# Page Speed

Refresher and Update



- Page speed training and initial Resource Centre guides
- 2018 Major PageSpeed Insights update in Nov now powered by Lighthouse
- 2019 Detailed Adtrak blog post in Jan and new RC guides based on PSI update
- 2020 Another big PSI update in May new metrics and Core Web Vitals

## Why is it so important?

#### Mobile web usage is ever increasing

Mobile connections are less reliable and depend on your location, which can often be rapidly changing if on public transport etc.

Mobile hardware is also much less powerful than desktop hardware, meaning they can't process your site's resources as quickly

#### It's a ranking factor

Page speed can now have a direct effect on Google rankings



## Refresher

#### **Gzip Compression**

Enabled automatically on our servers

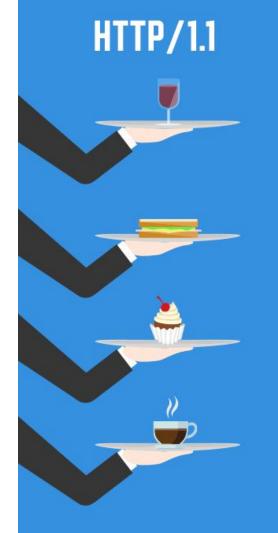
**Browser Caching** 

# Minify CSS & JS

# Concatenate CSS and JS?

Not something we need to worry too much about anymore

Combining small files as we generally do is fine, but probably better to keep big stuff separate



### HTTP/2



# If you have got big stuff... do you need it?

mmenu.js

carousel plugins

modal popup plugins

slideshow plugins

font awesome

# Streamline your critical path

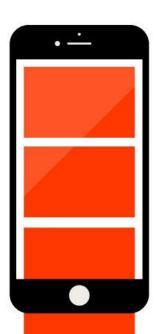
to render your "above-the-fold" portion of the page as quickly as possible

#### Streamline critical path

- 1) Prioritise CSS required to render the visible part of your page
- 2) Make sure we're not prioritising resources that aren't required to render the visible part of the page

#### AKA...

- 1) Inline your critical CSS in <head>
- 2) Defer all JS and non-critical CSS



#### **Critical CSS**

Previously had all CSS in partials and we'd choose which ones to include in our critical.css and which to include in the main.css

critical.css would be added in <a href="head">head</a>

main.css loading would be deferred via loadCSS() function

#### **Tailwind**

Don't really work in partials anymore

Also means much smaller final CSS files

Usually small enough to just inline main.css in <head>

#### **Defer JS**

Load scripts in the footer

Ideally add the defer attribute to ensure the browser doesn't try to load scripts too early

Use with caution (mainly if deferring jQuery)

```
Add defer attribute to scripts - ADD TO THIS AS REQUIRED
function add_defer_attribute($tag, $handle) {
  $scripts to defer = array('jquery','production','adtrak-cookie');
  foreach($scripts_to_defer as $defer_script) {
    if ($defer script === $handle) {
      return str_replace(' src', ' defer src', $tag);
  return $tag;
 add filter('script loader tag', 'add defer attribute', 10, 2);
```

# **Optimise Images**

# Compress images as much as reasonably possible

Tiny PNG

Smush

Gulp

etc.

# Serve images in NextGen Formats

<picture> for non WP images

WebP Express

Smush

ShortPixel

etc.

## **Properly Size Images**



Image size on screen: 300x250

Actual image size: 350x300

Actual image size: 2000x1500

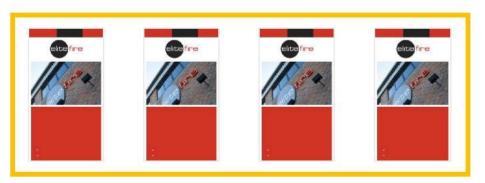
Make use of WordPress image sizes and Twig image resize function

## **Web Fonts**

"Ensure text remains visible during webfont load"

This warning refers to the "Flash Of Invisible Text" (FOIT) that occurs when your web font loads











Can eliminate this by adding font-display: swap; to your web font CSS

This swaps your FOIT for a FOUT experience (**Flash Of Unstyled Text**) which Google prefers



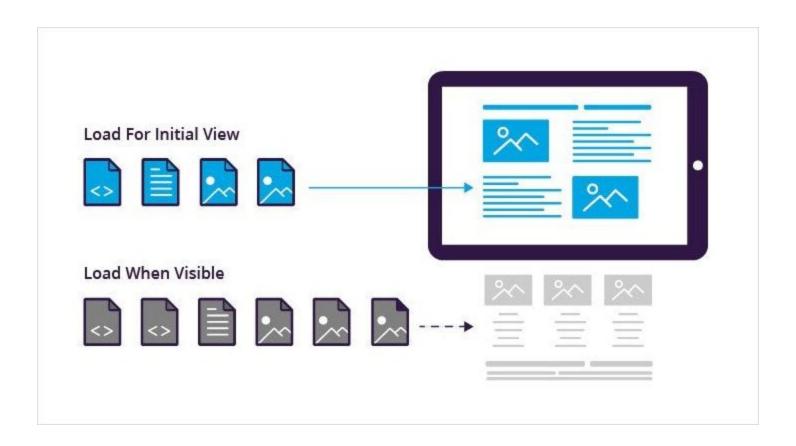
Easy to add font-display: swap; if your fonts are local

Google Fonts - can now add &display=swap to the Google Font link

Typekit/Adobe - no way to add :-(

FontAwesome will also trigger the warning

# Lazy Loading



#### Lazysizes

Include lazysizes.min.js and a few lines of CSS and away you go

```
<script src="path-to-js/lazysizes.min.js" async=""></script>
```

```
.lazyload,
.lazyloading {
    opacity: 0;
    transition: .2s;
}
.lazyloaded {
    opacity: 1;
}
```

```
<img class="lazyload" data-src="path-to-img.jpg" alt="Img alt text">
<iframe class="lazyload" data-src="https://www.google.com/maps/embed....</pre>
```

# Lazy loading iframes - biggest page speed gains

- Google Maps
- Scribble Maps
- Social feeds
- YouTube / Vimeo embeds
- Wistia embeds
- etc.

#### Wistia Videos

Use their iframe embed code

Remove the EV-1.js script

If you're using their "popover" code, fairly straightforward to replicate with the iframe code and custom modal

# **Other Stuff**

## Deregister scripts and stylesheets that aren't needed

- jQuery Migrate
- Gutenburg (block-library/style.min.css)
- NF / CF7 stylesheets

#### Caching plugin

- Turns your dynamic PHP pages into static HTML pages
- WP Super Cache

#### **Testing Tips**

View Source - search for.js and .css

Delete stuff and re-test



## PageSpeed Insights

Field Data — The Chrome User Experience Report does not have sufficient real-world speed data for this page.

Real world data from previous 28 days Origin Summary — Over the previous 28-day collection period, the aggregate experience of all pages served from this origin passes the ☐ Core Web Vitals assessment. To view suggestions tailored to each page, analyze individual page URLs.



Test data from a simulation -Moto G4 on fast 3G / slow 4G



Values are estimated and may vary. The performance score is calculated directly from these metrics. See calculator.

#### First Contentful Paint

When first text/image is painted

#### Largest Contentful Paint 📮

When largest element in viewport has loaded

#### Time to Interactive

Time it takes for page to become fully interactive

#### **Total Blocking Time**

Time between First Contentful Paint and Time to Interactive

#### First Input Delay

Time between user's first interaction and the site responding to that interaction

#### Cumulative Layout Shift

The amount the layout shifts during page load

#### **Speed Index**

How quickly the contents of the page are populated

# **Core Web Vitals**

May 2020 Update

#### Largest Contentful Paint

When largest element in viewport has loaded

#### Cumulative Layout Shift

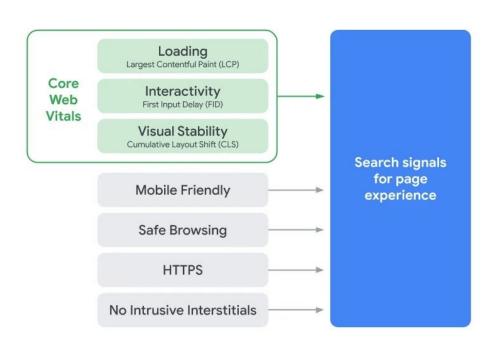
The amount the layout shifts during page load

Defined by Google as "Core Web Vitals" meaning they will be factored into Google's new "Page Experience' ranking signal

Not in effect yet - to be launched next year according to Google

#### First Input Delay

Time between user's first interaction and the site responding to that interaction



#### Largest Contentful Paint

When largest element in viewport has loaded

```
Avoid an excessive DUNI Size - 8/2 elements
Avoid chaining critical requests - 12 chains found
Keep request counts low and transfer sizes small - 72 requests • 9,188 KiB
Largest Contentful Paint element - 1 element found
This is the largest contentful element painted within the viewport. Learn More
Element
ROOFING SPECIALISTS INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR & REFURBISHMENT
REQUEST ...
 <div class="hero">
Avoid long main-thread tasks - 20 long tasks found
```

#### Largest Contentful Paint

## **How to Optimise**

When largest element in viewport has loaded

- Same principles as optimising for First Meaningful Paint
- Prioritise critical resources
- Don't lazy load anything above the fold
- Don't append hero <video> elements via JS

#### First Input Delay

### **How to Optimise**

Time between user's first interaction and the site responding to that interaction

- Not available in the Lab Data (only Field) because there is no first user interaction in the lab test - Total Blocking Time is a good indicator
- All about JavaScript will directly correlate to amount of JS the browser has to parse
- Highlights importance of lazy loading 3rd party embeds that include their own scripts

#### Cumulative Layout Shift

The amount the layout shifts during page load



#### Cumulative Layout Shift 📮

### **How to Optimise**

The amount the layout shifts during page load

- Elements that load in and cause the page to jump around
- Web fonts that are very different to the fallback
- In dev tools, change your connection to Slow 3G and watch
- If images cause layout shift, try to reserve their space

#### TL;DR

- Lazy load all non critical images and iframes
- Do whatever you can to minimise impact of 3rd party stuff
- Inline critical CSS in <head>
- Include scripts in footer with defer attribute
- Clean up your JS limit usage of heavy jQuery plugins
- Compress images and videos as much as is reasonable
- Ensure hero video isn't being added via JS
- Serve WebP images via plugin
- Use font-display: swap; to prevent FOIT
- Remove unnecessary fonts / weights

