Checklist for basic website layout

Simple Non obtrusive logo
Large background image.
Make it absolutely clear what you are selling before the scroll
Benefits or unique selling proposition clear
Call To action Before the scroll That describes EXACTLY what you want the visitor to do
Happy Human Faces
Short list of links at the top-keep this focused
Clear Explanation and flow as you go down the page
Multiple call to actions as you scroll the page
Testimonials of some sort
Easy way to contact you (live chat, phone)
Icons as placeholders for text
Benefit driven copy
Copy speaks to one person