



10 steps to get started with **twitter**



1. Set up your profile

The first thing you need to do is to set up that profile. Go to twitter.com, start an account, Click Settings in the bar at the top and start filling up your profile. The notable areas in here are URL, bio, picture and design. Put up a link to your site or blog in here along with a brief description. Upload a picture to differentiate yourself from the others and then tweak your Twitter design. Like any other social networking site, it is important to completely express what you are or what you stand for in your profile.

2. Follow people with similar interests

Now that you have a profile, start following people. You can find these people in Twitter directories. Twellow.com and JustTweetIt.com are a couple of useful sites to list yourself and find followers as well as groups to follow. These sites can introduce you to Twitter users that have the same interest as yours. Follow these people and observe their tweets. You may also try following who these people follow but read up their

descriptions and visit their blogs to make sure you're still on the right niche. Being on the right niche will make it easy for you to build a community with a similar interest.

3. Get into the conversation

So now that you are following people, you will now see some tweets on your board. Read up on what the people your following are up to and reply if it interests you. For example, a person narrates how he is going to conduct an event. You may then reply with ideas. When someone asks a question, don't hesitate to answer if you know it. Don't be afraid to interact.

4. Don't spam

Sending the same message over and over is not effective and is considered "Spamming." Spam is the cause of many "unfollows" on Twitter. There is a character limit for a reason. Do not send repeated messages to people. Do not constantly direct message (DM) them with links.

5. Update daily

Keep your content relevant and engaging. Send updates on your organization's achievements and post pictures and videos. Tweet links to website updates and news releases. Reply to people and update people with what's going on with your organization. Before you know it, you will notice that your followers start to increase.

6. Find the latest buzz and contribute

Now it's your time to contribute. Find a topic that will interest your niche and tweet it. Since you have established relationships with your followers (through replies), you will get more attention. It's a nice strategy to always append "please retweet" at the end of your tweet. There will be some people who will be so interested that they will retweet. There are others who will reply to you about the link you tweeted. But you are not a "nobody" anymore. You are not just talking to yourself. People are now responding to your tweets.

7. Help other people out

The famous saying “Do unto others what you want others to do unto you” holds here. Before you can receive retweets, you must help others first by retweeting their messages. Help the people in your niche. One day you’ll be surprised on how eager they are to help you back.

8. Create relationships

Now it’s time to create constant connections. Soon you will find that some users are more active than others. You will get to talk with the same group of people at the same time every night. But don’t get bored. Interact with these people and create relationships. Ask how they are doing and try to touch on their interests.

9. Integrate Twitter with other social networks

Have a blog? Then post to Twitter when you have a post that will interest your niche. Have a Facebook profile? Then ask people to add you. Twitter is a great tool to help you build relationships that can branch out to other social networks.

10. Establish relationships even outside Twitter

Have a lot of friends on Twitter? Then take it to another level. Ask for their messenger and talk to these people on a more intimate level. Call them through Skype or even arrange a meet-up. Twitter can create real relationships.

If you have any questions about twitter or need help setting up any portion of the twitter account, please email info@warrengives.org. If you would prefer a phone call, send your number and a good time to call and we will return your call within 24 hours.