

Forum: [Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Eleven reasons your forum is destined to die.](#)

resent - July 28, 2015, 7:19 pm

Figured I'd share this here.

1) You're using a ripped theme.

If you want your forum to get anywhere, using a shit tier paki rip from a ripping community is not the way to go.

2) You have no money.

Seriously, don't even try to start a forum if you're so broke that you can't even afford \$5 a month to host your forum on a \$5 a month digitalocean VPS. Nobody takes a forum seriously if the owner has no money.

3) You don't know basic web development.

The key to keeping your community happy is to keep providing them with what they want, you can't do this if you don't know basic stuff like html or css.

4) You use an overused niche.

You made a gaming forum? Wow, cool! So what makes yours better than the thousands that already exist?

5) You know nothing about your niche.

Not knowing a lot about your niche is like giving a seminar on a topic you don't know, it just isn't going to work.

6) Your site is literally just a copy of a bigger board.

Why would anyone want to join your forum, when they can get the "bigger and better" experience from elsewhere.

7) You have no content.

Don't even try to get people to start using your forum if you have no content.

8) Your forum engages in illegal activities, and you have no idea how to host it.

Have fun getting your site suspended :noh:

9) You don't post.

You can't expect the members of your community to post if you don't post yourself.

10) The only places you advertise are "website showcase" categories on other forums.

If your userbase is literally just a small fragment of another forums members, they're going to slowly forget about you and return to the forum they came from.

11) You start the forum with the intent of making money.

Why the fuck would you create a brand new community, and ask for donations/sell paid upgrades from the get go? Are you really that desperate for money? That you need your five members to empty their wallets into a community that likely won't be around long?
(courtesy of idkwhatimdoing)

If any of these eleven reasons sounds like you and/or your forum, you should probably delete or hand over to someone more competent.

Balding - July 28, 2015, 7:28 pm

Wow. That hurt just a little bit.

resent - July 28, 2015, 7:29 pm

(Jul 28, 2015 07:27 PM)DontSellMeBitcoin Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I can tell you have a shitty forum, fuck animeThat's very opinionated, and off topic.

(Jul 28, 2015 07:28 PM)Bald Cat Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Wow. That hurt just a little bit.
The truth sometimes hurts.

AltKev - July 28, 2015, 7:33 pm

so you make a forum and get roughly 400 mmebers, probably 10% are active, yet you think you can throw shots?

if people want to start a forum, you should encourage them to pursue what they desire.
discouraging them, telling them they're doing everything wrong, what good does that accomplish?

I think you're being very egotistic, and by the way that forum's theme looks like shit :)

Skorn Virus - July 28, 2015, 7:35 pm

I agree with half and disagree with half. I have seen several forums using ripped offed themes (Modified slightly & so forth) but still be successful to a certain degree. Or #6 - Some people go to a forum maybe because a friend is running it or someone refered them and then that person refers them & evantually it grows. Smaller based forums sometimes can run more successful short termed than huge forums (Maybe not in long run cause it dies down in several months) but still none the less.

Really good pointers though especially regarding the (If you don't post) one and the (Intentions on just making money)

Ahri????? - July 28, 2015, 7:36 pm

Good thing I never paid for my reseller account yet at the same time I am broke lel.

resent - July 28, 2015, 9:21 pm

(Jul 28, 2015 07:33 PM)KI?wn Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) so you make a forum and get roughly 400 mmebers, probably 10% are active, yet you think you can throw shots?

if people want to start a forum, you should encourage them to pursue what they desire.
discouraging them, telling them they're doing everything wrong, what good does that accomplish?
Imao, this has nothing to do with my forum, I'm providing eleven things forum owners should not do when they start their community - how is that not encouraging people to move their forum in the right direction?

Quote:I think you're being very egotistic, and by the way that forum's theme looks like shit :)
Nice opinion, maybe you'd like it better if you weren't using internet explorer.

(Jul 28, 2015 07:35 PM)Skorn Virus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I agree with half and disagree with half. I have seen several forums using ripped offed themes (Modified slightly & so forth) but still be successful to a certain degree.I've seen a few too, only to see them die after they've been up for a couple of months. Besides ripping communities, I can't think of any forums using a ripped theme, that have lasted for over four months.

Quote:Or #6 - Some people go to a forum maybe because a friend is running it or someone referred them and then that person refers them & eventually it grows. Smaller based forums sometimes can run more successful short term than huge forums (Maybe not in long run cause it dies down in several months) but still none the less.

Six is more based on the average "I'm gonna copy HF, now I'm gonna advertise it on HF" forums, a community where the primary members are friends would fall under another category.

Quote:Really good pointers though especially regarding the (If you don't post) one and the (Intentions on just making money)
ty

(Jul 28, 2015 07:36 PM)?hri Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good thing I never paid for my reseller account yet at the same time I am broke lol.I'm not sure how this fits into this thread.

Grin - July 28, 2015, 9:22 pm

the amount of edginess in this thread cutted me in thrids on grils.

resent - July 28, 2015, 9:24 pm

(Jul 28, 2015 09:22 PM)Grin Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) the amount of edginess in this thread cutted me in thrids on grils.

The amount of uselessness in this post gave me cancer.

b?xxy - July 28, 2015, 9:25 pm

Even though his forum isn't the best(I haven't looked yet, will do in a minute), these points are actually great.

I agree.

Grin - July 28, 2015, 9:30 pm

(Jul 28, 2015 09:24 PM)Poochy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The amount of uselessness in this post gave me cancer.

hopefully it was terminal!!

resent - July 28, 2015, 9:41 pm

(Jul 28, 2015 09:30 PM)Grin Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) hopefully it was terminal!!

No baby, you can't get rid of me that easily. <3

resent - July 29, 2015, 5:29 pm

(Jul 29, 2015 10:01 AM)2600 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Interesting post, I'll admit I've made some of these mistakes on my forum. Partially intentional and some even unintentional, anyway I don't suppose that means the end of it. Thanks for sharing these rules, I'll see if I can turn into the right direction. No problem, good luck with your forum. :)

inventorswanted - July 29, 2015, 5:34 pm

Literally all those apply to me (except the illegal one)

And I made it today so I am regretting the 7hrs I spent making it lol

Can you do the opposite of this thread so I can start up my forum. It's not as easy as reading the thread with antonyms. No.

Can you please?

resent - July 29, 2015, 5:49 pm

(Jul 29, 2015 05:34 PM)inventorswanted Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Literally all those apply to me (except the

illegal one)

And I made it today so I am regretting the 7hrs I spent making it lol

Can you do the opposite of this thread so I can start up my forum. It's not as easy as reading the thread with antonyms. No.

Can you please?

I'll try to, a bit later. :)

Nasyr - July 29, 2015, 6:03 pm

1. I've never used a ripped theme, usually a premium or free that has had a lot of editing work done to them. The odd time a custom one depending on if the designer can meet my request.

2. I always have money when I make a forum, usually \$50-\$100 a week to spend on the development, advertising and anything else I need.

3. I have two college certificates in Website Development and have been a Web Dev for 6 years.

4. I use the general route and I know how to make it better for people.

5. I know a lot about every section my forums contain and have good knowledge in all areas we add.

6. Never a copy and paste, I try to keep it as original as possible. It's limited now.

7. I actually get people (friends) to sign up and share a lot of content. Game Reviews, Resources etc. before release of the forums.

8. Nope, I've dealt with legal/illegal issues before.

9. I'm usually the top poster, welcoming every new members, posting updates and engaging with my community.

10. I always pay for Ad Space and share where I can for free to help generate a little more traffic.

11. I always loose money when making a forum since all money made from the forum goes back into development.

resent - July 29, 2015, 6:50 pm

(Jul 29, 2015 06:03 PM)Nasyr Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) -snip-

And your forums are generally successful?

Supreme??????? - July 29, 2015, 6:53 pm

Welp, you probably shot down 50+ members from starting their own forum.

Nasyr - July 30, 2015, 5:11 am

(Jul 29, 2015 06:50 PM)Poochy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) And your forums are generally successful?

Yes they are generally successful due to the fact I'm actually dedicated. I've helped run some of the biggest gaming communities on the web as of today not to mention I have a lot of connections in forums so I get easy advertising etc.

You may have decided to open a board yourself and maybe you added some shit to it but all I'm saying is don't come running in here thinking you are a master of the web because I'm sorry to inform you but I've seen a lot better work from people who hardly know shit about running a forum.

Additionally you do not need everything you put on that list, if you are dedicated and your members see that and become dedicated then the rest falls into place. You don't need money as people donate, and much more.

I actually have found your thread to be rather ignorant and I would advise members to ignore what you have to say in this because if they want to open a forum then they can, they don't need money, if they have the first month solved then if they are serious about it the rest follows.

resent - July 30, 2015, 7:09 am

(Jul 30, 2015 05:11 AM)Nasyr Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) -wall of incoherent nonsense-

Do you not understand what I'm saying, none of these eleven things apply to you, and your forums are/were successful.

These eleven things are the eleven most common reasons I see communities die; I'm not using it to "discourage" people from creating their own communities, I'm not doing it do call out the various communities out there that fit the description of these reasons; I'm doing it because I'd rather point the people that do fit these reasons in the right direction.

To me, it makes more sense to let people know the things that they could do wrong instead of letting history repeat itself and watch as forums die as quickly as they're made.

I know you like to throw yourself around as some sort of "MyBB Guru", but right now you're looking like an idiot.

Nasyr - July 30, 2015, 3:58 pm

(Jul 30, 2015 07:09 AM)Poochy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do you not understand what I'm saying, none of these eleven things apply to you, and your forums are/were successful.

These eleven things are the eleven most common reasons I see communities die; I'm not using it to "discourage" people from creating their own communities, I'm not doing it do call out the various communities out there that fit the description of these reasons; I'm doing it because I'd rather point the people that do fit these reasons in the right direction.

To me, it makes more sense to let people know the things that they could do wrong instead of letting history repeat itself and watch as forums die as quickly as they're made.

I know you like to throw yourself around as some sort of "MyBB Guru", but right now you're looking like an idiot.

You obviously have no clue what you're talking about then sir. I've actually watched forums that were made by people who only had \$20 - for domain and hosting - and they have actually managed to make their forums last and they may not be the biggest and more successful forums but they have shown that true passion and dedication is all you actually need to make a forum a success.

If you have passion and dedication then your members will notice it and ask to make a donation to help make the forums thrive.

The point I'm making is that you might have made valid points yes, but in the end if somebody is willing to be dedicated then they can in fact make it. I'm not saying your wrong but what you've said you should have backed up with stating you were not trying to shoot people down but saying it in your opinion but pointing out people should take those things into account when making a forum.

As I said though I personally seen it a bit ignorant and big headed. Regardless all you need is

dedication and you can make it.

resent - July 30, 2015, 8:29 pm

(Jul 30, 2015 03:58 PM)Nasyr Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) - hue -

I've never once said that it'd be impossible to make a forum when one of these reasons is true. The fact is that most of the forums getting made; where most of these reasons are true, get shut down almost as fast as they were put up.

You are the one that is being ignorant by putting words in my mouth.

Insidific - August 1, 2015, 5:57 pm

(Jul 30, 2015 08:29 PM)Poochy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I've never once said that it'd be impossible to make a forum when one of these reasons is true. The fact is that most of the forums getting made; where most of these reasons are true, get shut down almost as fast as they were put up.

You are the one that is being ignorant by putting words in my mouth.

Agreed. Honestly I've been on HF for a good long while and I have seen tonnes of forums start out and get shut down just as quickly and it isn't always about dedication. Users were dedicated, but you can't always be prepared for some of the pitfalls of running a forum and no matter how dedicated you are. Unless you know how to handle it correctly it can be the downfall of the forum.

xDareDevil - August 2, 2015, 12:29 pm

LOL. If you are starting a forum to just earn money your already down to failure. The biggest forums were made, becasue the owners wanted to just gather a community in one place and "speak" with them. Not because he wanted to gather some extra money -_-.

Very good thoughts Poochy. Would rep for great job on showing how people fail at start, but can't. lol.

resent - August 3, 2015, 11:07 pm

(Aug 2, 2015 12:29 PM)xDareDevil Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) LOL. If you are starting a forum to just earn money your already down to failure. The biggest forums were made, becasue the owners wanted to just gather a community in one place and "speak" with them. Not because he wanted to gather some extra money -_-.

Very good thoughts Poochy. Would rep for great job on showing how people fail at start, but can't. lol.

Thanks, I'm glad you agree with me. :)

PicoNeko - August 4, 2015, 7:35 pm

Great post! Next time someone asks I'll link them here.

resent - August 5, 2015, 3:07 am

(Aug 4, 2015 07:41 PM)The Fro Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) If you want to start a forum (Don't, unless you like pissing away your time and joy) then take a good look at what people like Omni or Ohanian / Huffman do.

Basically, you need to hustle, and you need to hustle hard.

Omni was on HF every day posting like crazy. He was ripping articles off other websites 24/7. (And giving them credit of course) The reddit team was constantly posting under different names to make themselves look popular (Omni might not have needed to do this because he already managed other forums) because no one wants to be user # 2 until they can't be.

But you don't have to write the content yourself. Google your KWs and search for articles. Copy,

paste and attribute. Or better yet, rewrite.

I wouldn't recommend copy/pasting at all, unless you want google to penalise your ranking.

Rewriting is definitely the way to go.

N1ghtm4re - December 5, 2017, 5:15 pm

I feel this is necessary to be bumped, valid reasons and will hopefully stop all these random ass forums popping up with no true motive other than making money from it.

1488zef - December 23, 2017, 2:13 pm

I knew someone who used ripped theme and copied things from HF, but got 100k members because he made a cheat engine trainer for a popular game in Finland. Lol should have done it myself.

LongJ - February 6, 2018, 8:29 pm

I agree with 1-11. Don't forget to include the forums that start out with 100 categories, but only post in 1. Bit of an eye sore.

Who Soup - February 6, 2018, 8:35 pm

nice share unfortunately I had to learn this lesson the hard way. ?