

# How Al is Changing the Search Landscape

How to Stay Visible in an AI-First Search Era

## **Traditional SEO is Dying. AI is Taking Over.**

Al Search is changing traditional SEO beliefs in regards to optimization of content.

Al is reshaping how content is ranked and displayed, making structured data, authority, and content relevance more critical than ever.

Approximately 67% of users report an improvement in SEO content quality after implementing AI tools, leading to better user engagement and search rankings.

<u>68% of companies experience a higher ROI</u> on SEO and content marketing due to AI, as it accelerates content creation processes while reducing costs.

Approximately 84% of Google search queries are now influenced by Al-driven features, underscoring the importance for businesses to optimize their content for Al-enhanced search results.





### **Traditional SEO is Dying. Al is Taking Over.**

# Al Search has fundamentally shifted the SERP landscape.

Gartner predicts a **25% drop in search volume** this year. This is because users no longer need to click. AI Overviews, or **AI tools like Gemini, ChatGPT, and Perplexity** are giving answers directly.

SERP layout has changed dramatically

**Position Zero -** snippets, AI-Generated overviews take up majority of 1st page real estate



# To stay visible, brands must adapt to this Al-first presentation of information.





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# Old SEO vs. New SEO

It's Not About Keywords Anymore

# SEO vs AEO vs AIO vs GEO

What are the differences and what are we optimizing for now?

#### SEO: Rank on SE

Organic traffic via clickable links shown in traditional SERPs. Drives discovery, brand awareness, and long-tail conversions.

#### AEO: Appear in Answers

Visibility through featured snippets, AI Overviews, voice results. Helps capture zero-click traffic and direct brand exposure.

#### AIO: Train Al Models

Long-term inclusion in the knowledge base of large language models (LLMs). Influences how AI understands and references your brand.

#### GEO:Cited by Al

Real-time exposure by being cited in ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity responses. Boosts perceived expertise and reach beyond search engines.



# What's Changing in SEO with AI

Traditional SEO was optimizing for the algorithm. Modern AEO feeds the algorithm what it needs to understand and answer.



Keyword Density Exact-match keywords, often unnatural and repeated excessively.

**3000 Word Posts** Emphasis on long-form content stuffed with keywords to rank broadly. Meta + Title tag focus Relied on catchy meta descriptions to increase CTR in SERPs. Link Building Volume-driven backlink acquisition through directories, guest posts, and exchanges.





#### **Q&A** Pairs

H1s are questions; first 1–2 sentences are concise answers optimized for Al summaries.

#### Short Summaries

Clear, concise and semantically complete. Clear subheadings & schema for relevance.

#### **Featured Snippets**

Optimized for parsing and snippet extraction: direct answers, TL;DR summaries.

#### **Contextual Authority** Authority through topic clusters, FAQ schema, E-E-A-T signals, and real-world citations.

## Anatomy of a Blog Post

Automation Automation   Starting Starting   Starting </th <th>Pillar Blog Post</th> <th></th> <th>The AEO-Optimized Page</th>	Pillar Blog Post		The AEO-Optimized Page
Charles Clusters Charles Charle	<ul> <li>I have a difference of the second of the seco</li></ul>	Subtopics     Subtopics triken     down into sections     with headings     and subtheadings     TAD section     subtreadings     to answer readers'	and Al Overviews. Use a clear, question-based title with your main keyword. Updated May 2025   Direct answer box: Give a clear 1-3 sentence answer to simple language. Format is imple language. Format is imple language. Format is imple language. Format is the a direct answer box internal link.  Follow-up questions: Use H2/H3s phrased as the follow-up questions (H2/H3s) matural questions to match how users search and how LLMs retrieve.  Images/Data: Use diagrams, how-to visuals, or simple charts. Add to your answers. LLMs use them to verify and expand to your answers.
	Create Clusters the interrup 80 carbo you achieve you serve you and money the point and money the point and money of the server		Conclusion / TL;DR: Recap key points in a clear, skimmable format summary. Conclusion / TL;DR Conclusion / TL;DR Summary. Conclusion / TL;DR Summary. Conclusion / TL;DR Structured signals: Add

### **Anatomy of a Landing Page**







# **Atomic Changes to The Web**

Google Just Killed the Landing Page

### Al Just ate the traditional funnel

"When the transaction happens at discovery, everything changes."

Intent  $\rightarrow$  AI Summary  $\rightarrow$  Checkout  $\rightarrow$  No Website Visit



Google's Gemini 2.5 now handles checkout directly from search

No product page, no cart, no redirect

\$5.5T e-commerce stack is being disrupted:

- \$138B/year in payment processing fees
- \$7.8B in checkout optimization tools
- \$37B in e-commerce fraud prevention







### Adapt Now or Risk Obsolescence

#### Al-first search is no longer an experiment — it's the new reality.

The time to adapt is now! Brands that continue relying on paid ads or have not started traditional SEO at all will gradually lose visibility across Al-driven platforms.

To remain competitive, we must rethink how we approach search optimization, invest in building AI visibility, and align our strategies with the changing nature of the search landscape.



SEO alone is no longer enough — AEO, AIO, GEO must be part of your core strategy.



The companies that act today will dominate the next wave of search.



The **pace of change** is accelerating — Gemini Checkout is just the start.





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