5 Easy Steps To Deploy pURLs in Postalytics



To take advantage of the pURL tracking tools in Postalytics, just follow these steps:

- 1. Set up a domain to host your pURLs Learn More
- 2. Copy the tracking code into your landing page(s) Learn More
- 3. Drop the %pURL% variable into your creative Learn More
- 4. Configure your pURLs for printing/production in the Campaign Wizard
- 5. Test your pURLs with the "Test Mode" tools Learn More

What are pURLs and why would I use them?

A pURL (Personalized URL) is a unique URL printed on a piece of mail used to track the online response of direct mail campaigns

More and more, consumers and B2B marketing targets prefer to respond online. Fewer are picking up the phone to call, and fewer yet are filling out the old business reply cards. By giving the mail recipient a specific place to reply to an offer, you are controlling the content they view, AND you are tracking their individual online activity. Postalytics gives incredibly detailed data

about how mail recipients respond online because we make it easy to include a pURL on every mailpiece.

How do Postalytics pURLs work?

Postalytics pURLs work very differently from traditional pURL marketing systems.

First, they're free! The tools required to generate pURLs and track response are bundled into Postalytics.

Second, you won't need to purchase and use specialized landing page software. Postalytics pURLs can be used with any modern landing page, web content management system, or e-commerce system.

When your mail recipients respond by entering their pURL or <u>scanning their QR code</u>, **Postalytics will identify the recipient, and redirect them to your landing page of choice**.

Your pURLs, landing pages (and Goal Conversion URLs) are entered when you set up your campaigns. There's a few things to do in order to support them.

I Want To Get Started. What's Next?

There are 5 key steps to getting pURLs configured and printed.

- 1. Set up a domain to host your pURLs Learn More
- 2. Copy the tracking code into your landing page(s) Learn More
- 3. Drop the %pURL% variable into your creative Learn More
- 4. Configure your pURLs for printing/production in the Campaign Wizard
- 5. Test your pURLs with the "Test Mode" tools Learn More

When your mail recipients respond by entering their pURL, Postalytics will identify the recipient, and redirect them to your landing page of choice (your starting URL). The pURL tells us who the recipient is, the tracking code on the landing page allows us to see how the recipient interacts with your landing page/website.

If you're early in your Postalytics account setup, you'll see a checklist of items. Click on Step 2 to work on getting your **domain and tracking code**.

Getting Started Welcome to Postalytics! The easie comprehensive analytics. Comple	With Postalytics est, most powerful way to send direc te the few getting started steps belo	t mail. Build and launch a camerigu w and you will be on a way to se	equickly then track the offline and on ending and tracking direct mail as ea:	line stats with the industries most sily as email.
Complete Profile	Setup Tracking	□ Import a List	□ Build a Template	Create a Campaign
Postalytics will automatically insert your address into the return address for each campaign. Set it up here.	Track your online visitors when you install the tracking code on your website, set up a domain and integrate with your CRM.	Upload a list or pull an existing list from your CRM to be used for your mailing	Modify a free template, build one as easy as email, or upload one using our style guide	Use our simple wizard to generate your campaign and begin tracking your leads
Go	Go	Go	Go	Go

If you're further along and the Getting Started checklist has been removed, below are the menu selections below your user name you'll need to go to in order to get your domain and tracking code set up.



First, you'll need a domain to "host" your pURLs. This is the domain that will be printed on your mailer, and will support each unique pURL that is generated by Postalytics.

You can use the same domain in as many campaigns as you choose.

There are some technical settings that need to be set up precisely in order to make the pURLs work. For this reason, <u>we recommend that you purchase a vanity domain</u> through the Postalytics domain tool. All of the technical settings will be taken care of!

You can modify and map an existing domain that you own to be able to use it with Postalytics pURLs. It requires access to the domain registrar where the domain is hosted, and some technical competency.

For this and other reasons, we DO NOT recommend using your primary website domain to host pURLs.

Next, you'll need to drop the Postalytics Tracking Code into the HTML of your landing page(s) or website that you want your recipients to visit. We recommend putting it anywhere in the footer area (before the </footer> tag.)

Learn more about the Postalytics Tracking Code.

You can access the tracking code from the "Integrations" menu selection beneath your user name.

It is important that the full tracking code appear in the source code of the page. For this reason, we DO NOT recommend using a tool like Google Tag Manager, as some tools will obfuscate all or parts of the tracking code.

Third, you'll need to insert the pURL "Variable" into your creative.

This is a relatively simple process in the Postalytics direct mail editor.

When you're working in either the postcard or letter editor, you can use our simple pURL tool in the "Tracking" section on the left side of the builder. See below:



Note that we recommend using a full width, offset color shape to layer the %pURL% variable on top of. This will ensure that you get plenty of space for the final pURL to be printed, and you can make it a visual

The variable is a placeholder for the final pURL structure that you'll choose in the campaign wizard (you can play with different formats with live data in the editor "Proof" tool.)

This way, you can use the same template in multiple campaigns, modifying the pURL during the campaign setup, rather than in the template each time. The Variable Data value looks like this:



When you "Proof" your template (which is required to use the template in a campaign), you'll be able to test your pURL with data to make sure that the font size is correct. Our proofing process will use the longest possible combination of values (if you choose a friendly URL format) when the proof is created.

Fourth - you'll choose your pURL format in the Campaign Wizard.

Formatting your pURLs falls under the 'Tracking' step when setting up your campaign (See Images Below)

Determine your URL Format (Two Options):

- 1. Friendly URL String
 - i. Choose from any two columns of the list (example first name, last name)

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2. Random URL Strings

ii. Random group of letters/numbers

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There is no definitive 'Best Practice' when it comes to using a Friendly URL vs. Random URL. Ask yourself the following questions: Do I want to make it as easy as possible to for my recipients to enter the URL into their browser? Then keep it short and go with the Random URL Do I want the pURLs to pop off the page with some personalization? Then go with the friendly URLs.

It helps to think about your audience and the nature of your campaign. An association may want to go with the friendly URLs while a privacy conscious financial company may want to avoid disclosing data on the mail piece.

Fifth - Test Your pURLs using the pURL "Test Mode"

Postalytics has built a tool that lets you test out your pURLs and not clutter up your response tracking metrics. "Test Mode" is designed to enable you to download and test your pURLs and make sure they are rendering properly.

You can change your online tracking status to "Test Mode" from within your Campaign Dashboard Settings page:

Campaign Settings			
Campaign Name			
SendMeSamples 2018-08-06 4:54PM		Just for you. This will not go out in the mailing	
Campaign Type: Smart Blast (8/6/18 04:54 PM)			
Starting URL			
http://www.postalytics.com		Edit the starting URL that you want your audience directed to once they type in or QR scan their pURL. This	
 Notify on campaign status changes 	email(s) to notify: demo@nostalvtics.com	starting point can be any external site you wish.	
Notify on goal conversions	email(s) to notify: demo@postalytics.com	Select the checkboxes of the events you would like to be notified about. Then enter email addresses (separated by commas) of those you want to be alerted	
Save Settings Back to the Dashboard			
Campaign Status			
Online tracking is in live mode			

Here's a link to the full article on testing your pURLs and then setting your campaign back in "Live Mode":

https://www.postalytics.com/support/documentation/home/campaigns/how-to-test-your-purls/

How much do Postalytics pURLs cost me?

You can print a pURL on each and every piece of mail that you send, for no additional cost.

Or

Think about this – most direct mail professionals are paying for the pURL marketing software, the time it takes to create specialized landing pages, and a per piece fee each time they want to use pURLs.

You get to use pURLs for free, as a core part of Postalytics.