Host Your Own Roundup Starter Kit

Because if you can't get invited to the party, throw one and make everyone beg to come.

This kit will help you run your own expert roundup without it turning into a chaotic mess of cold emails, vague questions, and ghosted follow-ups. Hosting a roundup is one of the fastest ways to build authority, create linkable content, and guilt people into sharing your stuff.

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1.

Theme Checklist: Pick a Topic That Isn't Lame

Choose something:

- Relevant to your niche
- Specific enough to generate good responses
- Broad enough to include different voices
- Timely or evergreen (not "What are your 2020 goals?" Please.)

Examples:

- "What's one outdated SEO tactic you wish would die already?"
- "What's the most underrated tool you use daily?"
- "What's one piece of marketing advice you now regret following?"

If it can be answered in a single emoji or a motivational quote, it's too weak. Try again.

Expert Invite Email Swipe (Copy-Paste With Confidence)

Subject: Quick Q for an expert roundup on [Topic]

Email:

Hey [Name],

I'm putting together a short expert roundup on [Topic] and would love to include your voice. The question:

[Insert question here]

If you're up for it, a 2–5 sentence response would be perfect. I'll include your name, a link to your site, and any one resource you want to promote.

Deadline is [Date] — no pressure, but I'd be thrilled to feature you!

Thanks so much,

[Your Name]

[Your Site]

Bonus tip: Personalize the email. Reference their latest post, or compliment their recent meme. Bribery works too (legal, tasteful bribery).

3.

Expert Submission Template (Google Form-Ready)

Title: Contribute to the [Topic] Roundup

Form Fields:

- Name
- Job Title

- Website
- LinkedIn/Twitter handle
- Your expert answer (2–5 sentences)
- Link you'd like us to include
- Headshot (optional)
- Permission to include this in the post and promotional materials [Yes/No]

Put it in a clean Google Form and send it with your email. Everyone loves an easy submit button.

4.

Publishing Checklist (So You Don't Embarrass Yourself)

- Collect at least 8–10 quality responses
- Format them with clean headers, quotes, and short bios
- Add internal links to your other relevant posts
- Include contributor links and tag them on socials
- Add a CTA to subscribe, download something, or hire you
- Email contributors when the post is live
- Share it like it cured a disease

5.

Bonus Follow-Up Email

Subject: You're featured! Here's the roundup
Email:
Hey [Name],
Thanks again for contributing to the [Topic] roundup! It's live here: [Link]
Feel free to share it with your audience — I've tagged you on [LinkedIn/Twitter] as well. Appreciate your time and insight, and would love to collaborate again sometime.
Cheers,
[Your Name]

This kit gives you a real reason to show up in people's inboxes without being the 400th person that week asking for "just a quick backlink."