

## How to Optimize Your Blog for Every Stage of the Marketing Funnel

Pamela Vaughan

#INBOUND13



## PAMELA VAUGHAN @pamelump

I've written over 750 HubSpot blog posts, and most of the ideas for them come to me at inopportune times ... like when I'm in the shower.

### forget about your blog for a minute





let's talk about another 4-letter word ...



# think about the relationship funnel



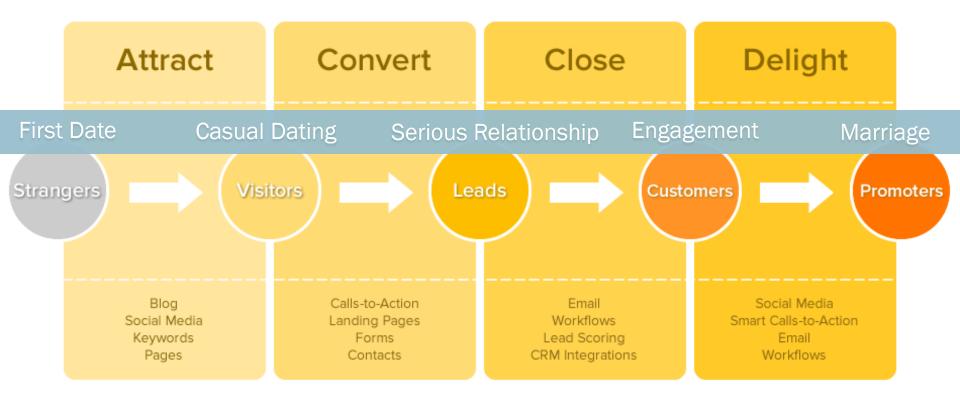
casual dating

## serious relationship

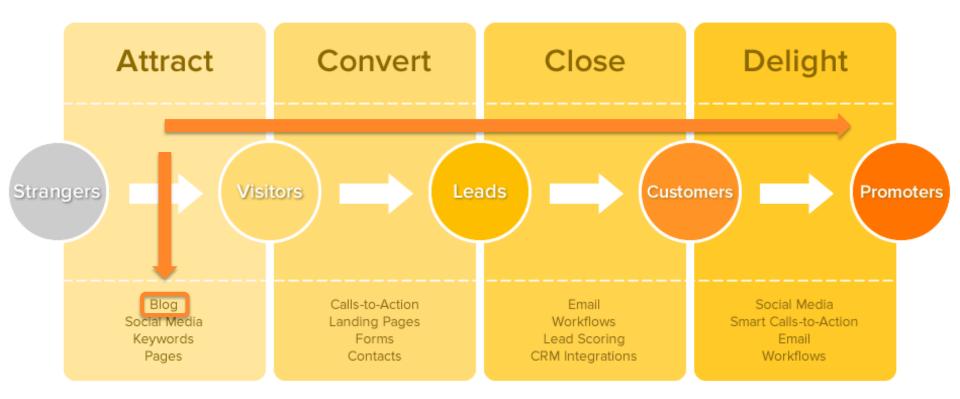
## engagement

## marriage

### sounds a lot like the inbound marketing methodology ...



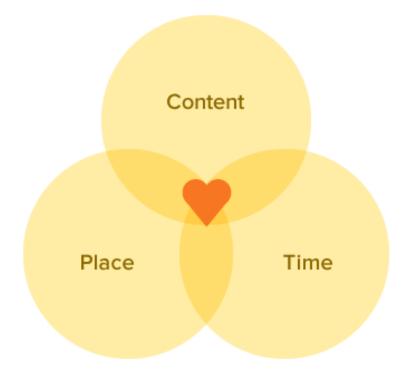
## your blog







## IT'S ALL ABOUT CONTEXT



## AGENDA

How to Nurture Visitors Into Subscribers
 How to Nurture Subscribers Into Leads
 How to Nurture Leads Into Customers
 How to Nurture Customers Into Promoters

## NURTURING VISITORS INTO SUBSCRIBERS



## **GOAL:**

get visitors to like your content enough to commit to keep coming back for more relationship equivalent: casual dating



### encourage blog subscription (primarily email)



14% of monthly traffic to the HubSpot Inbound Marketing Blog comes from email

Internal HubSpot Blog Data

### All inbound marketing, all the time.

#### HubSpot makes marketing software people love.

### Facebook Finally Introduces Embedded Posts: What You Need to Know

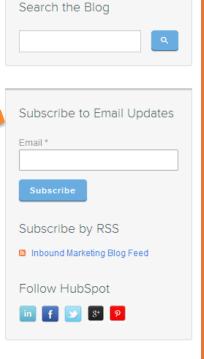
by Ginny Soskey

August 1, 2013 at 8:00 AM

Yesterday, Facebook launched a new feature that we've always wanted: the ability to embed Facebook posts on websites. Just like tweets, this new feature will allow you to embed all public statuses, photos, videos, and hashtags – and users will be able to interact directly with the embedded content. They can like and share the post, like or follow the post author, or view

Read More





### display your main blog subscribe module above the fold

## Desktop & Mobile: One Content Strategy to Rule Them All







INBOUND MARKETING 
CASE STUDIES DESIGN PORTFOLIO ABOUT US 
RESOURCES BLOG

### Inbound Marketing Blog



### What Makes a Visitor Click Your Callto-Action? [Infographic]

In order for your calls-to-action to effectively drive prospects and generate conversions, it's critical that your understanding of what works – and why – is both thorough and ongoing.

This is especially true today, as mobile technology and the Internet have fostered somewhat of an attention deficit environment among consumers. This means it's even more important that your CTAs are optimized for success.

So...how exactly do you do that?

read more



Subscribe to Our

incentivize blog subscription using free offers

Posted by John Ponini in Calls to Action on August 1 2012 with 1 comment.

create an end-ofpost subscribe CTA, but show it only to those not yet subscribed

### What Non-Subscribers See:

Is the content at all at odds with our company's mission, philosophy, goals, etc.?

Did we miss any opportunities to build a relationship with influencers, industry thought leaders, etc.?

What else would you add to this editing checklist? Feel free to download this checklist in Word doc format to customize and add your own!



#### Like what you've read? Click here to subscribe to this blog

#### Andrew Grant 10:14 AM on June 28, 2013

Superb! A benchmark against which to measure every one of my posts. I have a nasty feeling that they will come up short. This is going up above my desk Excellent work, again, thank you Pamela

### What Subscribers See:

Is the content at all at odds with our company's mission, philosophy, goals, etc.?

Did we miss any opportunities to build a relationship with influencers, industry thought leaders, etc.?

What else would you add to this editing checklist? Feel free to download this checklist in Word doc format to customize and add your own!



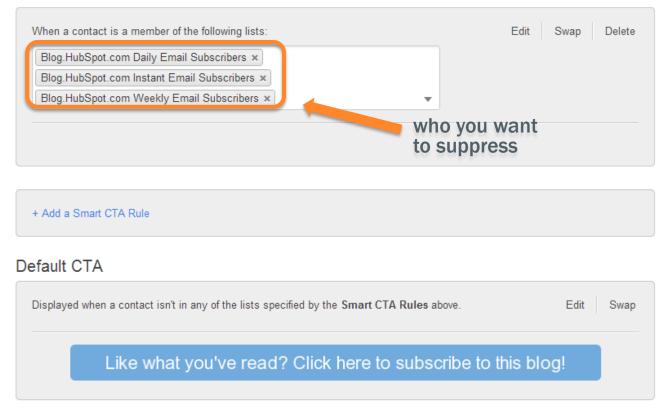
#### Andrew Grant 10:14 AM on June 28, 2013

Superb! A benchmark against which to measure every one of my posts. I have a nasty feeling that they will come up short. This is going up above my desk Excellent work, again, thank you Pamela

### do this by creating "magic" CTAs

### Smart CTA Rules

We will display the correct CTA for each contact based on the rules you define below:

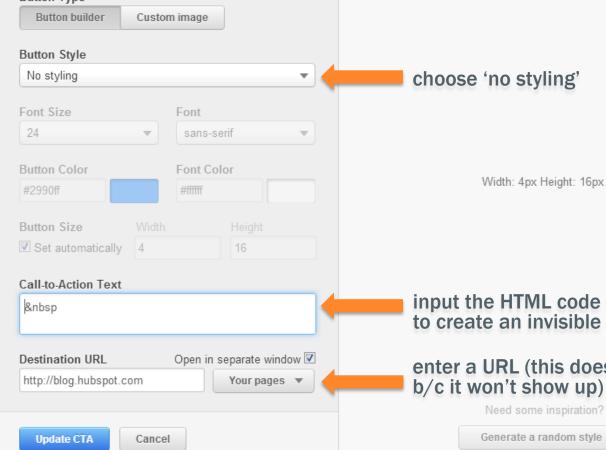


### set up your "magic" Smart CTA rules

#### Smart CTA Name

Blog - Subscribe CTA Smart (List-Based, Magic) 🥒

#### Button Type



Width: 4px Height: 16px

input the HTML code for 'space' to create an invisible CTA

enter a URL (this doesn't matter

configure your invisible **CTA** 

### HubSpot

create a subscribe landing page, and offer frequency options

### Subscribe to HubSpot's Inbound Marketing Blog

Stay on Top of the Latest Marketing Tips. Treat

Jest Practices

Join our community of over 200,000 marketers and business owners and subscribe to the HubSpot Inbound Marketing Blog to receive great marketing content delivered right to your inbox.

HubSpot's marketing blog covers everything you need to become a marketing master. Topics include SEO, blogging, social media, lead generation, email marketing, lead management, analytics, and more. Get articles like these and more when you subscribe:

- 12 Things You Should Be Using Your Blog For (Besides Blogging)
- · The Ultimate Cheat Sheet for Mastering LinkedIn
- The 6 Marketing Metrics Your CEO Actually Cares About

Complete the Form at Right to Subscribe by Email Today

Or subscribe via RSS.



social proof

#### Subscribe by Email

emai

emphasis

Email Address (privacy policy) \*

Email Frequency Preference \*

Instant Notifications

Daily Roundup

Weekly Roundup

Subscribe

frequency
options

### **Related Posts**



Find out if Google Algorithm Updates Make Your Website's Search Rank Drop



7 Essential Tools for Publishers



Tapping the Social CEO: How One Restaurant Brand is Winning on Twitter



Jeff Reine Joins Zemanta as VP of Publisher & Corporate Development





Back to Basics: How to Spread Your Content Wider

🖂 🗗 🛩 in 😰



20 Great Tweets from the AdNatively Conference



Books We Believe Will Also Inspire You



25 Content Marketing Facts That Will Make You Seriously Consider Mobile

### Zemanta





How America's Crazy Day-Care System Manages to Cost and Arm and a Leg-and Put Your Kids in Danger at the Same Time

----

### install a recommendation plugin to improve blog stickiness

promote social media subscription

(tip: leverage social proof like Mashable does here)





BUSINESS

Google Copyright Infringement Reports to Quadruple This Year

## 2 NURTURING SUBSCRIBERS INTO LEADS



## **GOAL:**

retain subscribers and get them to convert on an offer for lead generation

relationship equivalent: serious relationship

### All inbound marketing, all the time.

personalize it

You just decided to join **more than 200,000 others** who subscribe to HubSpot's award-winning **Inbound Marketing Blog**. We're thrilled to have you aboard!

Soon, you'll start receiving HubSpot's blog content delivered straight to your inbox -- so you can learn valuable tips, tactics, and strategies to help you improve your inbound marketing.

If you ever decide you'd like to receive emails about new HubSpot blog content less (or more) frequently, no problem! You can <u>change your email frequency</u> <u>preferences at any time here</u>, with the option of receiving instant notifications, a daily roundup, or a weekly roundup.



Hi Pamela.

 reiterate frequency options

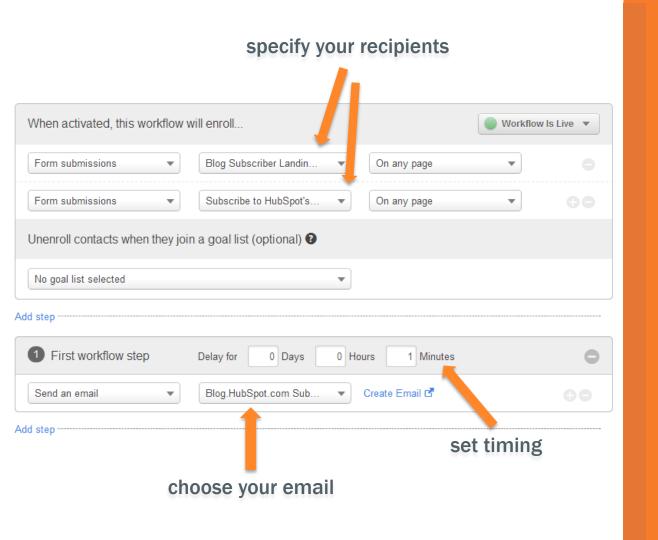
Pamela Vaughan | HubSpot Blog Manager

Enjoy the blog!

remind them what they signed up for

### warm up to new subscribers with a welcome email





set up your blog welcome email with workflows

## create an email frequency preferences page

## HubSpot

## Change Your HubSpot Blog Email Frequency

Because sometimes less is more ... or just not enough.

Is your inbox cluttered with too much email? Or maybe you're just craving more of the good stuff.

Either way, if you're not happy with the number of email notifications we're sending you about new content on HubSpot's Inbound Marketing Blog, don't sweat it! Simply change your preference to one of the following:

- Instant Notifications: Get a new email every time we publish a new post to the blog (email frequency varies)
- **Daily Roundup:** Get a daily email digest with all the blog content we've published in the last 24 hours (1 email per day)
- Weekly Roundup: Get a weekly digest with all the blog content we've published in the last 7 days (1 email per week)



#### Change Email Frequency

Email Address (privacy policy) \*

Email Frequency Preference \*

- Instant Notifications
- Daily Roundup
- Weekly Roundup

#### Update Frequency

#### explain their options

# segment Smart CTAs on blog posts by lifecycle stage to show subscribers offers suited for the top of the funnel

(segment by lists for more granular segmentation)

When a contact is in one of the following lifecycle stages and i	sn't in one listed abov:	Edit	Swap	Delete
Evangelist ×	*			





#### How to Optimize Your Social Media Marketing Strategy

We'll evaluate your current strategy & offer tips to get the most out of your social media marketing efforts.

Ŧ

Swap

Delete

Edit

#### Get a Free Assessment

When a contact is in one of the following lifecycle stages and isn't in c	Edit	Swap	Delete	
Customer ×	-			

#### Exclusive for HubSpot Customers Sign Up for **'Social Inbox'** Early Access

Sign up to receive helpful kick-start content and early access to the new HubSpot Social Inbox tool.



Sign Up for Early Access

Default CTA

Displayed when a contact is in a lifecycle stage not specified by any of the Smart CTA Rules above. Edit Swap



When a contact is in one of the following lifecycle stages:

Lead x

		3358					
			12,363,351	0.27%	3358	\$9.97 USD	\$10,000.00 USD
ON	10,000.00 USD	3358	12,363,351	0.27%	3358	\$9.97 USD	\$10,000.00 USD
ON	10,000.00 USD	3358	12,363,351	0.27%	3358	\$9.97 USD	\$10,000.00 USD
ON	10,000.00 USD	3358	12,363,351	0.27%	3358	\$9.97 USD	\$10,000.00 USD
OFF Hide	10,000.00 USD	3358	12,363,351	0.27%	3358	\$9.97 USD	\$10,000.00 USD
						Show	hidden campaign
		CR 10,000,00 USD CR 10,000,000 USD CR 10,000,0000,0000 USD CR 10,000,0000000000000000000000000000000	Cfile         10,000.00 USD         3358           Cfile         10,000.00 USD         3368           OFF         10,000.00 USD         3368	Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351           Official         10,000.00 USD         3368         12,363,351           Official         10,000.00 USD         3368         12,363,351	Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%           Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%           Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%	Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%         3358           Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%         3358           Official         10,000.00 USD         3358         12,363,351         0.27%         3358	Image: second

Now that you know how these Sponsored Updates can be created, start brainstorming ways your business or organization can take advantage of them once this is fully rolled out!

How would you use these Sponsored Updates in your marketing? Share your ideas with us in the comments!

Image credit: nan palmero



how it'd look on a blog post if you weren't yet a lead

# **EXAMPLES OF TOP-OF-THE-FUNNEL OFFERS**

## TOP OF THE FUNNEL

Whitepaper, Ebook, Kit, Tip Sheet, Checklist, How-To Video, Educational Webinar MIDDLE OF THE FUNNEL

Product Webinar, Case Study, Sample, FAQ, Data Sheet, Demo Video

## BOTTOM OF THE FUNNEL

Free Trial, Live Demo, Consultation, Estimate, Coupon





## **Inbound Marketing Blog**



## What Makes a Visitor Click Your Callto-Action? [Infographic]

In order for your calls-to-action to effectively drive prospects and generate conversions, it's critical that your understanding of what works – and why – is both thorough and ongoing.

This is especially true today, as mobile technology and the Internet have fostered somewhat of an attention deficit environment among consumers. This means it's even more important that your CTAs are optimized for success.

So...how exactly do you do that?

read more



#### Subscribe to Our Blog and Receive:

7 WAYS to GENERATE CUSTOMERS in 2013	"7 Ways to Generate Customers in 2013" for FREE
Name:	
SUBSC We respect your	

# use other blog real estate for lead gen CTAs

## (e.g. sidebar, banner)

Posted by John Bonini in Colle to Action on August 1 2012 with 1 commant

# include Smart CTAs within RSS notification emails

#### Hi there,

Just wanted to give you a heads up that there's a fresh new post on <u>HubSpot's Inbound Marketing Blog</u>, eager to be read. Check it out!

#### Facebook Finally Introduces Embedded Posts: What You Need to Know

By Ginny Soskey, Aug. 1, 2013, 8 a.m.

Yesterday, Facebook launched a new feature that we've always wanted: the ability to embed Facebook posts on websites. Just like tweets, this new feature will allow you to embed all public statuses, photos, videos, and hashtags -- and users will be able to interact directly with the embedded content. They can like and share the post, like or follow the post author, or view



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#### Read more »

And while we have your attention, we thought you also might like to check out our featured offer ...



Change your email frequency preferences here.

Get HubSpot Blog content optimized for your iPad by downloading our free Newsstand app!





LinkedIn Gradually Rolling Out Ability to Comment/Like Status Updates as Your Company

by Pamela Vaughan

U July 18, 2013 at 12:30 PM

358 Share 218 218 600 y Tweet 251 Q +1 Well, it looks like this morning's LinkedIn quick tip wasn't the only LinkedIn feature rollout to slip through our cracks in the past several months. To be fair though, I can't really find an official announcement about this one from LinkedIn.



In any event, it looks like LinkedIn is slowly

rolling out the ability for Company Page admins to comment on and "like" posts on their Company Page as their *company*, rather than their personal profile. In other words, if our social media manager, Brittany, wanted to comment on or like a post appearing on HubSpot's Linkedin Company Page, she can now do so as HubSpot instead of as Brittany. create marketing offers to align with your blog content

AN INTRODUCTION TO LINEON FOR BUSINESS

Free Ebook: An Introduction to LinkedIn for Business

Download this setup and strategy guide to learn how to use LinkedIn Company Pages for marketing.

Download Ebook Now

include anchor textbased CTAs within blog copy for top-ofthe-funnel offers This metric can help you identify problems in Sales' ability to close your Pinterest contacts as customers. For instance, if you notice your contact-to-customer conversion rate is on the low side, it might make sense to talk to your sales team to diagnose the problem. Are they having trouble working these types of leads? Should these leads be entered into a new lead nurturing workflow in order to better prep them for a sales conversation? Or are they best leads ever to be rotated to your sales organization, and you should find a way to get more? Whatever the case, this can help you make important prioritization decisions in your marketing.

## Additional Resources for Pinterest Marketing Success

Now that you know how to *measure* your Pinterest marketing success, learn more about optimizing your Pinterest account for *even more* success. The success is just... boiling over, you guys. Our latest ebook, *How to Optimize and Measure Your Pinterest Business Account*, will dive into how to verify your business account, which Pinterest widget buttons to use in your marketing, and provide a review on how to measure it all!

Are you using Pinterest for your marketing? How do you plan to measure its effectiveness with the new Analytics? Any measurement ideas we haven't thought of?

Blog - Bu	ild a Website That Works A	LRC 🧪	Variation test	group 🔳
•	The Excit New D Pan a Walker The Works with a rest view of the other with a rest view of the other means of the New O	945	5.1%	48
•	HOW TO PLAN A WEBSITE THAT WORKS	892	4.8%	43
Blog - Sq	uare 2 Inbound Guide (ALR	C) 🦯	Variation test gro	oup 🔳
•	from Elsonie, The Liference structure of an and a set of a set the set of a set of a set of a set the set of a set of a set of a set the set of a set of a set of a set the set of a set of a set of a set of a set the set of a set the set of a set the set of a set of	2,276	5.2%	119
•	The Ultimate Indocumd Marketing Guide on an inter A ward Andre State Andre State State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State Andre State And	4,838	6.9%	332

A/B test CTAs to improve performance

# **CTA VARIABLES TO TEST**



✓ Layout

- Color Schemes
- 🖸 Сору

Subject Matter



# **3** NURTURING LEADS INTO CUSTOMERS



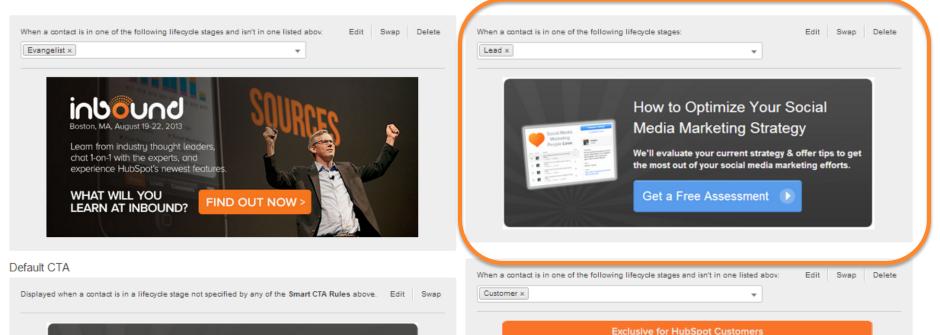
# **GOAL**:

move leads further along in the marketing funnel and closer to sales readiness

relationship equivalent: engagement

# enable your sales team with top blog content

segment Smart CTAs to show middle- and bottom-of-thefunnel offers to existing leads



Free Ebook: Crash Course on

Learn how to use Linkedin Sponsored Updates to

get more exposure and clicks on your content.

LinkedIn Sponsored Updates

Download Ebook Now

CRASH COURSE

LINKEDIN

UPDATES

## Sign Up for **'Social Inbox'** Early Access

Sign up to receive helpful kick-start content and early access to the new HubSpot Social Inbox tool.



Sign Up for Early Access

# EXAMPLES OF MIDDLE- & BOTTOM-OF-THE-FUNNEL OFFERS

### TOP-OF-THE-FUNNEL

Whitepaper, Ebook, Kit, Tip Sheet, Checklist, How-To Video, Educational Webinar

# MIDDLE-OF-THE-

Product Webinar, Case Study, Sample, FAQ, Data Sheet, Demo Video

## BOTTOM-OF-THE-FUNNEL

Free Trial, Live Demo, Consultation, Estimate, Coupon

attract contacts who are already leads but not yet blog subscribers

Company Name *	
Website URL *	
Does your company provide marketing	
services? * (PR, SEO, web design or other e-market	ting)
-Please Select-	
-riease Select-	
How many employees do you have? *	
- Please Select -	•
What is your role? *	
-Please Select-	-
What is your biggest marketing challenge	e? *
-Please Select-	•
Subscribe to HubSpot's Marketing B	ilog
Download Now	

# add a blog opt-in/subscribe check box to landing page forms

HubSpot increased email subscribers by



in 3 months using blog opt-in check boxes on landing pages

Internal HubSpot Data

# create a new contact property

Contact Pro	Contact Properties					
About	About Personalization Forms List Imports					
To get the most out of your contact database, use HubSpot's custom contact <b>properties</b> to collect and leverage the information that matters to your business the most. We've prepared some ideas for you to get you started.						
Create Prope	rty Create Prop	erty Group				
				]		
		Edit Contact Property				
	Label	Subscriber to the HubSpot Blog				
	Name	subscriber_to_the_hubspot_blog				
make it a check box 🛌	Group	Contact	Ŧ			
erreen ben	Field Type	Single On/Off Checkbox	•			
	Use in Forms?	YES				
		Save Changes				

add a field for this new property to your forms (and make it smart!)

## Editing Field for Property "subscriber to the hubspot blog" Field Configuration DON'T make it required Make field required Ø Make field hidden Ø Make smart field 🛛 make it smart Label Ø Subscribe to HubSpot's Marketing Blog Help Text @ Enter a useful description that will appear below the label Selected by default? @ DON'T make it checked off by default Done Editing

#### What's the name of this list?



# create a Smart List

When activated, this workflow will enroll	Workflow Is Live 🔻
New contacts in list   Blog.HubSpot.com Em  78645 contacts	Enrolled the list's existing contacts     Select your Smart List
Unenroll contacts when they join a goal list (optional) 🕢	
No goal list selected	
Add step	set the blog subscriber contact property & frequency
First workflow step     Delay for     Days	0 H drs 0 Minutes
Set a contact property v   HubSpot's Inbound Mar	▼ Weekly ▼ ⊕●
Add step	
	send a welcome email
2 Second workflow step Delay for 0 Days	0 Hou 0 Minutes after previous step

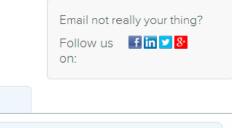
set up a workflow integrate blog subscription with your email preference center

#### HubSpot

## **Subscription Preferences.**

You're the boss. Keep the email subscriptions you like, get rid of the rest. We're here to earn your love.

### You've got a lot of options.



Uncheck the types of emails you do not want to receive:

# Image: Complementary Marketing Resources Gain acc newest t inbox. Yo Image: Complementary Marketing Blog Notifications Stay up-to-date on the latest marketing tips, trends, and best practices from HubSpot's award-winning Inbound Marketing Blog. Find out

#### Customer Education

pvaughan@hubspot.com edit

Find out about upcoming customer-only webinars and receive timely HubSpot Academy news and updates.

#### Marketing Events & Conferences

Get the scoop on what's happening at the biggest and best Inbound Marketing conferences and meetups in the world. Discounts on tickets, special offers, and insider tips.

#### What's the name of this list?

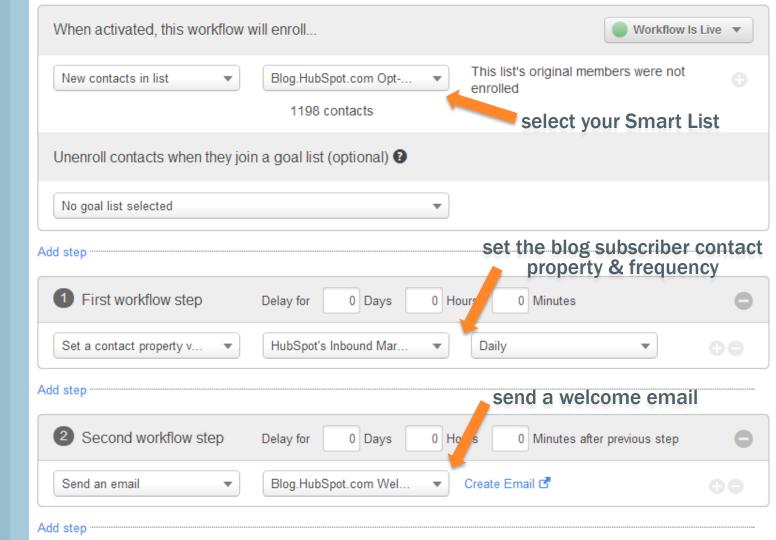
Blog.HubSpot.com Opt-Ins via Email Preferences Page

#### Which contacts should be in this list?

Include contacts who meet all of these requirements:	ሬ 🗙
Contact Property   Opted out of email: Inbound Ma  Is equal to  No ×	
Contact Property   HubSpot's Inbound Marketing B  (simply does not have this prop	ÐÐ
Contact Property Opted out of all email Is not equal to Yes x	

# create a Smart List

set up your email preference center opt-in workflow



# **NURTURING CUSTOMERS** INTO PROMOTERS



# **GOAL:**

delighting customers so they become promoters of your content

# relationship equivalent: happy marriage

# use Smart CTAs to show special offers to customers only



	Les	Delete	Swap	Edit	▼	en a contact is in one of the following lifecycle stages a vangelist x
Boston, MA, August 19-22, 2013					SOURCES	

FIND OUT NOW >

chat 1-on-1 with the experts, and experience HubSpot's newest features

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN AT INBOUND?

#### Default CTA

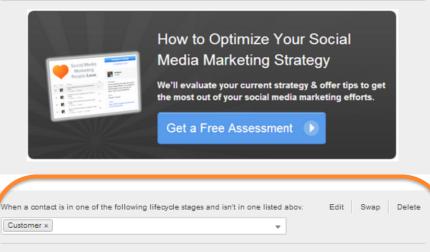
Displayed when a contact is in a lifecycle stage not specified by any of the Smart CTA Rules above. Edit Swap



#### a contact is in one of the following lifecycle stages:

Edit Swap Delete

d x



#### Exclusive for HubSpot Customers Sign Up for **'Social Inbox'** Early Access

Sign up to receive helpful kick-start content and early access to the new HubSpot Social Inbox tool.



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Sign Up for Early Access



## EXAMPLES OF CUSTOMER-EXCLUSIVE OFFERS



- Coupons
- Sneak Peeks
- Beta Testing
- Freebies

use "magic" CTAs to display special messages to customers only within blog copy

#### What Non-Customers See:

10 Quick Tips for Getting More Business Value Out of Twitter

by Rebecca Corliss

July 1, 2013 at 12:30 PM

Social media, especially Twitter, requires a lot of effort in order to extract business value. But with over 200 million active users, the probability that your prospects, leads, and customers are using the Twitter is high. This means conversations that could drive business.

value are hap by irrelevant clutter. HubSpot Customers: You

so how can m reviewing the into specific so

to create those groups. And we're going to tell you how

#### What Customers See:

10 Quick Tips for Getting More Business Value Out of Twitter

#### by Rebecca Corliss

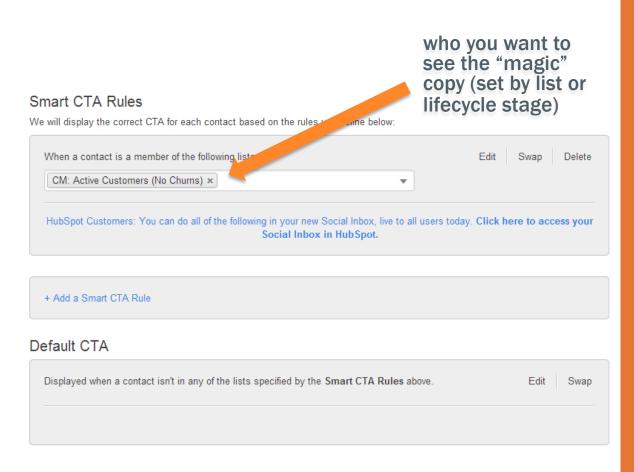
#### U July 1, 2013 at 12:30 PM

Social media, especially Twitter, requires a lot of effort in order to extract business value. But with over 200 million active users, the probability that your prospects, leads, and customers are using the Twitter is high. This means conversations that could drive business.



reviewing the tweets that are most important to them? The key is dissecting the Twitterverse

- into specific segments that are most relevant to your business and using your marketing data
- to create those groups. And we're going to tell you how.

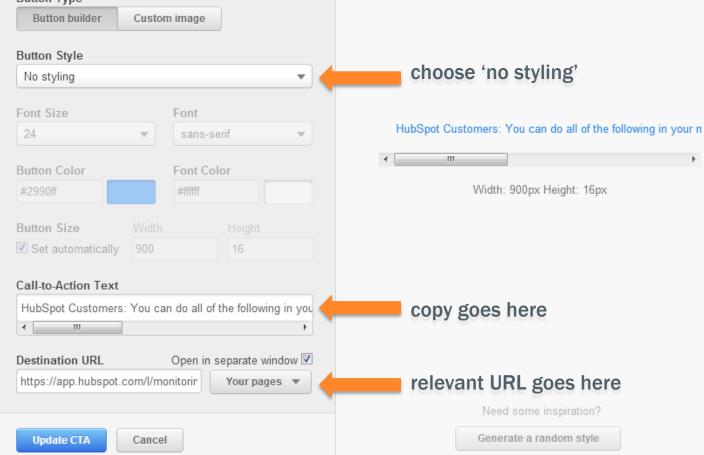


set up your "magic" copy Smart Rules

#### Smart CTA Name

Blog - Social Inbox First Paragraph CTA 🖉

#### Button Type



# configure your "magic" сору

Þ. .

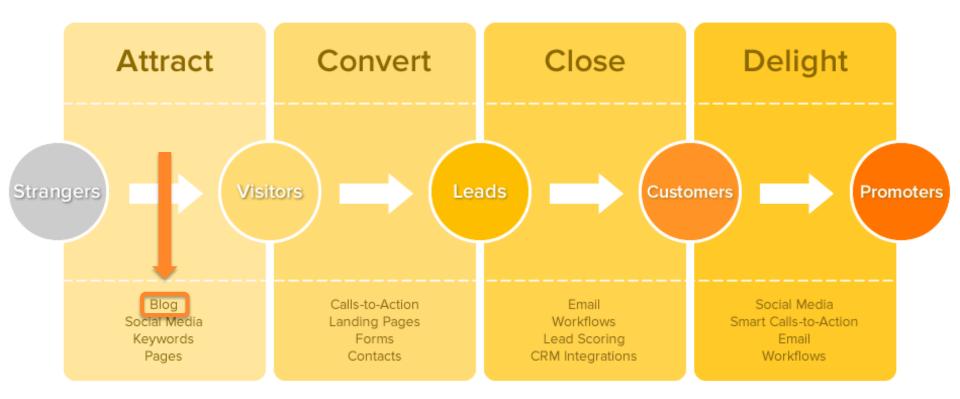
#### Smart CTA Name

Blog - Social Inbox First Paragraph CTA 🧪

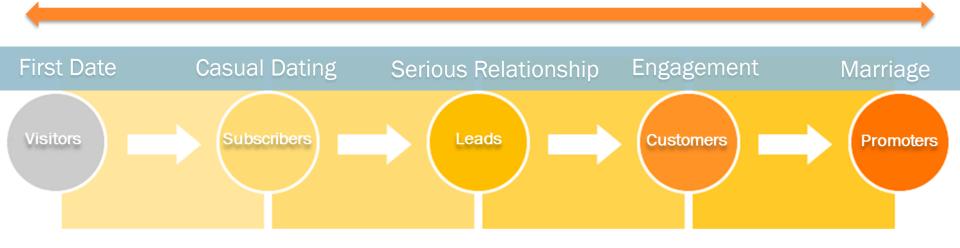
#### Button Type

Dutton Type		
Button builder	Custom image	
Button Style		
No styling	•	choose 'no styling'
Font Size	Fart	
	Font	
24	▼ sans-serif ▼	
Button Color	Font Color	
#2990ff	#####	Width: 4px Height: 16px
#233011		
Button Size	Width Height	
Set automatically	4 16	
Call-to-Action Text		
		input the UTML code for (oppos)
		input the HTML code for 'space'
		to create an invisible CTA
Destination URL	Open in separate window 🗖	enter e UDL (this decen't metter
http://blog.hubspot.co	om Your pages 🔻	enter a URL (this doesn't matter
		b/c it won't show up)
		Need some inspiration?
Update CTA	Cancel	Generate a random style
opulie en	Guildon	

configure your invisible copy THE ABILITY TO NURTURE YOUR BLOG VISITORS ALL BOILS DOWN TO CONTEXT



# **YOUR BLOG**





# QUESTIONS?