

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Why SEO is so important!](#)

Omniscient - June 18, 2018, 7:28 am

<https://www.seroundtable.com/google-clarifies-mobile-first-indexing-25906.html>

Members should read that. It's a serious problem HF is not mobile friendly and since Google has implemented their mobile-first rankings we're being penalized in rankings. Thus we have less clicks from new visitors.

I really doubt that before we change the theme we'll see any serious spikes in activity at HF. No matter what changes I make on HF and how I run this site we're still at the mercy of Google for visits.

The good news is that we still get a lot of search results and clicks without being mobile friendly and that a theme change to a responsive design that's mobile friendly should bring us back to high rankings relatively quick.

I'm still trying to lock-down a designer to make it happen. I have a MyBB designer ready to make us a theme but he hasn't responded to my PMs lately. I truly hope to end the year with a new theme for the site.

Thanks.

Homero - June 18, 2018, 7:31 am

I know someone who is experienced with MyBB, he could definitely help if your designer doesn't answer the PMs.

Let me know if help is needed.

Pronouncer - June 18, 2018, 7:31 am

Yeah the HF mobile site cucks me non stop. New theme will be nice

TB12 - June 18, 2018, 7:31 am

Appreciate you work and I don't think there is any HUGE rush for a new theme. Not like the site will be deserted by the end of the year. Sucks how google prioritizes things like that but it is what it is. Looking forward to eventually seeing the theme change

kookur - June 18, 2018, 7:36 am

I'm online with mobile phone 90% of the time so I would love it :)

Aussie - June 18, 2018, 7:40 am

Yeah I'm definitely keen on a new theme, curious on things like will it have the same colour scheme or go retro? I mean, colours don't have to change just moreso the layout for a website to be mobile friendly... I'm guessing

Techius - June 18, 2018, 7:44 am

Thank you! This would be a great thing as I post from my mobile device at times.

Deal - June 18, 2018, 8:49 am

Could you elaborate what exactly you mean with Hackforums not being mobilefriendly?

Is there a specific definition of mobile friendly?

I mean when I use Hackforums on mobile there's no problems with browsing so I'm just curious as how it would become more mobile friendly?

Yin Yang - June 18, 2018, 9:28 am

(Jun 18, 2018 08:49 AM)Vanadium Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Could you elaborate what exactly you mean with Hackforums not being mobilefriendly?

Is there a specific definition of mobile friendly?

I mean when I use Hackforums on mobile there's no problems with browsing so I'm just curious as how it would become more mobile friendly?It's not very responsive friendly. I myself use the mobile and it's a bit clunky, but gets the job done.

Like with pop up modules like giving ratings it drops sometimes.

Phobix - June 18, 2018, 9:30 am

Looking forward to a proper mobile version of this site, would definitely increase my personal traffic here.

97anav - June 18, 2018, 9:31 am

You ever gonna release updated analytics information?

meister - June 18, 2018, 9:35 am

HF is not browsable on mobile browser at all. Doesn't look like CSS loads.

LANCE - June 18, 2018, 9:36 am

While your doing this an app would also increase more registered users.

97anav - June 18, 2018, 9:40 am

(Jun 18, 2018 09:35 AM)Chronic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) HF is not browsable on mobile browser at all. Doesn't look like CSS loads.

Works fine, clear your cache.

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 10:35 am

I agree with omni it's a very serious issue as this mobile era (after 2013) forced all big companies to make their sites either mobile friendly or launch their own apps.

Frankly I spend my 90% online time on my phone and would like to see a nice theme implemented. Technically mybb should have made atleast one mobile responsive theme long time ago.

Ps: Mybb's going to release a mobile theme with 1.9.0

<https://community.mybb.com/thread-215212.html>

Omniscient - June 18, 2018, 10:47 am

Quote:Could you elaborate what exactly you mean with Hackforums not being mobilefriendly?

<https://search.google.com/test/mobile-friendly?id=Y3L-je4NsQZ-NA5GSI5R3g>

It's according to standards that Google uses.

Quote:While your doing this an app would also increase more registered users.

We may see an app before a theme. We just have to move servers and I'll setup APIv2 and I know members will be quick to create mobile apps using the API. But I don't think apps help us with Google rankings since these are direct connects. Google doesn't consider that SEO mobile friendly. It helps members but doesn't help us obtain new ones via search engines. If you run the app it's likely you've already found HF and are a member.

Quote:Technically mybb should have made atleast one mobile responsive theme long time ago.

I absolutely blame them for the very long delay in creating a default mobile compatible theme. It's ridiculous and I don't believe them that they'll actually make it happen in 1.9x too. They are practically accomplishing nothing over there. A responsive default theme should be #1 on the priority list and I've stated this publicly on their forums multiple times. And everyone agrees but nothing is done. They are fucking useless now.

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 11:15 am

(Jun 18, 2018 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) We may see an app before a theme. We just have to move servers and I'll setup APIv2 and I know members will be quick to create mobile apps using the API. But I don't think apps help us with Google rankings since these are direct connects. Google doesn't consider that SEO mobile friendly. It helps members but doesn't help us obtain new ones via search engines. If you run the app it's likely you've already found HF and are a member.

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I guess they are doing whatever they can on a \$100 Annual budget and one core developer. LOL <https://opencollective.com/mybb/transactions#>

Whoever's managing mybb.com right now is probably the biggest retard, they could have easily turned it into a profitable business or have atleast asked community's help instead of running it with strict policies and avoiding their biggest supporters like you.

Account of the Gods - June 18, 2018, 11:29 am

Yea bro seo is my second name. Basically its everything

Grim - June 18, 2018, 11:40 am

It sucks for places like this. but i do understand why they do it as a majority of people browsing the net are on mobile these days.

Omniscient - June 18, 2018, 11:58 am

Quote:I guess they are doing whatever they can on a \$100 Annual budget and one core developer. LOL

I think that's a monthly cost for their server and services and the donations are also monthly. I just signed up for their \$5 per month contribution.

Quote:Whoever's managing mybb.com right now is probably the biggest retard, they could have easily turned it into a profitable business or have atleast asked community's help instead of running it with strict policies and avoiding their biggest supporters like you.

Chris B (founder) is never involved anymore. I really don't expect the project to grow much more. We're way too far into customizing though at this point to switch to a new forum software. I just can't imagine doing it.

Deal - June 18, 2018, 12:02 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#)
<https://search.google.com/test/mobile-friendly?id=Y3L-je4NsqZ-NA5GSI5R3g>

It's according to standards that Google uses.

Thank you for this picture.

I don't know about other phones, but on my iPhone 8 the content fits the screen, both on the main page but also when reading a thread.

And I read the text just fine, it's not too small.

A new site layout would be great, I'm just interested in what they base their test on.

Oh well, anyway, looking forward to seeing some more changes. But don't stress out, you've got a lot on your mind these days.

Omniscient - June 18, 2018, 12:07 pm

Quote:I don't know about other phones, but on my iPhone 8 the content fits the screen, both on the main page but also when reading a thread.

And I read the text just fine, it's not too small.

Doesn't matter if members use HF mobile just fine. If we're penalized by Google in search rankings it's a problem we have to address.

Crystallize. - June 18, 2018, 12:17 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 12:07 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Doesn't matter if members use HF mobile just fine. If we're penalized by Google in search rankings it's a problem we have to address.

Is anyone designing a mobile friendly theme now since Phixel for some reason disappeared?

I like HF theme as it is, would it be possible to keep it as it is just with some slight changes that are required by google on mobile theme to make it compatible without having to completely redesign or that is required? ?

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 12:19 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 12:02 PM)Vanadium Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I don't know about other phones, but on my iPhone 8 the content fits the screen, both on the main page but also when reading a thread.

And I read the text just fine, it's not too small.

Hey as omni said it's not about the UI, current one works fine too but it's about a site's mobile friendliness which google cares about for seo rankings. They launched this mobile-friendly algorithm in 2015 which is on their priority list for rankings and they are constantly updating it with new rules.

<https://www.businessnewsdaily.com/7808-google-search-ranking-mobile.html>

Bombalicious - June 18, 2018, 12:20 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 11:58 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I think that's a monthly cost for their server and services and the donations are also monthly. I just signed up for their \$5 per month contribution.

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imagine doing it.

I can help you out with the responsive design. I've been a full stack dev for over 15+ years. PM me :)

2073436 - June 18, 2018, 12:20 pm

yeah literally

forum updates are equally as important as SEO work - most members found the site through google

the smarter these big companies are getting, the tougher it becomes

HEXAGON - June 18, 2018, 12:22 pm

I was actually thinking to myself today at work a way to "better" hack forums and what first came to mind was that so many people use mobile devices now a days that if only there was some way to implement an elegant mobile theme for the users without computers or for on the go updates, Sounds like a big project though..

Biggy - June 18, 2018, 12:28 pm

I actually prefer browsing mobile from the web theme, whenever I browse forums with a mobile theme I just dislike it. Maybe it's just my OCD being used to desktop version but meh.

Hopefully we can get a theme designer on it ASAP to get a spike in activity here.

Apocryphon - June 18, 2018, 12:30 pm

I think you can do that sooner than you said in this thread. You just need to find a good designer, which I'm pretty sure you can find it around this forums. Good luck.

kawaii - June 18, 2018, 12:31 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 10:47 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I absolutely blame them for the very long delay in creating a default mobile compatible theme. It's ridiculous and I don't believe them that they'll actually make it happen in 1.9x too. They are practically accomplishing nothing over there. A responsive default theme should be #1 on the priority list and I've stated this publicly on their forums multiple times. And everyone agrees but nothing is done. They are fucking useless now.

That's slightly unfair, we've now fully completed the template conversion to Twig for theme templates and Justin is more than 50% complete with the new default responsive theme (which was made from scratch based on the 2.0 layout).

<https://github.com/mybb/mybb/issues/2972>

Consider we've been operating without leadership or management for 6 months now on a skeleton development crew, we're doing very well IMHO. Some key members of the development and SQA teams have invested hours of their spare time (around school and work) into MyBB 1.9 - and we're convinced it will be a success and breath much needed new life into the longevity of the software.

Crystallize. - June 18, 2018, 12:37 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 12:31 PM)Escrow Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's slightly unfair, we've now fully completed the template conversion to Twig for theme templates and Justin is more than 50% complete with the new default responsive theme (which was made from scratch based on the 2.0 layout).

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teams have invested hours of their spare time (around school and work) into MyBB 1.9 - and we're convinced it will be a success and breath much needed new life into the longevity of the software.

Kinda offtopic post:

Why you have no leadership or management could you elaborate further? Where is the owner and the managements?

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 12:39 pm

Hey omni, is it possible for you to install a temporary mobile theme (stripped version with no fancy stuff and long category descriptions) just for google seo?

kawaii - June 18, 2018, 12:46 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 12:37 PM)Crystallize. Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Kinda offtopic post:

Why you have no leadership or management could you elaborate further? Where is the owner and the managements?

Chris, the founder and owner of MyBB, has been absent for months now. He's the only person with true power over the project so until this point we've been trying to self manage stuff with the limited access we have. I can't really say much more than that at this point, sorry.

Biker BoyZ - June 18, 2018, 12:49 pm

indeed. I have to do this for my CPA Sites to gain rank in SEO. Once done that. try and make some mobile friendly backlinks. :)

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 12:54 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 12:46 PM)Escrow Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Chris, the founder and owner of MyBB, has been absent for months now. He's the only person with true power over the project so until this point we've been trying to self manage stuff with the limited access we have. I can't really say much more than that at this point, sorry.

I guess he got busy with his job with bigcommerce.

<https://github.com/chrisboulton>

These big companies always tend to steal good developers from opensource projects.

Kosmos - June 18, 2018, 12:57 pm

Huh, I guess all of the mobile HF suggestions in the past actually had merit. Hopefully we're able to fix this.

Omniscient - June 18, 2018, 1:20 pm

Quote:Hey omni, is it possible for you to install a temporary mobile theme (stripped version with no fancy stuff and long category descriptions) just for google seo?

I believe that's more work than it's worth. I'm also unsure what effects that would have on SEO so I don't want to experiment in that direction.

NoSuchAgency - June 18, 2018, 3:36 pm

Real excited to see what we get whipped up. Keep calm and chive on :)

(Jun 18, 2018 03:00 PM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The only issue I have using the current theme on mobile is rating threads.

I've rated so many threads 3 or 4 when I meant to 5 star them.

Hoping the new theme comes this year.

Can't wait for APIv2

APIv2 is what keeps me going. Super excited!

Tesla - June 18, 2018, 3:39 pm

Ya I use HF on my phone pretty much all the time

SIM-1589588 - June 18, 2018, 3:43 pm

(Jun 18, 2018 03:39 PM)Stoned™ Wrote: [CITE](#) Ya I use HF on my phone pretty much all the time Same and every single post I've made today was posted thru my mobile. I only pick my laptop when I really need it for some work that can't be done on my mobile phone.

sm?ked - June 18, 2018, 4:29 pm

I use it on mobile all the time with no problems

I do have fat fingers though sadly so zooming a lot

W?lr?? - June 18, 2018, 4:32 pm

In the last month, 1k of hackforums rankings hvae dropped from the top search. That's not a good sign

mrnapolean1 - June 18, 2018, 4:38 pm

Lets hope this doesn't turn into the train derailment that occurred last year.

If possible make a program or something that will tell HF what "computing device" is accessing the website. So Us Desktop users arent forced to view mobile only theme formats while Mobile users aren't forced to view this site as a full webpage.

Use Facebook as an example. Their website automatically determines what version of the site its going to serve you by the agent/computing device youre on.

For Desktops and laptops its going to give <https://facebook.com/>

For mobile users that use the web version of Facebook its going to give you <https://m.facebook.com/>

I hope this was at any help.

SIM-1589588 - July 3, 2018, 9:09 pm

Recently google started their "Mobile First" Indexing and received notifications for my own sites.

Quote:Background: Mobile-first indexing means that Googlebot will now use the mobile version of your site for indexing and ranking, to better help our (primarily mobile) users find what they're looking for. Google's crawling, indexing, and ranking systems have historically used the desktop version of your site's content, which can cause issues for mobile searchers when the desktop version differs from the mobile version. Our analysis indicates that the mobile and desktop versions of your site are comparable.