

AutoPost AI Pro

User Documentation

Updated for plugin version 14.3

Refreshed to match the current interface, workflows, image options, smarter internal linking, and the current tab name AI Engine & Images.

Built for real users. Clear setup guidance, complete feature explanations, practical tips, and plain-English troubleshooting.

What this guide is for

This manual walks through the plugin the same way a user experiences it.

It explains what each tab does, what to set up first, how the queues work, how images work, how approvals work, and what to check when something does not behave the way you expect.

Prepared to match the current AutoPost AI Pro plugin build and admin workflow.

In This Guide

A simple roadmap before you begin

AutoPost AI Pro has a lot of capability, but its workflow is very logical once you see the order. This guide starts with the big picture, walks you through setup in the right sequence, then explains each tab in a user-friendly way.

Section	What you will learn
What is new in 14.3	The main changes in this build, including the smarter internal linking behavior and updated tab naming.
Overview	What the plugin does and why it is built around a queue-based publishing workflow.
Requirements	What you need before the plugin can generate posts, images, and social shares.
Getting started	The recommended setup order so your first run goes smoothly.
AI Engine & Images	API keys, writing guidance, image model settings, and automatic post image controls.
Generate Topics & Queue Posts	How category-based topic generation works and how to build a usable content queue.
Post Creation, Approval & Publication	How posts are created, reviewed, approved, finalized, and published.
Scheduling, Post Details, Sharing & Tools	How to automate creation and publication, plus Facebook, Google Business Profile, Yoast, CTA, and admin tools.
Image Generator	How to create standalone premium images directly into the media library.
Automation, troubleshooting, and FAQ	What to do when runs seem stuck, images fail, or social sharing does not happen.

Good to know

This document intentionally avoids deep developer language unless it helps a user solve a real-world problem. You do not need to understand code to use the plugin well.

The fastest path to success is to follow the setup order in this guide instead of jumping around the tabs.

What Is New in Version 14.3

The current documentation update at a glance

Version 14.3 continues the current direction of giving users more control while improving the quality of what the plugin produces behind the scenes. The goal is not just faster content creation. The goal is better content, better targeting, and a smoother workflow from setup to publication.

- The documentation has been refreshed to match the current 14.3 plugin build and current tab names.
- The former settings tab wording has been updated to AI Engine & Images so the name better matches what is actually inside that tab.
- Internal linking is now more dynamic. Instead of leaning too heavily on broader parent pages, the plugin now looks across published pages and posts and tries to choose the destination that best fits the actual anchor text.
- When a lower-level child page is a strong semantic match, the plugin can favor that deeper page. If a broader page or blog post is the better fit, the plugin can still choose that instead.
- In close-call situations, the plugin can use AI to help decide between strong internal-link candidates.
- The first-use setup experience remains guided. If the OpenAI API key is empty on a new install, the interface automatically opens the AI Engine & Images tab so the user lands where setup should start.

Why the internal-linking update matters

This change is about relevance, not just hierarchy.

A lower-level service page is great when it really matches the anchor text.

A broader page or a blog post is better when that is the true content match.

The result should be more natural links, better topical alignment, and a cleaner user experience inside generated posts.

Overview

What AutoPost AI Pro is built to do

AutoPost AI Pro is a WordPress content automation plugin designed to help you move from content idea to finished post in a controlled, repeatable way. It can suggest topics, queue them, create long-form posts with AI, add images, let you review and approve the results, publish on a schedule, and optionally share published posts to Facebook and Google Business Profile.

The plugin is not built around a one-click mystery button. It is built around an editorial pipeline that gives you checkpoints. That is important because content automation works best when you can guide it, review it, and improve it over time.

Think of the plugin like this

Topics come in at the front of the line.

Queued topics wait their turn.

The plugin creates a full post in stages.

Images are added if you want them.

You can review and approve before publication.

Publishing and social sharing can happen automatically after approval.

This queue-based approach is one of the plugin's biggest strengths. It helps you build a real content pipeline instead of forcing everything to happen at once. That means better control over quality, timing, SEO details, images, approvals, and publishing.

In practical terms, the current plugin can help you:

- Generate category-based topic ideas.
- Add selected or manually entered topics to the Post Creation Queue.
- Create full blog posts in a staged process instead of one giant blocking request.
- Automatically add one featured image and a set number of inline images when image generation is enabled.
- Rotate image models and image styles when more than one option is enabled.
- Save posts as Draft or Published.
- Require approval before scheduled publication when using a review-first workflow.
- Write Yoast SEO meta descriptions for newly created posts, and backfill missing ones later.
- Append a footer call to action to generated posts.
- Auto-post published content to Facebook and Google Business Profile when those channels are connected.
- Generate standalone premium images directly into the WordPress media library.
- Expose remote status and run-now endpoints for advanced management workflows.

Requirements and Recommendations

What you need before the plugin can do its job

Before using AutoPost AI Pro, make sure the basics are in place. A lot of early frustration comes from trying to run the plugin before the site, categories, or API keys are ready.

Area	What is needed	Why it matters
WordPress	WordPress 6.0 or higher	The plugin is built for modern WordPress environments.
PHP	PHP 7.4 or higher	Required for compatibility with the current plugin build.
Permissions	Administrator-level access	Needed to configure plugin settings and connections.
OpenAI	A valid OpenAI API key with active billing	Required for topic suggestions, post creation, summaries, meta descriptions, and related AI writing tasks.
Image provider	Stability AI key, Google Gemini key, or both	Required for premium image generation, both automatic and manual.
Cron reliability	A real server cron is strongly recommended on low-traffic sites	Helps scheduled creation and publication run on time.

The current build primarily uses gpt-5.4-mini and gpt-5.4 for post-related generation. That detail is mostly behind the scenes for users, but it helps explain why the plugin needs an OpenAI connection even if you are mainly focused on blog writing.

Optional integrations can make the plugin more valuable:

- Yoast SEO for automatic meta descriptions and bulk backfilling.
- Facebook Page connection for automatic or manual Facebook sharing.
- Google Business Profile connection for automatic or manual GBP posting.
- A content-rich website structure with real pages and posts already published, especially if you want stronger internal linking opportunities.

Recommended site setup before heavy use

Create the real post categories you plan to publish into.

Make sure your main service pages and important site pages already exist.

Add at least some quality site content before expecting strong internal linking.

Know your main call to action if you want the plugin to append a footer CTA.

Use a WordPress theme that properly shows the post title. The plugin expects the theme to handle the visible H1.

Getting Started

The best first-run setup order

The smoothest first-run experience comes from setting up the plugin in the right order. This matters because one unfinished area can make another feature seem broken when it is really just waiting on missing setup.

1. Install and activate AutoPost AI Pro in WordPress.
2. Open the plugin page from the WordPress admin.
3. If the OpenAI API key has not been saved yet, the interface automatically opens AI Engine & Images so you can start where it matters most.
4. Save your OpenAI API key first.
5. Connect Stability AI, Google Gemini, or both if you want premium image generation.
6. Review the ChatGPT pre-prompt so the plugin writes in the right tone, brand voice, and business context.
7. Configure Image Model Options and Image Generator Settings in AI Engine & Images.
8. Create real WordPress post categories in Posts > Categories before trying to generate topics.
9. Configure Scheduling, Post Details, Sharing & Tools.
10. Go to Generate Topics & Queue Posts, pick a category, and build your queue.
11. Use Create Now on at least one topic first so you can watch the full workflow and confirm that the output matches your expectations.
12. Review the post, images, internal links, CTA behavior, and social settings before letting automation do more work.

The single biggest setup mistake

Users often try to generate topics before they have created real WordPress categories.
This workflow is category-driven.
No category setup means no useful category-based topic generation.

It is also smart to test one complete manual run before relying on automation. That gives you a chance to see how your pre-prompt, word count, images, CTA, approvals, and publishing settings all behave together.

AI Engine & Images

This is the foundation tab and should be configured first

The AI Engine & Images tab powers the writing side of the plugin and the image side of the plugin. That is why the tab was renamed. It no longer feels like a narrow API-only screen. It is the place where you connect your AI services, guide the writing voice, choose image models, and define how automatic post images behave.

What belongs in this tab

OpenAI API connection
Writing guidance through the ChatGPT pre-prompt
Stability AI connection
Google Gemini connection
Per-model image options
Automatic image settings for generated posts

OpenAI API Key

Your OpenAI API key is required for the core writing workflows. Without it, the plugin cannot generate topic suggestions, create posts, build summaries for social channels, or write Yoast meta descriptions.

- Generate category-based topic suggestions
- Create long-form post content
- Shape article structure and tone
- Generate supporting copy for Facebook and Google Business Profile
- Write Yoast SEO meta descriptions when that feature is enabled

ChatGPT Pre-prompt

The ChatGPT pre-prompt is one of the most important settings in the plugin. It tells the AI how to think about your brand, your audience, your offer, your tone, and your business context before it writes a post.

For many users, improving the pre-prompt has a bigger impact on quality than changing any other writing setting. A strong prompt helps the plugin produce content that sounds more like your business and less like generic AI writing.

- Use it to define voice, expertise level, and audience.
- Use it to explain your main services and where they matter.
- Use it to set guardrails so the writing stays on-brand.
- Use the reset option if you want to return to the default prompt later.

Stability AI API Key

Save your Stability AI API key here if you want to use Stability models for featured images, inline post images, or standalone manual image generation. When connected, the plugin can also check your Stability credit balance and warn you when credits are getting low.

Google Gemini API Key

Save your Google Gemini API key here if you want to use Google-based image models. Once connected, Google image models become available anywhere the plugin allows image generation.

Image Model Options

This area lets you choose one image model at a time and save that model's own settings. These are per-model settings, not one global image setup that applies to every model equally.

Current premium image models in the plugin include:

- Stable Image Core: Fast and Affordable
- Stable Image Ultra: Photorealistic, Large-Scale Output
- Stable Diffusion 3.5 Model Suite
- Nano Banana Pro: Premium image generation
- Nano Banana 2: Fast premium image generation
- Imagen 4: Premium image quality
- Imagen 4 Ultra: Best image quality

Depending on the selected model, the available controls can include:

- Image Aspect Ratio
- SD 3.5 Sub-Model
- Image Size
- People in Images
- Image Style or Style Guidance
- Negative Prompt or Negative Guidance

Model-specific behavior

Not every model shows every field.

Stability models use Stability-style labels such as Image Style and Negative Prompt.

Google models use labels such as Style Guidance and Negative Guidance.

The interface only shows settings that make sense for the model you selected.

Image Generator Settings

This section controls how images are handled during post creation. If automatic images are enabled and at least one supported image provider is connected, the plugin can generate one featured image and the exact number of inline images you select.

- Automatically add images to posts
- Inline Images Per Post, from 2 through 5
- Inline Image Placement
- The image models allowed for post image generation

The current placement options include alternating left-right layouts, all-left or all-right layouts, centered, full width, and random. On mobile, inline images automatically stack full width for readability even if the desktop layout is narrower.

When more than one model is selected for post image generation, the plugin can vary the model from image to image. When a model has multiple styles checked, the plugin can also rotate style guidance for more variety.

Generate Topics & Queue Posts

Where category-driven planning begins

Once your AI setup is ready, this tab is usually the next place to go. It is designed to help you build a useful queue instead of inventing one topic at a time on the fly.

The plugin's topic workflow is category-based. You choose a WordPress post category first, then the plugin generates suggested topics that fit that category.

Important setup reminder

The category selector intentionally skips Uncategorized.

You need at least one real category to use this workflow well.

The better your categories, the better your topic organization and queue quality.

What you can do in this tab:

- Choose a WordPress category.
- Generate five topic suggestions at a time.
- Refresh suggestions to get another set for the same category.
- Select the topics you want to keep.
- Add those selected topics to the Post Creation Queue.

The plugin also attempts to avoid suggesting topics that are already in the queue for the same category. That helps reduce accidental duplicates while you are building a content plan.

This tab is best used when you want to batch-plan content. Instead of generating one post at a time, you can quickly build a queue for the coming days, weeks, or months.

Post Creation, Approval & Publication

The main production tab

This is the heart of the plugin. It is where queued topics are turned into real WordPress posts, and where created content moves through review, approval, and publication.

This tab usually has two big working areas: the Post Creation Queue and the Created Posts, Approvals & Publication Queue. It also includes a quick way to add a topic manually if you do not want to use the topic suggestion workflow for a specific post.

Add a topic manually

You can manually add a topic by choosing a category, typing the topic, and adding it to the queue. This is useful when you already know the exact title or subject you want to create.

Post Creation Queue

This queue holds topics that are waiting to be created. Typical queue details include the topic, category, days until creation, and topic creation date. Actions can include Create Now, Edit Topic, and Delete.

Create Now

Create Now is the best way to test and observe the workflow. Instead of waiting for the scheduler, you can watch a post build step by step. The exact number of steps depends on whether automatic images are enabled and how many inline images you have selected.

- If automatic images are disabled, the workflow is shorter: generate initial content, grow content, finish content, finalize post.
- If automatic images are enabled, each image is handled as its own step after the writing stages, followed by finalization.
- This staged approach helps avoid long server requests and gives the user more visibility into progress.

Why the staged workflow is useful

Long AI requests can be fragile on some servers.

Breaking the process into stages helps reduce timeouts.

It also makes troubleshooting easier because you can see whether the hold-up is content, a specific image step, or finalization.

How post creation works

The writing workflow is designed to build a real article, not just one short generic block of text.

- Initial Content builds the article structure and opening body sections.
- Grow Content expands the article toward the target word count.
- Finish Content refines the article, cleans the structure, and prepares it for saving.

During finishing, the plugin can handle cleaner headings, internal links, high-authority informational links, CTA insertion when enabled, and final HTML cleanup.

The current build keeps the post body cleaner than older versions. The WordPress theme is expected to show the visible H1 post title. Inside the article body, the content should start with introductory paragraphs and then move into H2-led sections. If the AI body contains H1 tags, the plugin can normalize them.

Image creation during post build

When automatic images are enabled and at least one supported provider is connected, the plugin can generate one featured image plus the exact number of inline images you selected in settings.

- Models and styles can rotate for variety when multiple options are enabled.
- Inline images are spread through the content instead of bunching at the top.
- The call-to-action area is kept clear.
- Each image is validated before it is accepted.

If an image fails during manual creation, the plugin can retry that exact image step instead of silently moving on with a bad result. That protects quality and makes the workflow more trustworthy.

Finalize Post

Once the writing and image steps are complete, the plugin finalizes the post in WordPress. At this point it can assign the category, set the post status, set the featured image, place inline images, write a Yoast meta description when enabled, and update queue records with the latest workflow status.

Created Posts, Approvals & Publication Queue

After creation, the topic moves into the created side of the workflow. This area helps you see what has been created, whether it is approved, whether it has already been posted to Facebook or GBP, and whether it has been published.

Common actions can include:

- View Post
- Edit Post
- Approve
- Post to Facebook
- View Facebook Post
- Post to Google Business Profile
- View GBP Post
- Requeue Post Creation

Approvals and publication logic

The plugin supports a review-first workflow. If posts are created as Draft, you can review and approve them before any scheduled publication takes place. This is one of the safest ways to use the plugin when quality control matters.

- If Post Status Upon Creation is Published, the post can go live as soon as creation finishes.
- If Post Status Upon Creation is Draft, the post stays unpublished until you publish it manually or let the scheduled publication process handle it.

- For scheduled publication workflows, approval acts as the gate that allows automatic publishing.

If a queue record exists but the created WordPress post cannot be found, the Requeue action gives you a way to run the topic again.

Scheduling, Post Details, Sharing & Tools

Where automation and publishing behavior are controlled

After your AI and image setup is complete, this tab is where you fine-tune how the plugin behaves over time. It controls when posts are created, when approved posts are published, how long articles should be, whether Yoast descriptions and a footer CTA are added, and how Facebook and Google Business Profile are handled.

This tab also includes maintenance tools that are useful when you are testing or when a previous run seems stuck.

Post Tools

- Reset Post Schedule Processing Data clears processing state so the plugin can resume cleanly if automation got stuck or partly completed.
- Run Post Automation Now manually triggers the same core automation logic used by the schedule. The current build runs this in multiple short AJAX passes and shows a progress bar plus a running log.

This is helpful when you want to test your setup, force the queue to process immediately, or confirm whether today's scheduled work has already been handled.

Post Creation Schedule

This section controls when queued topics are turned into posts. For each enabled schedule row, you can choose a day and a time.

- Weekly
- Every 2 Weeks
- Every 3 Weeks
- Every Month

The plugin uses the site timezone for schedule evaluation. If more than one day is enabled, each enabled weekday acts like its own recurring lane. Monthly behavior is based on real calendar-month timing, then the plugin moves forward to the next matching enabled weekday and time.

Post Target Word Count

This controls how long generated posts aim to be. The admin field is designed around a minimum of 1200 words, a maximum of 2000 words, and a default of 1650 words. In plain terms, this setting influences how much the plugin expands the article during the staged content build.

Post Status Upon Creation

You can save newly created posts as Draft or Published. Draft is recommended for most users because it gives you a review checkpoint before content goes live. Published is usually best only after you have already tested your output and trust the workflow.

Yoast SEO Meta Description

If Yoast SEO is active, the plugin can write a Yoast meta description for each newly created post. There is also a bulk backfill tool for older posts that are missing a meta description. If Yoast is not active, this feature is not available.

Footer Call to Action

You can choose whether to append a footer call to action to generated posts. If enabled, you can set the CTA text and the CTA link URL. This is useful when you want informational content to end with a consistent conversion-focused next step.

Post Publication Schedule

This is separate from the creation schedule. It controls when approved posts are automatically published. In other words, one schedule can create the content while a different schedule publishes it later.

Facebook

The plugin can connect to a Facebook Page for automatic or manual sharing of published posts.

- Connect to Facebook and choose the Page you want to use.
- Disconnect at any time.
- Enable automatic posting when a post is published.
- Manually post a published item to Facebook from the queue screen.
- View the Facebook post from the queue after publishing.

For Facebook post text, you can choose Intro Text or Post Summary. If you use Intro Text, you type reusable text that appears above the blog link. If you use Post Summary, the plugin can generate a summary using your chosen number of paragraphs, paragraph length, and emoji preference.

Google Business Profile

The plugin also supports Google Business Profile posting.

- Connect to Google and choose the correct GBP location for the site.
- Disconnect at any time.
- Enable automatic posting on publication.
- Manually post a published item to GBP from the queue screen.
- View the GBP post from the queue after posting.

GBP uses a summary-based format and a Learn More button pointing to the published blog post. The plugin also applies GBP-specific rules. The post must already be published, it must have a featured image, the image must be large enough, and the final summary is kept within GBP character limits. The plugin prepares a square crop for GBP when needed.

Email Notifications

You can enter one or more notification email addresses as a comma-separated list. Notifications can be used for events such as post created, post published, and low Stability credits.

Image Generator

Standalone premium image creation inside WordPress

The Image Generator tab is for manual, standalone image creation. It is especially useful when you want to create media before running a post, create an image for a page instead of a post, or experiment with prompt wording and styles.

Typical use cases

Featured images for blog posts
In-content visuals
Landing page graphics
Service page images
Social graphics
General media-library assets

To use this tab, save at least one image provider key first, either Stability AI or Google Gemini, in AI Engine & Images. If neither provider is connected, the tab shows a warning message and points the user back to the setup area.

Current manual image workflow

The current manual image workflow is more capable than older versions and is designed to be practical for real content work. It supports:

- Prompt Creator input from pasted source text
- Automatic creation of a polished image prompt
- Automatic creation of negative prompt or negative guidance text
- Automatic creation of a suggested file name
- Model-aware controls that change with the selected provider and model
- Image type selection
- A preview of the finished image after generation
- Saving the result directly into the WordPress media library
- Copyable image details such as the saved image URL and alt tag when available

Field-by-field guide

Prompt Creator

Paste source text into Prompt Creator and click Create Prompts. The plugin can turn that source into an image prompt, a negative prompt or guidance string, and a suggested file name. This is useful when you already have article content, service copy, or campaign notes and want the image request to reflect that content without writing the whole prompt from scratch.

Prompt

This is the main description of the image you want. Better prompts usually lead to better results. Even if Prompt Creator fills this field for you, you can still edit it before requesting the image.

Negative Prompt or Negative Guidance

This tells the model what to avoid, such as clutter, low quality details, visible text, logos, watermarks, blur, distortion, wrong anatomy, or other off-brand visual elements. The label changes depending on the model because different providers use different terminology.

Image Model and SD 3.5 Sub-Model

The manual generator only shows models that belong to providers you have actually connected. If the selected model is the Stable Diffusion 3.5 suite, the sub-model field appears with the currently supported choices.

Image Style or Style Guidance

This influences the look of the image. Stability uses native style presets. Google-based models use style guidance. The plugin only shows controls that make sense for the selected model.

Image Size, People in Images, and Aspect Ratio

Some Google models expose image size controls such as 1K and 2K. Imagen-based models can also expose People in Images options, including adults only, adults and children, or no people. Aspect ratio options update dynamically to show only what the selected model supports.

Image Type and File Name

The manual generator lets you request JPG, PNG, or WEBP. WEBP is the current default. The file name is sanitized into a web-friendly lowercase name, and the selected image type is automatically reflected in the file name shown in the field. The final saved media item uses your chosen file name plus a unique identifier to help prevent collisions.

Request Image and saved details

When you click Request Image, the plugin sends the current settings through the manual image workflow, saves the result into the media library, and shows the preview in the plugin interface. After a successful request, the plugin can also display saved-image details such as the image URL and the alt tag.

When to use the Image Generator instead of automatic post images

- You want a custom image before starting post creation.
- You need an image for a page, not a post.
- You do not want automatic image generation attached to a queued post.
- You want to test prompts, styles, output types, or models.
- You need reusable media assets for design, content, or social use.

Content Quality and Internal Linking in 14.3

A user-friendly explanation of what improved

One of the most important quality upgrades in 14.3 is the internal-linking behavior. Users do not have to change a setting to benefit from it. The improvement happens as part of the post-finishing workflow.

In plain English, the plugin now does a better job of choosing where an internal link should point. It looks across published pages and posts and tries to match the actual anchor text to the best destination.

- If a lower-level child page is a strong match, the plugin can choose that deeper page.
- If a broader parent page is the better fit, the plugin can still choose it.
- If a blog post fits the anchor text better than a page, the plugin can choose the post.
- When the top candidates are extremely close, AI can help break the tie.

What this means for users

Internal links should feel more natural.

Links should line up better with the words being linked.

Deeper service pages can get more relevant exposure when they truly match the topic.

The plugin is less likely to force every link toward a broad top-level page.

This update works alongside other article-quality behaviors in the current build, including cleaner heading structure, balanced internal and external linking, CTA placement, and HTML cleanup during finalization.

Automation and Advanced Management

What happens behind the scenes

AutoPost AI Pro uses WordPress cron-based automation for scheduled creation and scheduled publication. In practical terms, this means the plugin can watch your queue and process work at the days and times you configure.

- Scheduled post creation and scheduled post publication are separate systems.
- The site timezone is used for schedule evaluation.
- Locks and duplicate-prevention safeguards help reduce accidental double processing.
- Cron-based image processing uses validation and retry logic so bad image results are less likely to slip through unnoticed.

Best reliability tip

On low-traffic sites, use a real server cron to hit wp-cron.php.

Relying only on normal visitor traffic can make WordPress cron feel unreliable because tasks only run when traffic wakes WordPress up.

For advanced workflows, the plugin also includes remote REST endpoints intended for managers or connected systems.

Status endpoint

GET /wp-json/autopostai/v1/status

This endpoint can report information such as the last post creation date and time, the number of pending topics, the last publication date and channel status, the Facebook and GBP connection states, the number of posts waiting for approval or publication, enabled schedule days, the plugin version, and the current OpenAI model.

Run-now endpoint

POST /wp-json/autopostai/v1/run

This endpoint triggers the same core automation logic used by the Run Post Automation Now button. It uses Basic Auth with WordPress credentials and requires a user with `manage_options` capability. The endpoint also has a soft throttle so it cannot be spammed repeatedly in rapid succession.

Most users will never need these endpoints, but they are helpful for remote monitoring or manager-style workflows.

Best Practices for Better Results

Small habits that make a big difference

The plugin can do a lot automatically, but the best results come from giving it good ingredients and a sensible workflow.

- Create a strong pre-prompt before generating large batches of posts.
- Build real categories first, then generate topics within those categories.
- Run one or two manual Create Now tests before relying on schedules.
- Use Draft status until you trust the workflow on your site.
- Review the first few posts carefully for voice, formatting, link choices, CTA behavior, and image quality.
- Connect both image providers if you want more flexibility and redundancy.
- Use real service pages and useful site content if you want stronger internal-linking opportunities.
- Keep your featured image requirement in mind if Google Business Profile posting matters to you.
- Use a real server cron on low-traffic sites.
- Use the Reset Post Schedule Processing Data tool if a stalled run leaves the scheduler in a confusing state.

A very practical first test

Save your OpenAI key.

Connect one image provider.

Create two or three real categories.

Generate a few topics for one category.

Add one topic to the queue.

Run Create Now.

Review the finished post before turning on larger-scale automation.

Troubleshooting

What to check before assuming something is broken

Most problems are caused by setup gaps, not by the core plugin logic. The checklist below covers the most common causes.

Topic generation does not work

- Confirm that the OpenAI API key is saved.
- Confirm that your OpenAI account has active billing.
- Make sure at least one real WordPress category exists.
- Choose a category before clicking Suggest Topics.

Premium images do not generate

- Make sure at least one image provider key is saved.
- Make sure the selected model belongs to a provider you actually connected.
- If you are using Stability, check that credits are available.
- Make sure the prompt is not empty.
- Make sure your server can complete outbound API requests.
- Make sure the selected model supports the chosen aspect ratio or related controls.

No automatic post images are being added

- Make sure Automatically add images to posts is enabled.
- Make sure at least one image model is checked for post image generation.
- Make sure at least one supported image provider is connected.
- Save the inline image count and related image settings.
- Check whether the run is failing on a specific image step.

Scheduled runs seem unreliable

- Check that the site timezone is correct.
- Check that the creation schedule and publication schedule are set the way you expect.
- Make sure WP-Cron is firing normally.
- Use a real server cron on low-traffic sites.
- Reset processing state if a previous run stalled.

Facebook or Google Business Profile posting is not happening

- Make sure the channel is connected.
- Confirm that auto-posting is enabled for that channel if you expect automatic behavior.

- Make sure the post is published where required.
- For Google Business Profile, make sure the post has a usable featured image.
- Make sure the correct GBP location was selected after connection.
- Check that the queue record is eligible for the action you are trying to take.

FAQ and Plain-English Glossary

Helpful definitions and quick answers

Frequently asked questions

Do I have to use automation right away?

No. You can use the plugin manually first. In fact, that is the recommended way to test your setup.

Can I create topics without categories?

Not in the intended workflow. Topic generation is category-based, so real WordPress categories should be created first.

Can I use the plugin without premium image generation?

Yes. You can still use the writing workflow without automatic images, or use the Image Generator only when needed.

Why are Draft posts usually safer than Published posts?

Draft keeps a review checkpoint in place. That gives you a chance to verify tone, links, images, and formatting before anything goes live.

Does the plugin only link to pages?

No. In the current build, internal linking can choose from pages and posts. It tries to select the destination that best matches the anchor text.

What if the plugin misses a social post?

You can often post manually from the queue area after reviewing the item, as long as it meets the channel requirements.

What is the difference between the creation schedule and the publication schedule?

Creation turns queued topics into posts. Publication takes approved created posts and pushes them live. They are separate workflows.

Glossary

Term	Meaning
Queue	A waiting line of topics or created posts that are moving through the workflow.
Draft	A post saved in WordPress but not yet publicly visible.
Published	A post that is live on the site.
Featured image	The main image attached to a post. It is often used by themes, archives, and social sharing.
Inline image	An image placed inside the body of a post.
Approval	The plugin's review gate that helps control whether scheduled publication can happen.
CTA	Call to action, usually a short conversion-focused message and link placed near the end of a post.
WP-Cron	WordPress's scheduled task system.
API key	A private connection key that allows the plugin to use services such as OpenAI, Stability AI, or Google Gemini.

Google Business Profile	Google's business listing and posting platform for local visibility.
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Final Notes

How to get the most out of AutoPost AI Pro

AutoPost AI Pro is designed to combine automation with control. It helps you move from topic ideas to queued work, from queued work to created posts, from created posts to approval, and from approval to publication and social sharing. But it still leaves room for the user to guide the process.

That balance is what makes the plugin useful in the real world. You can speed up planning and production without giving up quality checks.

Version 14.3 continues that direction by improving internal-link target selection, keeping the setup path clear, and documenting the current functionality in a more user-friendly format.

Recommended next step after reading this guide

Open the plugin.
Save your OpenAI API key.
Connect one image provider.
Create real categories.
Run one manual test post.
Then scale up with confidence.