

Brand Guidebook 2021



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### **Our Vision**

The resources to create a smart, successful brand are accessible and easy to use for every business leader

### **Our Mission**

Provide data, creative, and strategy resources that empower business leaders to build high-growth brands fueled by aligned teams and loyal customers.

### **Our Core Values**

#### Evidence Over Ego

When it comes to decisions and recommendations, we use research, data, and an outside perspective to inform creative ideas and provide an objective point of view.

#### Fast And Focused

To maximize efficiency, we keep our processes and methods lean so that we can put ideas into practice and learn from them as soon as possible.

#### Collaborators At Heart

Our best work and best relationships have always come from openly sharing ideas and working on challenges together. Swooping in and dropping off a solution (even a good one) rarely works.

#### **Naturally Curious**

We're always excited to learn as much as we can about new businesses and the teams behind them to help find untapped opportunities.

### Excellence Through Empowerment

Our goal isn't just to deliver great work but to share how things work. We want to provide resources, tools, and knowledge to encourage success even beyond our engagements.

#### We Make It Fun

If you can laugh together, you can relax together. When you're relaxed you're more likely to share ideas and do your best work.

### **Our Customers**

#### **Small and Medium-Sized Business Founders**

Unfulfilled Customer

Our Offering

Outcomes

Satisfied Customer

Outcomes

Want to grow our business

Understand the needs of our customers

Get clarity on what makes our business unique within a noisy, competitive marketplace

Ensure everyone on our team is aligned and empowered to make good decisions

Make sure the business is serving our overall vision and mission

Create stronger product / market fit between our offerings and our target audience

Improve our ability to communicate about what we do in all situations from sales meetings, to investor presentations, and with customers

Limit dependency on leadership as the sole decision makers and extract more value from our team

Know that our efforts are building toward something valuable that serves both our business goals and personal lives

### **Our Customers**

#### Small and Medium-Sized Business Marketing Leaders

Unfulfilled Customer Our Offering Satisfied Customer

**Situation** 



#### **Motivations**



#### **Outcomes**



Want to make our brand's marketing efforts more impactful and

valuable

Effectively communicate our value proposition through all of our marketing channels

Make emotional, memorable connections with customers

Develop more consistent ways to define and refine our marketing and messaging, and improve ROI

Retain the customers we have and turn them into evangelists for the brand

Build trust with customers by delivering a consistent message across all touchpoints

Break through the smoke and noise of the market and speak to what our customers value most

Use data and processes to fuel informed decisions rather than relying on unstructured, inconsistent methods

Reduce churn, improve stability, and create more grassroots growth for the business

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## What Our Customers Value

#### Aspirational Elements





Heirloom Build a business with long term value even beyond the current team

**Provides Motivation** Get outside perspective to recognize and maxmize

Self-Actualization Increase leadership's impact and influence with

the brand

# **Emotional**

the brand's potential

**Provides Access** 

Gain a competitive

advantage with better

insights and proven tools

Reduces Anxiety Ease the burden of decisions with real data

and clear processes

# Elements





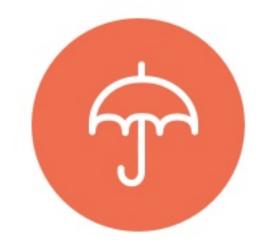
Quality Provide the best people, resources, and thinking in the industry



Reduces Effort Remove the need to solve brand and marketing challenges on their own



Makes / Saves Money Increase growth and marketing ROI in support of the bottom line



Reduces Risk Formalize the brand's direction and reduce dependency on individuals

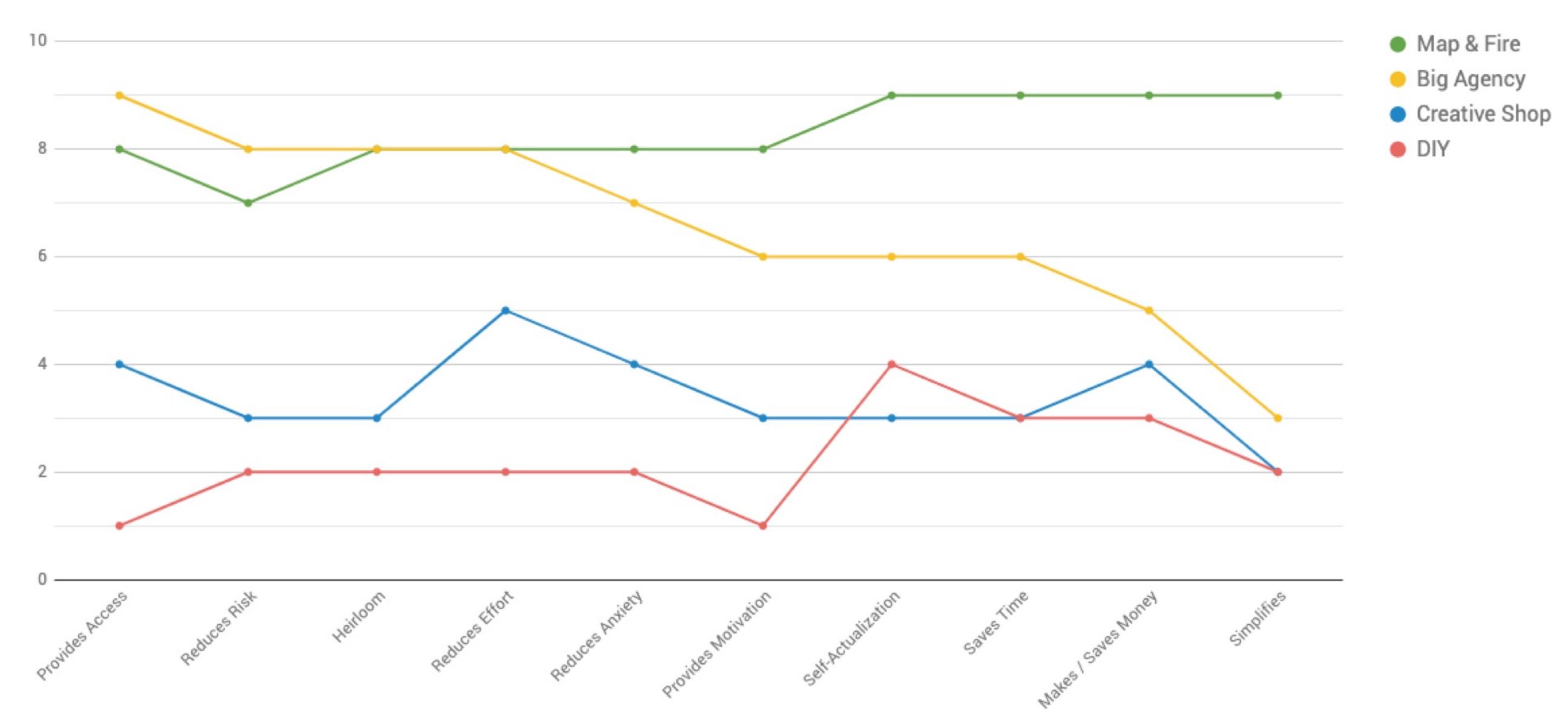


Simplifies Clarify the connections between all facets of the brand within the business



Saves Time Avoid wasting time on haphazard or ineffective strategies

# **Competitive Advantages**



## **Our Positioning**



For Small and Medium-Sized Business Founders and Marketing Leaders

Who seek to grow their business, build trust with customers, and align their team



We provide brand and marketing services and products

**That** use data, creative, and strategy to build unique brands that attract, engage, and convert more customers, and get internal teams moving in a unified direction



Unlike big agencies, design-only shops, or creating a brand on your own

We provide accessible strategic offerings that use clear processes and data to spark audience



emotions and convert those people into loyal customers

And that come from an experienced, collaborative, outside perspective

### **Core Brand Benefits**

We bring together your purpose, positioning, messaging, and customer data to create a powerful brand lever that will engage your audience and lift profits.

#### Achieve More Growth

Harness your improved clarity and differentiation to increase the volume and effectiveness of customer interaction at every stage of the funnel.

# Understand Your Customers

Use data and psychology to gain a new level of understanding of the motivations and outcomes that drive your customers to engage with your core offerings.

# Create A Unique Position

Elevate your business above the noise of the competition so that customers will find, remember, and evangelize your brand.

# Align Your Efforts

Document and share your strategy so that your team is empowered to work effectively and make decisions that support the goals of the business.

# Maximize Your Investment

Create a business that can live and grow on its own, that can reach a larger audience, and that supports the people within it.

## Our Brand's Archetype

The character, personality, and attitude we embody

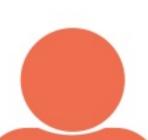


**Primary: Sage** 



Wisdom. Intelligence. Truth seeking. Clarity of thought.

The Sage is motivated by independence, cognitive fulfillment and truth. This archetype has a foundational identity attachment to the belief that thinking is what defines the human experience. The sage responds well to expert opinion but is inherently a pragmatic skeptic.



#### **Secondary: Everyperson**



Stewardship. Altruism. Respect. Fairness.

The Everyperson believes that everyone matters equally, regardless of status, age, ethnicity or creed. Like a good neighbor, the Everyperson seeks to do the right thing, with no need for heroics or adventure. Possessing a charming sincerity, the Everyperson embodies the acronym WYSIWYG — "what you see is what you get"



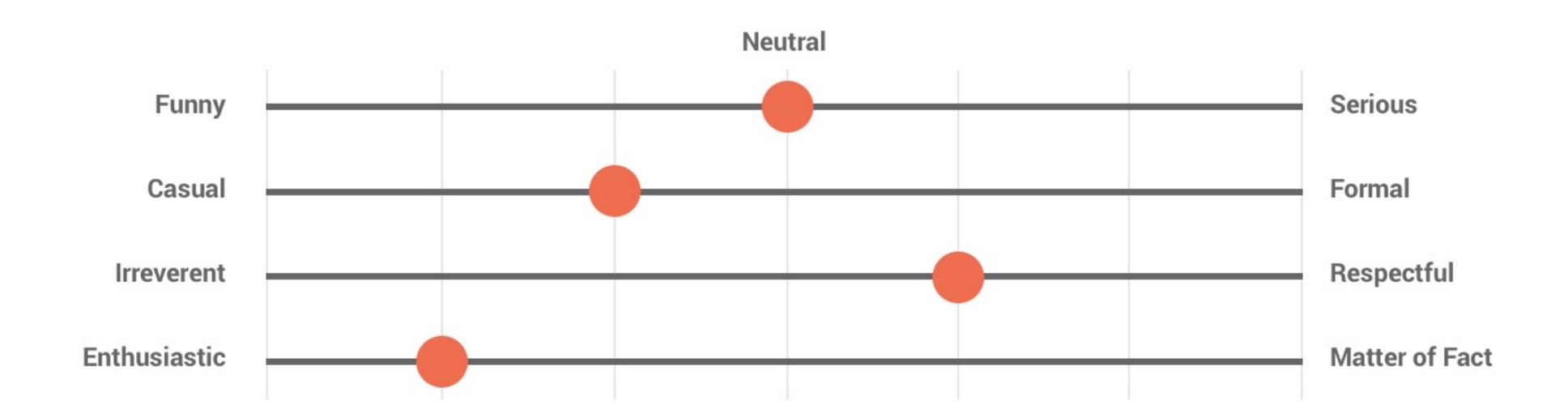
**Tertiary: Jester** 



Humor. Originality. Irreverence. Awareness

Joyfully living in the moment, the Jester seeks to lighten up the world. Able to bend perspective, twist meanings and interpret events and people in surprising ways, the Jester can speak truth to those in power. The Jester appreciates beauty, change, and surprises with wicked intellect.

## Our Tone of Voice



#### **Our Tone Should Be**

Friendly Informative

Caring Smart

Trustworthy Witty

#### **Our Tone Should NOT Be**

Coarse Conservative

Snarky Dry

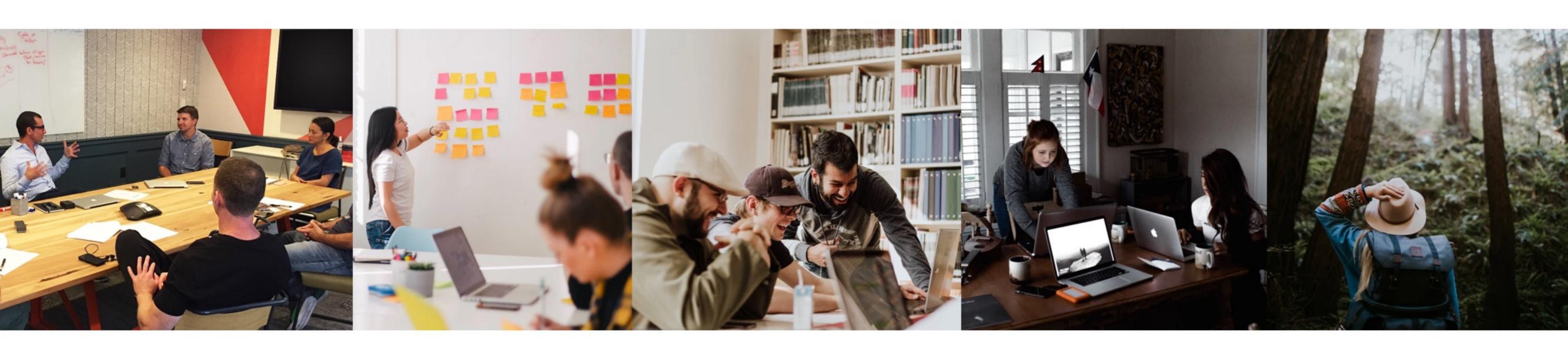
Nostalgic

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## Brand Image Do's

We want to highlight moments featuring confident, happy, business leaders and their team members:

- Candid, authentic images of people working together, focused and engaged in what they're doing
- People in non-traditional work environments (home, coffee shop, outside)
- People smiling, laughing or having fun while working
- Individuals or groups in outdoor, woodsy environments, exploring and discovering new things



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## Brand Image Don'ts

The following are examples of image types that don't represent the brand and should be avoided:

- Ultra posed or staged stock photos
- People that appear stressed or anxious (unless for a specific need to show a problem / struggle)
- People that appear arrogant or disengaged
- Overly serious or formal individuals or offices



## Colors



## **Typefaces**

# VINYL

Vinyl OT is the typface used for the lettering on the Map & Fire logo. That's the only place this typface is used.

# Averia Sans Libre

Averia Sans Libre is used for headlines on the website.

# Futura PT

Futura is the typeface used for a majority of the copy on the website and in print materials.

## Logo

The following are general guidelines for use of the logo.

For all use cases, be sure to leave padding around the logo to ensure clarity and readability.

This is the complete fire logo. When space allows and the background is light enough to provide sufficient contrast, this can be used.

When space is limited, or for cases where a square aspect ratio is required or preferred (e.g. social icons), the solo flame can be used.

For dark backgrounds where the flame doesn't have sufficient contrast or it clashes with colors, the Map & Fire text can be used in white by itself





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