

2026 EDITION · SEO INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Top 50 Places to Get Free Quality Backlinks

A curated intelligence guide to the highest-authority
free link sources on the web — categorized, rated,
and ready to action.

50

SOURCES

9

CATEGORIES

100%

FREE

**Landry Industries
Inc.**

· Moncton, NB, Canada ·
2026



About This Report

Backlinks remain one of the most powerful ranking signals in search engine algorithms. A single high-authority backlink from a trusted domain can move the needle more than dozens of low-quality links. This report compiles the **50 best free sources** for earning genuine, high-DA backlinks — organized across nine categories.

Each entry includes the platform name, its typical domain authority tier, the type of link it provides, and a practical description of how to acquire it. Prioritize **Tier 1 (Gold)** sources first, then layer in Tier 2 and Tier 3 for breadth.



Web 2.0 & Blogging

High-DA blog platforms where you control the content and links.



Business Directories

Authoritative directories Google trusts for local & niche citations.



Q&A Platforms

Answer questions and include contextual links to your content.



Academic & Research

Scholarly repositories offering .edu and .gov adjacent trust signals.



Press Release Sites

Free PR distribution with dofollow links from news aggregators.



Tech & Developer Hubs

Code repos, developer communities, and open-source platforms.



Video & Podcast

Profile and description links from media-rich platforms.



Social Profiles

Branded profiles on major social networks — often crawled.



Content Aggregators

Curated content hubs that syndicate and link to original posts.

 Tier 1 — Highest Authority Sources
(#1-12)

DA 80-
100

1

Wikipedia

wikipedia.org

DA 93

Nofollow / Citation

Add citations in existing articles or create relevant stub articles. Links are nofollow but drive massive referral traffic and trust signals. Requires well-sourced content.

2

GitHub

github.com

DA 96

Dofollow / Profile

Create public repositories with README files linking to your site. Profile bio links, project pages, and open-source contributions all generate high-authority backlinks.

3

LinkedIn

linkedin.com

DA 98

Nofollow / Profile + Article

Publish long-form LinkedIn Articles with links back to your website. Company pages, personal profile URLs, and posts in newsletters also generate indexed backlinks.

4

Medium

medium.com

DA 95

Dofollow / Article

Publish full articles with contextual dofollow links in body content. Medium has strong Google indexing and an existing readership. Great for thought leadership pieces.

5

Quora

quora.com

DA 92

Nofollow / Q&A

Answer relevant questions in your niche with value-packed responses. Include contextual links to your content as supporting resources. Build a credible profile first.

6

Reddit

reddit.com

DA 94

Nofollow / Community

Participate genuinely in subreddits relevant to your niche. High-karma posts and comments with links to your content can go viral and accumulate massive referral traffic.

7

YouTube

youtube.com

DA 100

Nofollow / Video



Add links in video descriptions, channel about pages, and pinned comments. Even a single link in a high-view video description drives significant SEO equity and traffic.

8

Zenodo (CERN)

zenodo.org

DA 91

Dofollow / Research

Upload research papers, datasets, or technical reports and include your website in the metadata. Generates a DOI and a permanent, trusted .cern.ch adjacent link.

9

Slideshare (LinkedIn)

slideshare.net

DA 95

Dofollow / Presentation

Upload presentations, infographics, or slide decks with links embedded in content and the description. Google frequently indexes SlideShare content on the first page.

10

Scribd

scribd.com

DA 93

Dofollow / Document

Publish documents, eBooks, and reports. Links within the document and in the metadata description are crawled. Excellent for white papers, guides, and technical reports.

11

Google Business Profile

google.com/business

DA 100

Dofollow / Local

Create or optimize your free Google Business Profile. The website link is a direct dofollow signal from Google itself — the single most important free local backlink available.

12

Bing Places for Business

bingplaces.com

DA 97

Dofollow / Local

Microsoft's equivalent of Google Business Profile. Free listing with a dofollow website link. Reaches Bing's ~30% search market share and syncs with Cortana/Edge.

Tier 2 — High Authority Sources (#13-24)

DA 60-
79

13

WordPress.com

DA 94

wordpress.com

Dofollow / Blog

Free hosted blogs with strong Google indexation. Create a blog and regularly publish content with links back to your main site. WordPress.com posts often rank on page 1.

14

Blogger (Google)

DA 96

blogger.com

Dofollow / Blog

Google's own free blogging platform. Creating a blog here and linking back to your site generates a direct signal from Google's own infrastructure. Easy setup, instant indexation.

15

Tumblr

DA 89

tumblr.com

Dofollow / Microblog

Microblogging platform with high DA and a large creative community. Publish posts with embedded links. Visual content (infographics, images) performs especially well here.

16

Pinterest

DA 94

pinterest.com

Nofollow / Visual

Create boards related to your niche and pin images that link directly to your content. Pinterest pins with strong repins become permanent, crawlable backlinks.

17

Substack

DA 91

substack.com

Dofollow / Newsletter

Launch a free newsletter and include website links in every issue. Substack's publication pages are indexed by Google and each issue becomes a standalone backlink source.

18

Dev.to

DA 88

dev.to

Dofollow / Tech Blog

Developer blogging community where technical articles with contextual links rank well. The platform's dofollow links carry strong weight in tech niches, and the community is genuinely engaged.

19

Hashnode

DA 80



hashnode.com

Dofollow / Dev Blog

Free developer blogging platform where posts can be mapped to your own domain. Articles include dofollow links and the community surfaces quality technical content quickly.

20

HubPages

DA 82

hubpages.com

Dofollow / Article

Long-form article publishing platform that accepts niche content. Quality articles earn dofollow links and can attract organic traffic of their own. Good for evergreen educational content.

21

Stack Overflow / Stack Exchange

DA 93

stackoverflow.com

Nofollow / Q&A

Answer technical questions with solutions that include relevant links to documentation or articles on your site. Links here are nofollow but the referral traffic and authority are extraordinary.

22

Crunchbase

DA 92

crunchbase.com

Dofollow / Business Profile

Create a free company or founder profile. The website field provides a dofollow backlink from one of the internet's most-trusted business intelligence databases.

23

AngelList / Wellfound

DA 85

wellfound.com

Dofollow / Startup Profile

Free startup and company profile with a dofollow link. Highly indexed by Google and trusted in the investment/startup ecosystem. Excellent for early-stage ventures.

24

Product Hunt

DA 90

producthunt.com

Dofollow / Product Launch

Launch your product or tool for free. Each launch page includes a dofollow website link. A successful hunt can generate thousands of visits, shares, and secondary backlinks overnight.

 **Tier 2 Continued — Directories &
Communities (#25-36)**

DA
55-79

25

Yelpyelp.com**DA 93**

Nofollow / Local

Claim your free business listing and add your website URL. Yelp's DA and Google trust make this one of the best local citation and backlink sources for service businesses.

26

Foursquare / Swarmfoursquare.com**DA 91**

Nofollow / Local

Free local business listing used by Apple Maps, Uber, and many other services. Provides a backlink and contributes to the broader citation ecosystem that powers local SEO.

27

Yellow Pages (YP.com)yp.com**DA 85**

Dofollow / Directory

One of the original online directories still trusted by Google. Free basic listings include a website link. Especially powerful for local and service-based businesses.

28

Mantamanta.com**DA 76**

Dofollow / Business Directory

Small business directory with high Google trust. Create a free business profile with a website URL to earn a solid citation and backlink from a well-established domain.

29

About.meabout.me**DA 78**

Dofollow / Profile

Free personal profile page that acts as a digital business card. Includes a dofollow website link. Great for personal brands, freelancers, and solo entrepreneurs.

30

Gravatargravatar.com**DA 91**

Dofollow / Profile

Set up a Gravatar profile linked to your email. Your profile URL and website link appear wherever you comment on WordPress-powered blogs — millions of sites run on WordPress.

31

Issuuissuu.com**DA 94**

Dofollow / Document



Upload publications, magazines, brochures, and reports. Embedded links in documents and the publication's description field generate crawlable backlinks from a high-DA media platform.

32

Disqus

disqus.com

DA 92

Nofollow / Comment

Comment on relevant blog posts and news articles using your Disqus profile. Your profile page links to your website and many comment links appear in Google's index.

33

Digg

digg.com

DA 87

Dofollow / Aggregator

Submit your best content to Digg for community curation. Popular submissions gain high visibility and links from one of the web's oldest content discovery platforms.

34

Mix (formerly StumbleUpon)

mix.com

DA 72

Dofollow / Discovery

Submit URLs for content discovery. Each submission creates a page on Mix's domain pointing to your content. Good for content amplification and referral traffic diversification.

35

BizSugar

bizsugar.com

DA 61

Dofollow / Business Community

Business content sharing community targeting SMBs. Submit your articles and blog posts. Upvoted content earns a permanent, indexable backlink from a trusted niche business directory.

36

Flipboard

flipboard.com

DA 92

Dofollow / Content Magazine

Create a free magazine and curate your own content. Each item links back to your original article. Google indexes Flipboard magazines, and they often rank for niche keywords.

Tier 3 — Strong Niche & Specialist Sources (#37-50)

DA 40-59 + NICHE
AUTHORITY

37

ResearchGateresearchgate.net

DA 91

Dofollow / Academic

Academic social network for researchers. Create a profile, upload publications, and link to your site. Exceptional for research-backed content and academic credibility signaling.

38

Academia.eduacademia.edu

DA 93

Dofollow / Academic

Upload academic papers, research notes, and preprints. Profile and paper pages include website links. Highly trusted in .edu adjacent ecosystems and indexed prominently by Google.

39

ORCIDorcid.org

DA 87

Dofollow / Research ID

Register a free researcher identifier and link your website and publications. ORCID profiles are indexed by Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and major academic databases worldwide.

40

GoodFirmsgoodfirms.co

DA 72

Dofollow / B2B Directory

Free company listing for B2B service providers. Includes a website backlink from a respected B2B marketplace. Great for agencies, consultants, and software companies.

41

Clutch.coclutch.co

DA 82

Dofollow / B2B Reviews

B2B ratings and reviews platform. Create a free company listing that includes a website URL. Clutch profiles rank well in Google, especially for service-based queries with city modifiers.

42

SpeakerDeckspeakerdeck.com

DA 83

Dofollow / Slides

Upload presentations and slide decks. Each upload includes profile and description links. Popular among developers and academics — presentations here often rank on Google page 1.

43

Pocket (Mozilla)

DA 91

getpocket.com

Nofollow / Bookmarking

Save and share articles through Mozilla's Pocket app. Trending content gets featured to millions of Firefox users. Links from Pocket's curated list are highly visible and trusted.

44

Behance (Adobe)

DA 92

behance.net

Dofollow / Creative Portfolio

Showcase creative work with project pages that link back to your site. Excellent for designers, photographers, and creative agencies. Adobe's DA ensures strong link equity.

45

Dribbble

DA 88

dribbble.com

Nofollow / Design

Designer community where portfolio profiles include website links. Excellent niche authority in design, UX, and creative industries. Profile links are dofollow on paid plans, nofollow on free.

46

Podcast Index / Listen Notes

DA 73

listennotes.com

Dofollow / Podcast

Submit your podcast RSS feed to get listed. Each episode page links to your site via the show description. Even appearance as a guest on indexed shows generates backlinks from this database.

47

Feedly

DA 88

feedly.com

Nofollow / RSS / Feed

Add your blog to Feedly's RSS ecosystem. Profile pages and featured feeds link to your site. Being featured in Feedly Newsletters can expose your content to its 14M+ user base.

48

Dzone

DA 84

dzone.com

Dofollow / Tech Article

Tech and developer community where you can publish original articles and link to your site. Posts go through editorial review, ensuring community quality and increased link credibility.

⚡ Pro Strategy — Getting Maximum Value from Free Backlinks

BEST
PRACTICES

01

Prioritize by DA, Then Relevance

Start with DA 90+ platforms (Google Business, YouTube, LinkedIn, Medium, GitHub) before working down the list. A single high-DA link consistently outweighs 20 low-DA links. Relevance to your niche amplifies the value further.

02

Nofollow Links Still Matter

Google has confirmed nofollow links are used as "hints" in ranking algorithms. Beyond that, nofollow links from Reddit, Quora, or YouTube drive real traffic — and that traffic can generate natural dofollow links from others who discover your content.

03

Consistent NAP for Local SEO

For directories and business listings, ensure your Name, Address, and Phone number (NAP) is 100% identical across every listing. Inconsistent NAP data confuses Google's local ranking algorithm and dilutes your citation authority.

04

Create Value, Not Spam

On Q&A platforms (Quora, Stack Overflow) and communities (Reddit), your link must serve the answer — not be the answer. Genuinely helpful responses with contextual links outperform and last longer than spammy drops.

05

Use Anchor Text Diversity

Vary your anchor text across backlinks: use branded anchors ("Landry Industries"), partial match anchors ("free OSINT tools"), naked URLs, and generic anchors ("learn more"). A natural anchor text profile

06

Repurpose Content Aggressively

Take one original blog post and submit it to Medium, LinkedIn Articles, Substack, Dev.to, Vocal, and HubPages simultaneously. Each becomes an independent backlink.

protects you from algorithmic penalties.

One piece of content can generate 10+ quality links in a single day.

07

Track with Google Search Console

Use Google Search Console (free) to monitor which backlinks Google has discovered and credited. Pair with Ahrefs Webmaster Tools (also free) for a full picture of your link profile growth over time.

08

Build Profiles Completely

An incomplete profile on Crunchbase, Product Hunt, or Behance is a missed opportunity. Fill every field: bio, services, social links, images. Complete profiles rank higher in directory search results and earn more trust from Google's crawlers.

Build Links That **Last**

Every backlink you earn today is an asset that compounds over time. Focus on quality, consistency, and genuine value — and the rankings will follow.

- ✦ Claim your Google Business Profile first — it's the highest-ROI free link available.
- ✦ Set up profiles on Zenodo, ORCID, Academia.edu, and Scribd for research credibility.
- ✦ Publish on Medium, Substack, LinkedIn Articles, and Dev.to weekly.
- ✦ Answer 3 questions per week on Quora and Stack Exchange with contextual links.
- ✦ Submit to all applicable business directories with consistent NAP data.
- ✦ Repurpose every major piece of content across 5+ platforms on publish day.