Your First Guide

Creator Suite · https://sitenitro.com/docs/your-first-guide/

Guides are structured long-form articles for educational and instructional content — "How to Set Up Your iPad as a Laptop Replacement," "Beginner's Guide to Multicam Live Streaming," or "Complete Guide to External Storage on iPad." This guide walks you through creating your first one.

Create a New Guide

1. Go to **Guides → Add New**

> **[SCREENSHOT: Guides submenu with Add New highlighted]**

You'll see the content editor with guide-specific meta boxes below.

Write Your Guide Content

The main content area is where you write the full guide. Use **H2 headings** for every major section — these are essential because they automatically generate the sticky Table of Contents sidebar on the published page.

For step-by-step guides, number your headings: "1. Set Up Your Workspace," "2. Configure the Software," "3. Run Your First Test." For conceptual guides, use descriptive headings that match what people search for.

Aim for comprehensive coverage — guides should be the most thorough resource available on the topic. Include specific product names, version numbers, settings, and real-world observations from your experience.

> **[SCREENSHOT: Guide content editor showing several H2 sections with content]**

Fill In the Guide Fields

Quick Answer

Write 2–3 sentences that directly answer the guide's core question. This appears in a styled box at the top of the published guide, right below the hero section.

Think of it as the TLDR — if someone reads nothing else, they should get a useful, actionable answer from this. AI tools frequently cite this field, so make it definitive and specific.

Good example: "You need a keyboard case, a USB-C hub with display output, and a Bluetooth mouse. With Stage Manager on iPadOS and the right accessories, the iPad Pro can replace a laptop for 90% of daily workflows."

Bad example: "In this guide, you'll learn about setting up your iPad as a laptop replacement." (This is a teaser, not an answer.)

> **[SCREENSHOT: Quick Answer textarea with a strong, specific TLDR filled in]**

What You'll Need

List the tools, products, software, or prerequisites the reader needs before starting. Each item has:

- **Item label** (required) — What they need
- **Link URL** (optional) — External link to the product or resource
- **Link to Post** (optional) — Search for and select one of your existing reviews, roundups, or other posts. This creates a cross-link directly to your related content.

Click **Add Item** for each prerequisite. If the guide doesn't require any specific tools (e.g., a conceptual guide), leave this empty — the section won't appear on the published page.

> **[SCREENSHOT: What You'll Need section with 3-4 items, one linked to an existing review]**

FAQ Section

Add questions someone would ask after reading the guide — troubleshooting, alternatives, edge cases, and "what if" scenarios.

- "Can I use a non-Apple keyboard with iPad Pro?"
- "What if my external SSD isn't recognized?"
- "Does Stage Manager work on the iPad Air?"

Write each answer as a complete, standalone response. These generate FAQPage schema and are heavily cited by AI tools.

> **[SCREENSHOT: FAQ section with 3-4 guide-specific Q&A pairs]**

Sponsored Toggle

Check this if the guide contains sponsored content or affiliate links that require disclosure.

Related Content

Control what appears in the "Related Content" section at the bottom of the guide:

- **Auto mode** (default, checkbox checked) — Automatically shows up to 4 related guides from the same category
- **Manual mode** (Pro, checkbox unchecked) — Search for and select specific posts of any type: reviews, comparisons, roundups, or other guides

When both are active, your manually selected posts appear first, with auto-pulled guides filling the remaining slots.

> **[SCREENSHOT: Related Content meta box showing the auto checkbox and manual search field with selected posts]**

Assign a Category and Tags

In the editor sidebar, assign your guide to a **Guide Category** and add relevant **Guide Tags**.

Categories provide hierarchical organization:

- Apple → iPad Pro
- Photography → Editing
- Video Production → Live Streaming

Tags provide cross-cutting connections: `Stage Manager`, `USB-C`, `external storage`, `beginner`

Both create archive pages that readers (and search engines) can browse.

> **[SCREENSHOT: Editor sidebar showing Guide Category and Guide Tags panels]**

Set the Featured Image

Add a featured image — this appears in the hero section alongside the title and your Quick Answer intro. Choose an image that represents the guide topic.

Add an Excerpt

In the editor sidebar, write a short **Excerpt** — 1-2 sentences that introduce the guide. This appears in the hero section as an editorial intro paragraph. If you leave it blank, the hero shows just the title and meta information.

> **[SCREENSHOT: Excerpt field in the editor sidebar]**

Preview and Publish

Preview to see the full guide layout:

- **Hero section** — Title, author, "Last updated" date, intro excerpt, and featured image in a two-column layout
- **Disclosure notice** — If sponsored toggle is on
- **Quick Answer** — Styled box with your TLDR
- **What You'll Need** — Prerequisites list with links to your reviews and roundups
- **Guide content** — Your full article with a sticky Table of Contents sidebar

- **FAQ section** — Expandable Q&A
- **Related Content** — Cards linking to your other posts
- **Author bio** — "Written by" attribution

> **[SCREENSHOT: Published guide showing the complete page layout — hero, Quick Answer box, What You'll Need, content with TOC sidebar, FAQ, Related Content cards, author bio]**

The guide automatically generates Article schema, BreadcrumbList, and FAQPage structured data.

Next Steps

- **Import guides faster** — See Importing Content with JSON to generate guide JSON with AI tools and paste it directly into the editor
- **Cross-link your content** — Use the What You'll Need section and Related Content to connect guides with your reviews and roundups, building topical authority
- **Customize appearance** — Go to Creator Suite → Settings → Appearance to match your site's branding