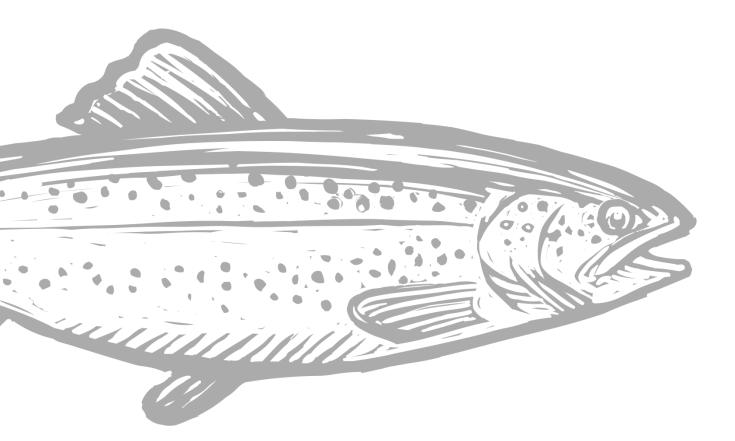
## Step-by-Step Google Ads Setup Guide for Hunting Guides and Outfitters

Expertly Crafted Marketing Strategies by **Big Canoe Digital** 

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Setting up a successful **Google Ads campaign** for your **hunting guide or outfitter business** requires a strategic approach to ensure your ads reach the right audience and drive valuable conversions. Whether you're looking to increase bookings, promote specific hunting packages, or raise awareness of your outfitting services, Google Ads can be a powerful tool when used

correctly.

In this **Step-by-Step Google Ads Setup Guide**, we'll walk you through the essential steps to create and launch an optimized Google Ads campaign, from setting up your account to tracking conversions.

## Step 1: Set Up a Google Ads Account

If you haven't already, the first step is to create a **Google Ads account**. You'll need a **Google** 

**account** to get started, and you can set up your campaign following these steps:

- 1. Go to <u>Google Ads</u> and click on "Start Now."
- 2. Sign in with your **Google account** or create a new one.
- 3. Follow the prompts to enter your business details, including your website URL, business name, and goals (e.g., increasing bookings or raising awareness).

## **Pro Tip**: Use a **business-specific email address** to keep your campaign management organized.

#### Step 2: Define Your Campaign Goals

Before diving into the setup, you need to clearly define your **campaign goals**. These will shape the type of campaign you create and how you measure success.

# Common Goals for Hunting Guides and Outfitters:

- Generate Bookings: Drive inquiries and bookings for specific hunting trips, such as elk or deer hunting.
- Lead Generation: Capture potential client information through contact forms or calls.
- Increase Website Traffic: Encourage visitors to explore your hunting packages, rates, and availability.

**Pro Tip**: Setting **SMART goals** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timebound) can help keep your campaign focused. For example, "Increase guided elk hunting bookings by 15% over the next three months through Google Ads."

## Step 3: Choose Your Campaign Type

Google Ads offers several campaign types depending on your business objectives. For hunting guides and outfitters, the most effective campaigns usually include **Search** and **Display Ads**.

#### **Search Campaigns:**

- These are text-based ads that appear when users search for relevant keywords, such as "guided elk hunts" or "deer hunting outfitters near me."
- **Best For**: High-intent users actively searching for hunting services.

## **Display Campaigns:**

 These ads feature images and can appear across Google's Display Network, which includes millions of websites. Display ads are great for remarketing or raising awareness among potential clients. • **Best For**: Building awareness and retargeting visitors who previously showed interest in your services.

**Pro Tip**: For most hunting guide businesses, starting with **Search Ads** will yield the highest return, as they capture users with immediate intent to book a trip.

#### **Step 4: Conduct Keyword Research**

Keywords are the foundation of your **Search Ads**. Choosing the right keywords ensures that your ads appear when potential clients are actively searching for your services.

#### **Steps for Effective Keyword Research:**

 Brainstorm Seed Keywords: Start with obvious terms like "guided elk hunts," "hunting outfitters," and "bowhunting trips." Include location-specific terms like "elk hunting in Montana" or "whitetail deer hunting in Wyoming."

## 2. Use Google's Keyword Planner:

Google's free Keyword Planner tool helps
you find keyword ideas, search volumes, and
estimated cost-per-click (CPC) data. It can
also suggest long-tail keywords that might
have lower competition but high conversion
potential, such as "guided elk hunts in private
land" or "affordable bowhunting trips."

## 3. **Prioritize Long-Tail Keywords**: While broad terms like "hunting guides" may attract clicks, **long-tail keywords** (specific phrases) like "all-inclusive guided deer hunts in Colorado" are more likely to convert. These users know exactly what they want, making them more valuable leads.

## 4. Implement Negative Keywords:

Negative keywords help filter out irrelevant traffic. If you don't offer DIY or unguided

hunting trips, for example, add "DIY" or "unguided" as negative keywords.

**Pro Tip**: Long-tail keywords typically have lower competition and are more specific, helping you attract higher-intent traffic.

## Step 5: Create Targeted Ads

Once you've identified your keywords, it's time to create compelling **ads**. Your ads should be highly relevant to your target audience and designed to drive clicks.

## **Best Practices for Writing Ad Copy:**

 Align the Ad with Search Intent: If your ad is targeting "whitetail deer hunts," make sure the copy directly addresses that need.
 For example, "Exclusive Whitetail Deer Hunts on Private Land – Book Now!"

## 2. Use a Strong Call-to-Action (CTA): Encourage users to take immediate action

with phrases like "Book Your Hunt Today," "Check Availability," or "Plan Your Next Adventure."

## 3. Leverage Ad Extensions:

- Sitelink Extensions: Direct users to specific pages on your site (e.g., Rates, Packages, Contact Us).
- Call Extensions: Allow users to call directly from the ad, which is especially useful for mobile users.
- Location Extensions: Show your
   business address to local hunters looking
   for outfitters nearby.

**Pro Tip**: Test multiple versions of ad copy and CTAs to see which performs best. You can use **Responsive Search Ads (RSAs)** to automatically test different combinations of headlines and descriptions.

## **Step 6: Set Your Budget and Bidding Strategy**

Once your ads are ready, it's time to set your **budget** and choose a **bidding strategy**. Your daily budget controls how much you're willing to spend each day, while your bidding strategy determines how Google bids on your behalf.

#### **Common Bidding Strategies:**

1. **Manual CPC Bidding**: You set your bids manually for each keyword. This gives you full control but requires more hands-on management.

## 2. Enhanced CPC (eCPC): Google

automatically adjusts your bids in real-time to help increase conversions while staying within your budget.

#### 3. Target CPA (Cost-Per-Acquisition):

Google sets bids to help you achieve a specific cost per conversion (e.g., \$50 per hunting booking).

4. **Maximize Conversions**: Google automatically sets bids to get the most conversions within your set budget.

**Pro Tip**: Start with **Manual CPC** for better control, then transition to **Target CPA** or **Maximize Conversions** as you gather data on conversion rates.

## **Step 7: Define Your Target Audience**

Targeting the right audience is critical for ensuring your ads reach potential clients who are likely to book a hunting trip.

## Audience Targeting Options:

1. **Geographic Targeting**: Use **geo-targeting** to focus your ads on specific states or regions where hunting is popular or where most of your clients come from. For example, target users in states like Montana, Wyoming, or Colorado if you offer hunts in those areas.

- 2. **Demographic Targeting**: Adjust your ads based on age, gender, or household income to reach the right audience. For example, experienced hunters or families looking for guided hunting trips.
- 3. **Remarketing**: Set up **remarketing lists** to target users who have visited your website but didn't complete a booking. These users are more likely to convert when they see tailored ads reminding them of your services.

**Pro Tip**: Use **Similar Audiences** to target new users who share characteristics with your past customers.

#### **Step 8: Set Up Conversion Tracking**

To measure the success of your Google Ads campaign, it's essential to set up **conversion tracking**. This allows you to track key actions, such as bookings, contact form submissions, or phone calls.

## How to Set Up Conversion Tracking:

- In Google Ads, go to Tools & Settings > Conversions.
- 2. Define your **conversion actions**, such as bookings, contact forms, or phone calls.
- 3. Install the **conversion tracking code** on your website.
- 4. Use **Google Analytics** for more detailed insights and to track how users interact with your website post-click.

**Pro Tip:** Ensure your landing pages are optimized for conversions by including clear CTAs and relevant information about the hunting trips you offer.

## Step 9: Launch and Monitor Your Campaign

Once everything is set up, it's time to launch your campaign. However, launching isn't the final step — you'll need to continuously monitor and optimize your campaign to improve performance.

## **Key Metrics to Monitor:**

- Click-Through Rate (CTR): A high CTR indicates that your ad is relevant and engaging.
- Conversion Rate: Measure how many users complete a desired action after clicking on your ad, such as booking a hunt or submitting an inquiry.
- **Cost-Per-Click (CPC)**: Track your CPC to ensure you're not overpaying for clicks.
- Return on Ad Spend (ROAS): Calculate your ROAS to determine the effectiveness of your campaign in generating revenue.

**Pro Tip**: Set up **automated rules** to adjust bids or pause underperforming ads without manual intervention.

# Setting Up a Google Ads Campaign for Hunting Guides and Outfitters

Launching a **Google Ads campaign** for your hunting guide or outfitting business can drive more bookings, increase website traffic, and improve brand awareness. However, ongoing optimization and monitoring are essential for ensuring that your campaigns perform at their best. By following this **step-by-step guide**, you'll be able to create a well-targeted and effective campaign tailored to the unique needs of your hunting business.

## Key Takeaways:

- Conduct thorough keyword research to target high-intent search terms relevant to your services.
- Write compelling **ad copy** with strong callsto-action to drive clicks and bookings.
- Set up conversion tracking to measure campaign success and track valuable actions.
- Use **remarketing** to re-engage visitors who didn't convert on their first visit.
- Regularly monitor and optimize your campaign based on performance data to improve ROI.

## Achieve Your Business Goals

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At **Big Canoe Digital**, we partner with businesses to craft tailored e-commerce and marketing strategies that drive results. Whether you need help with PPC campaigns, SEO, social media, or a new website, our expert team is ready to guide you toward success.

**Partner with us today** to unlock the full potential of your marketing efforts and take your business to the next level.

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**Contact us** and let's grow together!