sees that they are gaining something of value, getting educated on the way, it pushes them to revisit.

#### 5) END TO END HELP FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Any blog that can cater to the most minimal of doubts succeeds and it shows that you can strive in your passion no matter what with blog entries such as "The power you have as a photographer", "Every photographer has a place", etc.



This blog answers all these questions in their inspiration section (Yes! They have one). They hold contests which challenge you to up your skills and motivate you to do better.

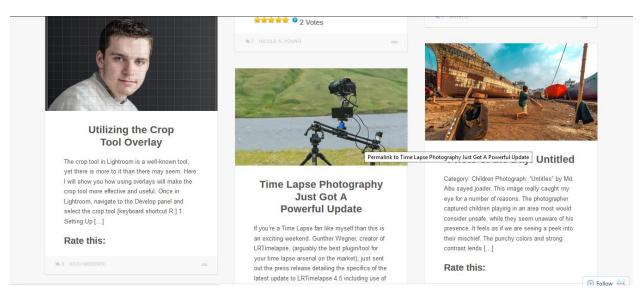


They release podcasts for the same to clarify any further doubts that might arise. The customer is their primary concern and they do as much to provide end-to-end service for them.

#### 6) CONTENT IS KING:

They have an excellent knowledge base which ensures the driving factor of the blog is the content itself. The content truly stands out and it is simple, straight forward and even can be understood by a layman.

They cover a wide range of topics which include tips, hacks, product reviews, inspirational posts which include beautiful pictures to keep you captivated.



It fuels the enrichments of the blog thus keeping both parties equally happy. The guest blogs done are also in the same style and offer varied set of topics centralized on photography.

They make sure the content comes out in a readable and simple format yet turning out to be an interesting read.

## 2) Fitness:

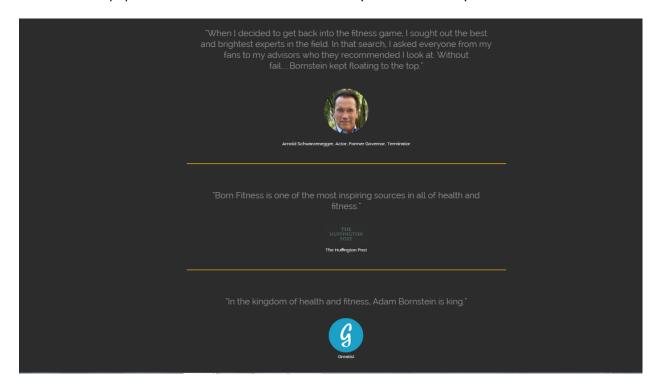
## c) Adam Bornstein:

One of the most popular fitness blogs on the line, the first page of the site bluntly puts out that this is the place to be for anything and everything you need to know about fitness, "Don't google your fitness questions", it is indeed a bold statement to make and yes the blog lives up to the standards. A few notable things include:

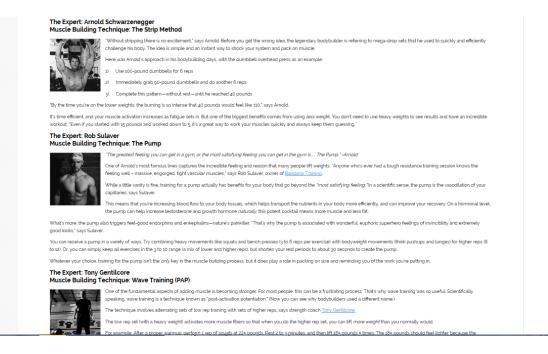
#### 7) USING POPULAR NAMES ON YOUR BLOG MAKES YOU SEEM MORE CREDIBLE:

When you recognize something popular on a platform you immediately associate the platform to be more credible. This is what "Born Fitness" does, it puts in credible names which include Arnold Schwarzenegger, The Huffington Post, Greatist along with small testimonials by each of them to attract the audience.

If such popular names endorse it we don't see any reason not to try it ourselves!



He also mentions well-known names such as Arnold, Rob Sulaver, Tony Gentilcore, etc in his content which include their techniques. They are live examples of perfect fitness and everyone aspires to be them thus including names like these will also inspire audience to subscribe to your content.



#### 8) USING TESTIMONIALS LIKE NOBODY ELSE:

I have earlier mentioned about the amazing testimonials by various stars. Now in order to better connect with the audience, BornFitness has a testimonial page dedicated to the people like you and me who have benefited from it.

By doing this, the audience relates to the everyday nuances that they face and the blog thus becomes relatable and trustworthy.



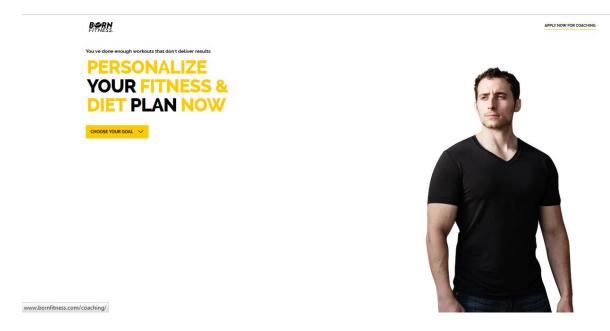


#### 9) Provide services based on people's goals, aspirations:

They cater to a wide range of audience and needs, be it a beginner who's looking to start out fresh and needs help to focus, muscle gain, fat loss, you name it!

This allows and satisfies the needs of various people who come looking with doubts, need more understanding, if it's the right part for you, one-on-one experience (personalized),etc.

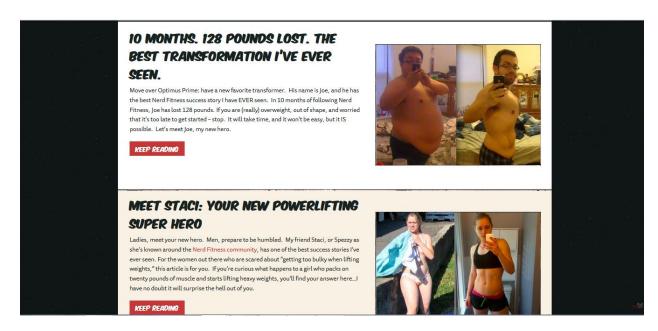
Thus they put the customer's needs first and help people reach their goals by specifying every detail. Thus this earns them positive reviews and puts at them at the top of the game.



## d)Steve Kamb:

#### 11) SHARE MANY MANY SUCCESS STORIES:

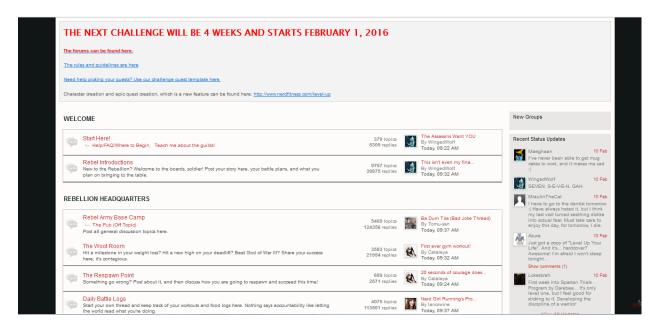
Performance is measured by success, if your blog is successful then it is automatically associated with being more reliable, popular and most times more relatable. NerdFitness by Steve Kamb runs so many success stories which helps us attain trust on the product that is being sold.



Many people like you and me have tried and the results are so clear thus make sure to ask a few to share their story which will not only prove to be an inspiration to others but also benefit the blog in establishing a strong hold.

#### 11. CREATE AN AMAZING, HEALTHY AND ACTIVE COMMUNITY AROUND YOUR BLOG:

An active community which includes people with similar goals and mindset helps motivate the members to attain fitness. It is a positive sign and a plus to anyone who is not just looking for fitness tips but also motivation and weekly challenges.



The blog has various communities for various needs including nutrition, general fitness, etc. This benefits both sides by increasing your customer count and also satisfying the requirements of the existing members thus establishing the growth and popularity of the blog.

Thus, make sure to create a healthy, interactive community for the members to give them extra benefits.

#### 12. WRITE A BOOK TO SHOWCASE YOUR EXPERTISE:

Expertise takes you places and shows that you truly possess the skill and helps you gain trust so how do you prove your worth out there? YES, you've got it. One of the ways is to compile your knowledge in the form of a book and offer it to your customers online.



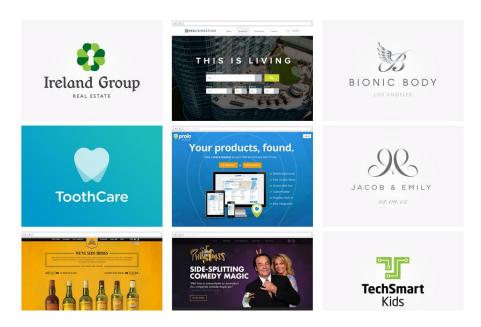
Steve Kamb uses this strategy to publicize his standing and brand which only adds to the popularity of his blog and establishes himself as an expert. His book is featured on the blog along with reviews to give it a stronger standing.

## 3. Web Design Blogs:

## e) Jacob Cass:

#### 13. CREATE A BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED PORTFOLIO AND GREAT CLIENTS' LIST:

When you're in the field of design it is very important to showcase your own profile in the most creative and visually appealing way possible. These guys have already let their work speak by having their portfolio drafted beautifully on their blog.



Another great part and tactic that they have followed was to list their clients to show their success factor. It tells the story of their success when such highly valued brands entrust them with work. This not only establishes themselves as a reliable platform but also shows them they are at the top of the game.

Thus make sure to include a set of your clients and your work to showcase your skills and your style which will help the customer have a better understanding.

#### 14. PROVIDE INSIGHTS INTO HOW YOU WORK: (MY DESIGN PROCESS)

They not only work for you but also provide insights into how their thought process usually is during the design process. They have various articles on every aspect including Social Media, Blogging, photography and creativity.

#### Creativity

- 9 Steps to Become Your Most Creative Self (eBook)
- The Secret To Creativity
- Tips to Improve & Boost Your Creative Process
- 192 Creative, Smart & Clever Advertisements
- . Do you use your left or right brain more?
- . How To Be Creative
- How To Boost Your Creativity
- 56 Awe Inspiring Creative Photographs
- 92 More Must See Creative Photographs
- 80 NEW Creative, Smart & Clever Advertisements
- Be Creative But Don't Over Do It

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#### **Advice For Design Students**

- · Design Agency Job Hunting Tips
- 7 Ways Designers Can Get Their Foot In The Door
- Top Design Schools & Tips For Choosing One
- Top 10 E-mail Etiquette Tips During Your Career Search
- · Elements of a successful online design portfolio
- The Pros's and Cons of Spec Work
- 16 Designer Job Descriptions
- Design Agency or Freelance?
- Tips for Building & Optimising Your Online Portfolio and Digital Network
- 6 Simple But Important Tips for Design Students
- Advice For Design Students
- How To Get A Job In Social Media
- How much to charge for design work?
- How To Get Your First Job

Growing their visitor count by even including the procedure for people looking for tutorials, tips or anyone trying to discover their own style would benefit quite a bit. It also increases transparency and trust thus pulling in more clients as well thus increasing monetary benefits by a high margin.

#### 15. BE MORE APPROACHABLE:

They make sure to provide and reach out in every possible way. It shows professionalism and also expertise when they come out to address you with any doubts that you may have.

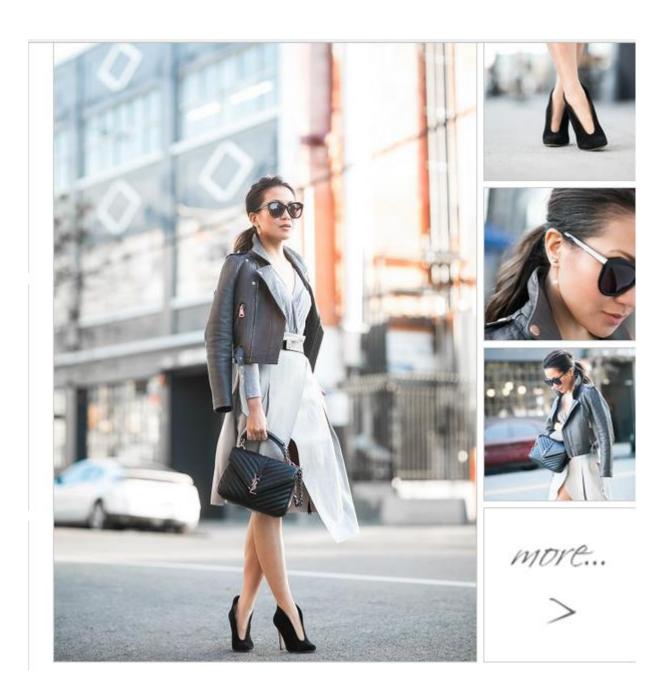
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## 4. Fashion:

## f) Wendy Nguyen:

#### **16. USE GREAT LOOKING IMAGES:**

What better way to lock your attention than by showing wonderful images. Fashion is art they say; what we see is what we get when you read the blog posts. High quality images are used to express more than words in case of this blog. I personally love the photos and feel that they add a personal touch to the story.



Using great, relevant images has been proved to boost your conversion rates, well what are you waiting for?

#### 17. CREATE AN AWESOME MAGAZINE AROUND YOUR BUSINESS:

Want a rather easy and straightforward way to summarize your work/posts into a single PDF, the solution is right here. Create an awesome magazine centralized around your business!!

"The Frame" by wendyslookbook does exactly this; it compiles a set of wonderful images, strong content and markets the brand.

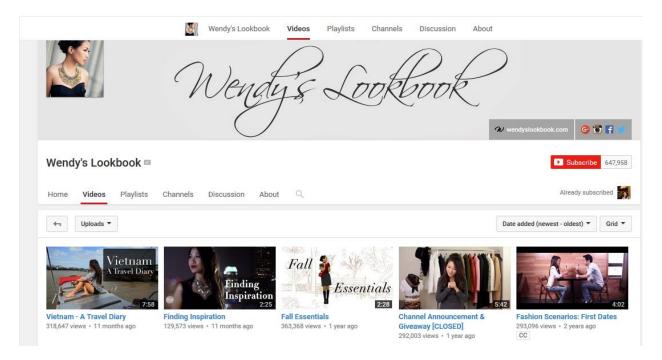


It helps the customer to just browse through a few pages and understand what your style is rather than browse through numerous blog posts. It makes it simpler for you as well as the customer plus giving you an additional way to promote your business.

#### 18. CREATE AN AWESOME YOUTUBE CHANNEL:

A lot of niche blogs that I had come across seem to miss the biggest channel to promote their ideas/content/brand. Social Media is a huge platform for publicizing and establishing your brand nowadays.

She taps into the social media channel which is explored the least (Youtube) and creates informative content. It unleashes a wide range of audience who grasp information visually or by streaming more than by reading content and catering to them increases your reach.



Simple yet informative things such as travel experiences, tutorial, tips, giveaways are shared on this channel.

What I understood from her style was that make sure to reach out to your customers and promote your blog on platforms to establish yourself in the upper sector of niche bloggers.

## 5. Lifestyle:

## g)<u>Geraldine:</u>

#### 19. ADD HUMOR TO DEAL WITH THINGS:

I absolutely love she takes everything into stride and makes it into something to laugh about. Her writings are relatable and really funny, also a perfect example to just let go and have fun at what you do.



I'm the one with slightly less facial hair.

I got my mom's jawline and my dad's nose. I suppose it could have been worse. But enough with the photos.

You are after all dealing with niche blogs, you are writing about something you're passionate about, might as well add some humor and keep the audience and yourself entertained.

#### **20. GET CREATIVE WITH YOUR TOPICS:**

Well, yet again my attention was captured by the numerous out-of-box titles, entries that she's made.

## A LETTER TO MY HUSBAND, REGARDING THE MILK HE LEFT OUT ALL NIGHT

Posted on: JAN 9 2014

Tags: Life at Home, Nothing to Do With Travel, Rand

Posted in: Life at Home » Nothing to Do With Travel

Comments: 75



Don't be afraid to get creative with your topics; try to cater to every set of audience. This will also enable customer interaction and help understand what kind of audience you're exactly dealing with by experimenting.

## 6. Self Help Blogs:

## h) **Iames Clear:**

#### 21) OFFER AWESOME CONTENT IN EXCHANGE OF VISITOR EMAILS (FOR LIST BUILDING):

James Clear uses a strategy which many successful bloggers use nowadays for conversion and internal list building, i.e., they offer something in return to the email address that you put in.



Catchy lines, phrases on a compiled set of what your blog entries represent could be offered. It is an incentive for the customer and also an added benefit for you to publicize your content.

#### 22. SUPPORT CONTENT WITH FACTS / RESEARCH / SCIENCE:

Audiences want to discover information when they enter your platform. James Clear does a wonderful job by backing up his article with facts, research which ensures that he does thorough background checks and increases reliability.

## How Long Does it Actually Take to Form a New Habit? (Backed by Science)

ty James Clear | Behavioral Brusholomy Mahite

Maxwell Maltz was a plastic surgeon in the 1950s when he began noticing a strange pattern among his patients.

pattern among his patients.

when Dr. static wound perform an operation — line a noise job, for example — he found that it would take the patient about 21 days to get used to seeing their new face. Similarly, when a patient had an arm or a leg amputated, Maltz noticed that the patient would sense a phantom limb for about 21 days before adjusting to the new situation.

These experiences prompted Maller to think about his own adjustment period to changes and new behaviors, and he noticed that it also took himself about 2 at 49x 10 form a new habit. Maller wrote about these experiences and said, "These, and many other commonly observed phenomena tend to show that it requires a minimum of about 2s days for an old mental image of usionly and an oven not jell."

In 1960, Maltz published that quote and his other thoughts on behavior change in a book called <u>Psycho-Cybernetics</u> (<u>audiobook</u>). The book went on to become an blockbuster hit, selling more than 30 million copies.

And that's when the problem started

You see, in the decades that followed, Malitr's work influenced nearly every major "self-leip" professional from rig ziglar to brian Travy to Tony Exbibins. And as more people recited Malitr's story. Hile a very long game of "zelephone" – people began to forget that he said "a minimum of about 2s days" and shortened it to, "It takes 2s days to form a new habit."

Make sure to include tips, facts, hacks and any such briefs that you can include into your article; this keeps the audiences engaged while reading.

## i) Leo Babuta:

#### 23. KEEP IT MINIMAL:

Make sure to use simple, understandable format and keep everything to a minimum. Don't go overboard with content (writing, pictures, color, etc) as this may confuse what you are trying to put forwards and the visitors lose interest fast.

zen habits : breathe

## Our Relationship with the Present Moment

BY LEO BABAUTA

Have you ever thought of the present moment as a loved one?

I've been working with this thought lately, and I find it helpful when I'm feeling rushed, distracted, worried, upset, frustrated, anxious, sad, irritated.

Let's think for a moment about our relationship with this loved one we might call the Present Moment ...

- We barely pay attention to it, thinking instead of what we have to do later, things we're worried about, etc.
- If it's boring or uncomfortable, we habitually turn away from it and go to distractions, rejecting the Present Moment.
- We judge it as good or bad, pleasant or uncomfortable, and dislike it if it isn't behaving the way we want.
- We don't accept it as it is, but want more, are worried we're missing out, think we should be doing something else.
- When we're upset or frustrated, it's because we have a story running in

The blog Zen Habits by Leo Babuta showcases a perfect example of less is more.

#### **24. BE CONSISTENT:**

Last by not the least, be consistent in terms of blogging. Make sure to prepare a schedule and stick to it as you never know who it might disappoint if you don't release a post on schedule. Many statistics have shown that posting consistently increase the traffic that comes onto the site.

Leo Babuta has been blogging consistently since 2007 and continues to do so, try to take from this and make sure that you do the same.