

THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON BUSINESS MARKETING

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Abstract

This study delves into the effects of social media marketing on company success, specifically looking at three important factors: social media advertising budget, content quality, and audience engagement. According to the study's findings, advertising on social media, particularly when combined with targeted methods, leads to higher conversion rates and more customers. An important factor in increasing engagement and developing brand loyalty is high-quality material that is aesthetically pleasing, pertinent, and in line with the company's values. Likes, shares, comments, and conversations are all ways to measure audience engagement, which is essential for establishing trust with customers and encouraging them to advocate for your business. Businesses need to take a proactive and adaptable approach, as the study emphasizes that there are issues like content saturation and platform algorithm adjustments. Organizations that invest heavily in ads, create high-quality content, and actively engage with their audience can optimize social media marketing and achieve greater business success. This holistic approach guarantees the effective utilization of social media resources to generate growth and enhance brand performance.

Keywords: Social Media Advertising; Content Quality; Audience Engagement

1. Introduction

Social media's meteoric ascent is only one example of how the internet has altered the dynamic between brands and consumers (Bag et al., 2022). In the past, advertising campaigns relied heavily on television, radio, print ads, and billboards. Even while they were effective on their own, these channels could not immediately reach an international audience and often required large sums of money. Businesses now have access to a more efficient and extensive marketing tool thanks to the proliferation of social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and others, which have challenged this conventional paradigm.



Social media has a huge effect on marketing because it allows brands to connect with customers on a personal level, create connections, and encourage brand loyalty in ways that weren't possible before (Ahmed, 2020). With the advent of real-time conversations and instant feedback, businesses can now target certain demographics with personalised marketing messages. Because of social media's interactive nature, companies can now listen to their audience as well as broadcast their messages. This two-way communication channel greatly improves the consumer experience and trust. Plus, because social media is accessible all over the world, companies of all sizes may reach customers in other countries and increase their potential for growth.

Businesses are throwing a lot of money at social media marketing because of how popular these platforms are getting. Whether it's sponsored ads, influencer partnerships, organic content, or direct customer engagement, social media provides a plethora of options for connecting with audiences. Having said that, the obstacles are just as many as the opportunities for accomplishment. The success or failure of a company's social media marketing campaigns is highly dependent on the quality of its management.

Ad budget distribution is a major consideration in social media marketing. Businesses can reach niche populations based on interests, actions, and geography with the help of social media's advanced targeting tools, which aren't available with traditional media (Gionchetti, 2022). This targeted accuracy enables the fine-tuning of advertising budgets for the best return on investment (ROI). Spending money on social media ads is not a guarantee of success, though. These advertisements will only be successful if they are well-designed, relevant to the intended demographic, and part of a larger marketing plan. If companies don't know who they're targeting or don't coordinate their messages with the rest of their brand's messaging, social media advertising may be a costly mistake.

Material quality is an additional critical component. In an oversaturated digital landscape, the success or failure of a social media campaign depends on the quality of the content shared with customers (Dektiariova, 2024). In addition to being aesthetically pleasing, high-quality material is interesting, useful, and relevant to the





target demographic. It moves people emotionally, shares their ideals, and tells a story. Poorly designed, irrelevant, or uninteresting content, which goes unnoticed by the target audience, inevitably leads to lower engagement and weaker company performance. Consequently, companies should put resources into making material that is both engaging and useful for their social media followers.

The level of audience engagement also significantly influences the effectiveness of social media advertising (Cao, et al. 2021). Building genuine relationships with one's audience is what really matters when it comes to engagement, not just amassing likes or followers. This may occur via user-generated material, comments, shares, or even private messaging. Engaged audiences are more likely to recommend and purchase from a brand than passive ones, which is a direct result of high levels of engagement. Customers who participate in the brand's story are more likely to buy more, tell their friends about it, and boost the company's online visibility. Engagement requires constant company work, innovation, and reaction. Businesses have a better chance of seeing success from their social media campaigns if they participate in meaningful conversations with their target demographic, listen to customer feedback, and adjust their approach depending on what they learn.

The chosen platform is a significant factor in the success or failure of social media marketing. Various platforms cater to a wide variety of demographics and content types. Instagram appeals to a younger demographic and garners popularity for visual content, while LinkedIn primarily serves professional networking and business-to-business marketing (Quesenberry, 2020). A company's chances of reaching its intended demographic and accomplishing its marketing objectives increase when it uses the most appropriate platform for its content and purposes. Conversely, a platform-content mismatch can lead to the loss of opportunities and resources. Consequently, in order to maximise the effectiveness of social media marketing campaigns, a methodical strategy for choosing platforms is necessary.

Publishing is often crucial for being visible and relevant on social media. But striking that balance is key (Macarthy, 2021). Writing too often can tire out your



audience, whereas writing too rarely can make them lose interest in or forget about your brand altogether. The trick is to stay consistent without being annoying with your postings, so that people remember your brand. To further increase exposure and interaction, companies should consider when to publish. Social media posts will have a far greater impact if made during peak audience engagement periods.

The purpose of this research is to determine which characteristics have the greatest impact on a company's performance in relation to social media marketing. This study aims to analyze the impact of social media advertising spending, content quality, audience engagement, platform choice, and posting frequency on business outcomes in order to assist organizations in optimizing their social media strategy. In order to market effectively on social media, companies need to grasp these traits if they want to succeed in the digital marketplace long-term.

This study's findings will be helpful for companies looking to maximize their social media marketing expenses. In today's highly competitive internet market, the only way for businesses to succeed is to find out how to leverage social media to increase their marketing efforts. In addition to expanding our understanding of social media marketing, this study will offer practical guidance to businesses looking to maximize their presence on these platforms.

1.2 Problem Statement

It is indisputable that social media plays a significant role in modern corporate marketing. Social media sites like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn reach a staggering number of users daily, providing marketers with an unprecedented opportunity to connect with diverse audiences (Tuten, 2023). Much effort has gone into studying social media because of its large user base and interactive features. The allure of social media marketing—its potential for cost-effective, scalable, and targeted advertising—has businesses of all stripes allocating larger and larger chunks of their marketing expenditures to the platform. Nevertheless, numerous companies still struggle to turn these investments into quantifiable achievements, even though financial investment is on the rise. The disparity between expenditure and results raises important



concerns about the factors that impact the efficacy of social media advertising.

There is a lot of change and complexity in the social media marketing scene. The digital ecosystem in which social media operates is dynamic and ever-changing, in contrast to the more static environments of more conventional marketing platforms (Gatautis, 2020). Many variables, some of which interact with others in complex and unpredictable ways, affect how well social media marketing works. Advertising budget, content quality, audience engagement, platform choice, and posting frequency are among the most important of these elements. Several factors are critical when considering the overall effect of social media marketing on company success. However, little is known about how they work together or individually, so our understanding of what makes social media marketing work is incomplete.

Spending on ads is a very real part of social media marketing and is frequently considered a key factor in how successful a campaign is (Dolega, et al. 2021). Most people think that if you spend more money, you'll get greater results, and that's somewhat true; you need to invest enough to get your message out there. By utilising the advanced targeting capabilities offered by social media platforms, businesses can more precisely communicate with certain groups through the timely delivery of personalised messages. But there is no straight line connecting ad spending with company success. Raising expenditures will not automatically lead to better results. Spending on advertising can only yield positive results if it is well-designed, relevant to the intended demographic, and consistent with the brand's overarching marketing plan. If companies don't have a plan, they could end up spending money on ads that nobody sees and get no return on investment.

The quality of the content is another important factor that determines the effectiveness of social media marketing (Wibowo, et al. 2020). If businesses want to attract customers, they must create content that stands out in a digital world where information is plentiful. In addition to being aesthetically pleasing, high-quality content must also be informative, interesting, and helpful to the target demographic. Positive engagement, increased conversion rates, and strengthened brand loyalty can result from





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content that speaks to the audience's interests, values, and needs. Nevertheless, creating such content is no simple feat. Being creative and consistent is essential, as is having an in-depth knowledge of the intended audience. To keep viewers interested and engaged, content quality is also important to maintain over time. Content quality is obviously important, but how it interacts with other variables like advertising budget and audience engagement to impact company performance is still unclear.

The interactive aspect of social media marketing includes audience involvement, which includes actions such as likes, comments, shares, and direct messages (Moran et al. 2020). It's the way brands communicate with their target demographic. Increased sales, brand loyalty, and advocacy can result from a highly engaged audience that strongly identifies with the company. Positive responses to marketing messages, participation in promotional events, and word-of-mouth promotion are all more likely to occur among an engaged audience. However, getting people involved and keeping them engaged is no simple feat. Businesses must take the initiative to address consumer concerns, create engaging content, and adapt their strategies based on audience actions. Despite its apparent importance, there is a lack of data regarding the relationship between audience engagement and business performance, particularly in the context of social media marketing.

Choosing the right platform is just as important for social media marketing. According to Rangaswamy et al. (2020), businesses should think about the platforms' content categories and user demographics before determining where to focus their efforts. It is possible to greatly improve the efficacy of social media marketing campaigns by launching them on platforms that are compatible with the target demographic and overall business objectives. Conversely, if the platform isn't a suitable fit for the brand's goals, then less-than-ideal outcomes could happen. Staying visible and relevant in the ever-changing social media ecosystem also requires publishing frequently. Still, platform selection and posting frequency impact business performance in nuanced ways that vary by industry, target audience, and type of business.

When we take into account the interplay between these factors, we can see that



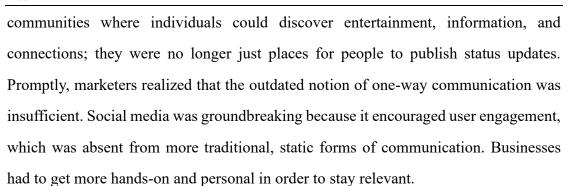
social media marketing has been successful for a number of different reasons. To better explain it, we might think of it as the product of a complicated network of interdependent parts. The challenge for businesses is to understand the interplay between these factors and how they influence their financial performance. In the realm of social media marketing, many concerns remain unsolved, such as the precise impact of variables such as advertising budget, content quality, audience engagement, platform choice, and posting frequency on a company's financial line.

This study aims to address this gap by examining the impact of social media advertising expenditure, content quality, and audience engagement on corporate performance. Companies can use the study's findings to refine their social media strategy, as it identifies the most crucial elements for success. Companies need a solid understanding of these dynamics to thrive in the intricate realm of social media marketing and maximize their investments. This research will not only add to the body of knowledge on social media marketing, but it will also be helpful for businesses who want to improve their digital marketing strategies for the future.

2. Evolution of Social Media Marketing Strategies

Suherlan (2023) asserts that technological advancements and shifts in consumer behavior greatly influence the ever-evolving world of social media marketing strategies. Early adopters of social media primarily utilized it to keep in touch with friends and family, disseminate news, and conduct lighthearted discussions. Even though companies saw the potential in social media, they initially took a more hands-off approach. The foundation of early marketing methods that sought to increase customer awareness of businesses was traditional advertising and its more basic branches, such as ads and promotional posts. There was less emphasis on engagement and more on using social media as a channel for message transmission.

However, as social media platforms evolved, users' behaviors and expectations began to change, forcing marketers to reconsider their strategies (Adeola et al. 2020). When platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter gained traction, people started behaving differently when they were online. These sites developed into vibrant



Agarwal (2020) states that social media marketing saw a significant improvement with the introduction of user-generated content (UGC). Social media's impact on people's lives led to an increase in users sharing their experiences with products and services, often without any prompting. Businesses saw UGC for what it really was: a fantastic promotional tool. Promoting user-generated content like reviews, photos, and stories might help brands build a more authentic and welcoming space for their products. Businesses could benefit from the organic reach and legitimacy of user-generated content by shifting their focus from mere promotion to active participation. Since individuals put more stock in recommendations from people they know and trust than they do in conventional advertising, user-generated content (UGC) is an excellent tool for firms looking to increase customer loyalty and trust. The bottom-up, collaborative approach of user-generated content (UGC) gives customers a stronger voice than the traditional, top-down communication method of marketing.

As social media networks developed, the algorithms that govern these platforms changed (Swart, 2021). New, more sophisticated algorithms allowed platforms to begin personalizing content based on each user's preferences, activities, and insights. Marketers may contact their target audiences more effectively than ever before because of this technical advancement. With the rise of targeted advertising, companies could reach specific groups with information that was more likely to pique their interest and lead to a purchase. Marketers understood the need to understand their audience's preferences and behavior in order to generate content that engages them. The advent of analytics technologies, which could monitor user interactions across several channels, further expedited the shift towards data-driven marketing. Marketers may examine the



efficacy of their efforts, the level of user engagement, and ways to refine their strategies with the help of these technologies.

While social media marketing strategies evolved, influencers became powerful allies in the digital marketing sphere (Morillo-Garrido, 2024). In order to reach specific demographics, brands started to depend significantly on influencers, who are prominent users of social media and video sharing platforms such as Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok. By leveraging the credibility and genuineness of influencers, marketers were able to bolster their own reputation through these partnerships. Because influencers have trust and rapport with their followers, their sales pitches may be more genuine and personable. This tactic worked wonders, particularly with younger audiences that are skeptical of traditional forms of advertising. Influencer marketing has become an integral part of many social media campaigns as companies have realized the potential of these partnerships to increase engagement, brand awareness, and income.

The constant demand for adaptation and innovation means that social media marketing strategies are constantly evolving (Yodhhewawhe, 2023). To stay up with shifting consumer expectations and rapid technological advancements, businesses must be adaptable in their social media marketing approaches. Understanding the historical shifts that have shaped the current landscape is crucial for creating future ads that resonate with today's digital audience. For their tactics to be effective, marketers must stay current with the latest trends, technology, and approaches. The integration of AI and AR into social media platforms will lead to new methods for companies to engage with their intended consumers, fueled by marketing strategies.

Along with the rise of social media marketing strategies, there was a sea change in customer behavior and new technology. An emphasis on individualization, authenticity, and community has transformed what was formerly a static technique of engagement into an active and interactive experience. With the help of influencer partnerships, targeted advertising, and user-generated content, businesses can now connect with their audiences on a deeper level. This has completely transformed social media marketing. If businesses want to thrive in the ever-changing digital ecosystem and build strategies



that will drive future success, they must understand the historical background of these advancements as they search for new ways to engage with customers online.

2.1 Social Media Advertising Spend

Many businesses have incorporated social media advertising into their digital marketing strategy because of its importance in reaching and engaging target audiences. As more and more businesses put money into social media advertising, it is crucial to understand how it affects company performance. Researchers have examined key performance indicators such as sales growth, brand recognition, and customer involvement in relation to social media advertising expenditure.

A study by Tarsakoo and Charoensukmongkol (2020) sheds light on the correlation between higher expenditure on social media ads and better financial results for companies. Their study revealed a significant enhancement in companies' sales growth and client acquisition capabilities when they increased their spending on social media advertising. The idea is that investing more money allows you to communicate with more people, which increases your return on investment (ROI). According to the results, companies with larger advertising budgets are less likely to reach their advertising goals than smaller ones that strategically invest in social media marketing.

Advertising on social media for a certain amount of money won't ensure a certain level of success for a business. Behera et al. (2020) emphasize the importance of personalized advertising in improving a company's performance. They discovered that the use of data-driven targeting strategies significantly improved the performance of social media ads. Using psychographic, behavioral, and demographic segmentation, companies can reach certain demographics with personalized, highly relevant information. This personalized strategy enhances the company's overall performance and increases the likelihood of conversions. This is because the ads are more relevant to the target audience. The study concluded that companies must immediately begin to refine their targeting tactics in order to reap the benefits of smart targeting and make better use of their advertising budgets.

Although there are benefits to increasing social media ad spending, there are also



challenges to maintaining a reasonable budget. According to Zeng et al. (2021), excessive advertising can bore people and cause them to lose interest. Zeng et al. (2021) state that more ads do not necessarily equal better results. On the flip side, if there are too many commercials, customers could get bored and even have a negative impression of the business. Businesses shouldn't bombard users with advertisements but should instead concentrate on producing top-notch content, according to Ghosh's findings. To keep people interested and make sure they engage positively, you need to watch the frequency and quality of your ads very carefully.

You may adjust the frequency of the advertisements, but the quality of the material is what really makes them effective. Producing high-quality content that addresses the needs and interests of the intended audience increases the likelihood of viewer engagement and positive results (Szmuda et al. 2020). To stand out from the noise on social media, companies should concentrate on crafting captivating and pertinent advertisements. This necessitates not only strategic thinking over the long haul, but also vigilant monitoring of campaign indicators to make course corrections as needed. Metrics like engagement, click-through, and conversion rates are crucial for optimizing advertising approaches and achieving greater results over time.

While a company's ability to spend money on social media marketing is indicative of its health, the efficacy of these ads is dependent on factors beyond just budget. Smart targeting and high-quality content are requirements for maximizing advertising budgets. With the risk of declining returns and audience fatigue in mind, advertisers should find a satisfactory medium between attracting new customers and holding the attention of current ones. When companies understand these dynamics and use data-driven strategies, their social media advertising efforts perform better.

2.2 Content Quality

The success of a company's social media marketing campaign is directly proportional to the quality of the material it uses. Providing high-quality content that will engage viewers, inspire them to become loyal customers, and eventually result in increased sales is more crucial than ever before due to the abundance of information



available online. Research shows that visually appealing content that is both practical, pertinent, and consistent with a brand's values is crucial. According to Atiq et al. (2022), content that caters to the interests and requirements of the target audience is more likely to elicit higher levels of engagement. Their study found that such involvement leads to two outcomes: improved brand perception and cultivating consumer loyalty. Producing content that speaks to the audience's values and interests is a beneficial way for businesses to build rapport with them and boost their brand's reputation.

Yuniarti et al. (2024) bolster the evidence that content quality influences business outcomes. Their research delves into the concept of content marketing effectiveness, arguing that high-quality content is an important component of consumer engagement. The authors state that businesses that consistently produce high-quality content have a better chance of attracting and retaining customers. The foundation of great content marketing is storytelling, which appeals to emotions and authenticity. Businesses can establish a more meaningful connection with their audience through the use of stories and emotional appeals. Authentic content that exemplifies the brand's beliefs and resonates with the audience's personal experiences can lead to increased customer loyalty and favorable financial outcomes.

The rate of change on social media platforms directly affects the adaptability of a content strategy. In their investigation of user engagement across several social media platforms, Schreiner et al. (2021) examine the impact of content qualities. The study's findings indicate that different platforms have different levels of content effectiveness. Posts that include visual content, like photographs and videos, tend to do better on Instagram and similar sites. On the other hand, LinkedIn users are searching for indepth information and expert advice; thus, text-based material with more practical details usually performs better. Because of this variety, businesses must adapt their content strategies to fit the unique features and tastes of each platform. By adapting their content to the specific characteristics of each platform, businesses may expand their reach and improve their efficacy. This aids in reaching their target audience.

While the benefits of high-quality content are simple to see, several challenges exist



for businesses that want to consistently deliver captivating content to their customers. Hansen (2021) states that an overabundance of content is one of the key obstacles. People may get bored and uninterested if there's too much stuff. Findings suggest that businesses can get around this problem by prioritizing quality over quantity. The goal of businesses should not be to produce copious amounts of information but rather to create material that enhances the social media experience of their target audience. Businesses can connect with their audience and avoid overwhelming them by maintaining a focus on quality.

Using analytics tools to track content performance and make educated decisions is crucial. You can see how well content is doing with analytics that take interaction metrics such as likes, comments, shares, conversion rates, and click-through rates into account. Companies can enhance the efficacy of their content by examining these metrics and adjusting their content strategies according to the results. By being attuned to consumer tastes and fads, companies may maintain a competitive edge. That way, their content will always be captivating and relevant.

When it comes to social media marketing and a company's overall success, the material quality is critical. Created with care, high-quality content improves engagement, fortifies brand loyalty, and attracts and keeps customers better. If you want your social media efforts to pay off, you need to address the issue of content saturation and tailor your material to the specifics of each platform. Put an emphasis on quality and analytics to continuously enhance your social media strategy and your company's performance.

2.3 Audience Engagement

A key performance indicator (KPI) for social media marketing is audience engagement, which reveals the level of participation in a brand's content and influences financial outcomes. Engagement indicators such as likes, shares, comments, and mentions reveal the effectiveness of brand content. Studies have shown that when employees are highly engaged, businesses get improved results. Improved customer relationships, increased brand loyalty, and more enthusiastic brand advocates are some



of the results.

Kumar (2020) highlights that involvement can foster strong client relationships and brand loyalty. The authors argue that companies can improve their chances of success by actively engaging with their audiences through interactive content, responsive communication, and community-building initiatives. Interactive content such as polls, quizzes, and live Q&A sessions can enhance the liveliness and engagement of brand experiences. Organizations can demonstrate their commitment to customer satisfaction and build trust by addressing issues and feedback quickly through respondent contact. Participation in community-building activities, such as online events and forums, strengthens the connection between businesses and their audiences, leading to increased happiness and devotion.

When it comes to the correlation between engaged audiences and successful businesses, Choedon and Lee (2020) provide additional research. Researchers observed that when consumers engage with brands on social media, it increases the likelihood that they will make a purchase, make a purchase plan, and recommend the company to others. According to the findings, businesses should prioritize creating engaging content like surveys, contests, and user-generated content initiatives if they want to see more interaction. These interactive features strengthen the connection between the brand and viewers by drawing their attention and encouraging them to engage with the brand, which in turn increases the likelihood of successful commercial outcomes.

Engagement has a significant impact on business results, depending on how well a brand communicates with its target demographic. When businesses use data to alter their interactions, they are more likely to have better, more personalized relationships with their audience (Cartwright et al., 2021). This information may be available in social media listening tools and CRM platforms. A more relevant and engaging brand experience is the outcome of personalized communication that responds to individual likes and expectations. In addition to increasing customer satisfaction, this tailored approach improves the efficacy of engagement initiatives, which in turn boosts business output.



Although the advantages of high engagement levels have been well documented, maintaining consistent audience engagement over time is challenging. According to Dvir-Gvirsman et al. (2023), changes in platform algorithms, content fatigue, and shifting customer tastes are the three primary factors that influence fluctuations in engagement. Producing an excessive amount of content can cause audiences to experience content fatigue, where they feel overwhelmed or uninterested. As algorithmic changes in platforms affect the exposure of brand material, formerly effective engagement strategies may become obsolete. Businesses can find solutions to these problems by taking the initiative to engage. Periodically updating content strategies is necessary to stay relevant and explore new ways to connect with people. By staying flexible and sensitive to emerging trends, businesses may sustain high levels of engagement and produce outstanding commercial outcomes.

Social media marketing relies heavily on audience interaction, which has a direct impact on business results. Highly engaged consumers lead to increased brand loyalty and positive word-of-mouth promotion. To get people involved, you need to develop materials that they can interact with and modify based on their interests and requirements. We must also address challenges like content fatigue and changing tastes. Using data to drive plan revision may help businesses enhance their social media presence, client satisfaction, and overall performance.

3. Overview of Research

3.1 Research Design

The influence of social media on business marketing will be investigated through a qualitative research approach..

4. Discussion on Major Findings

Strategic budget allocation is crucial because there is a significant association between increasing expenditure in social media advertising and better sales growth and client acquisition. However, the effectiveness of this investment increases when combined with targeted advertising strategies that customize content for specific



audience demographics.

There is a direct correlation between the quality of the content and the level of engagement and loyalty that audience members feel towards the company. Research suggests that firms that prioritize storytelling, emotional appeal, and platform-specific content can achieve better engagement outcomes.

Metrics measuring audience involvement, such as likes, shares, and comments, have a direct bearing on the success of businesses. Interactive content and personalized communication promote effective engagement, which in turn strengthens customer connections and increases brand advocacy. A proactive and adaptable strategy is required to sustain high levels of engagement in the face of challenges like content saturation and changing platform algorithms.

To maximize business performance in the social media landscape, it is vital to have a balanced strategy that incorporates high-quality content, active audience engagement, and substantial advertising expenditure.

5. Conclusion

Spending on social media advertising, content quality, and audience engagement all work together to boost company performance. Well-targeted social media ads significantly boost both sales and new client acquisition. But it really shines when combined with engaging content that speaks to the audience and encourages genuine conversations. Visually appealing, relevant, and value-aligned content drives higher engagement and stronger brand loyalty. Furthermore, in order to develop long-term relationships with customers and encourage brand advocacy, active audience involvement is essential. Tailored and interactive content can achieve this. In spite of the advantages, companies still face obstacles like content saturation and changing platform algorithms. To overcome these, they need to be flexible and constantly improve their strategy. Incorporating a balanced approach that tackles these elements can optimize social media marketing efforts and improve overall company outcomes. This comprehensive plan ensures that the investment in social media genuinely contributes to the growth and performance of the brand.



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