LLM SEO Playbook

1. Review robots.txt

Make sure your robots.txt does not block AI crawlers like GPTBot, ClaudeBot, and PerplexityBot. No Disallow rules for their user agents.

2. Check Server Logs

Look for user agents like "Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; GPTBot/1.0)" to confirm AI bots are successfully crawling your site.

3. Adjust Security Settings

Update Cloudflare, WAFs, and bot protections to allow AI bots without rate limiting or CAPTCHAs.

4. Use Clean HTML

Structure content in clean, semantic HTML. Minimize heavy JavaScript to ensure fast and complete rendering for AI crawlers.

5. Test Bot Accessibility

Simulate requests using Postman or cURL. Confirm that AI user agents get 200 OK responses without blocks or errors.

6. Monitor Crawl Behavior

Set up server monitoring for AI bot activity. Watch for 403 errors, blocked status codes, or abnormal bot behavior.

7. Optimize Content Semantics

Use clear heading structures (<h1>, <h2>, etc.), descriptive page titles, meta descriptions, and schema markup where relevant.

8. Prioritize Fast Load Times

Speed up page loads by optimizing images, reducing unused JavaScript, and enabling caching. Al bots prefer fast-loading content.

9. Maintain Consistent URL Structures

Keep URLs clean, predictable, and free of unnecessary parameters. Avoid dynamic URLs that could confuse LLM crawlers.

10. Publish High-Quality, Unique Content

Focus on depth, originality, and clarity. LLMs prioritize sites with clear, high-value information when surfacing answers.

© 2025 Adam Crookes