Perfecting Your Presentation
Title Slide
We’ve been told not to judge a book by its cover, but first impressions are still hard to shake off.

Whether we’re faced with new people or experiences, the first few seconds always matter. This is especially true in the world of business, considering how everything there moves at such a fast pace. If you really want your presentations to count, you have to do more than prepare yourself for audience scrutiny.

You also need to prepare one of the first things your audience will see—your presentation’s title slide.
COME UP WITH A MEMORABLE TITLE

Like with books and movies, the title of your presentation is extremely important. It will help your audience gauge what your presentation is about, allowing them to decide whether or not it’s worth their time.
Come Up with a Memorable Title

In just a few words, the title should be able to embody the main theme to embody the main theme and message of your presentation. As Sims Wyeth writes,

“You can afford to jazz up your titles a bit. A good title sets the audience abuzz as in anticipated being entertained or intrigued. And the speaker can come back to the title throughout the talk if it serves as a theme. People may not leave humming the melody, but they might leave remembering the theme – which is a feather in the cap for any speaker.”

Choose your title wisely, and make sure it blends well with the crowd you’re addressing.
A descriptive and memorable title isn’t enough. To make sure your title slide stands out, you will also need evocative imagery.
A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

A single image or illustration is enough, as long as it echoes the theme of your presentation. Together with your title, the picture should be able to create an instant connection with the audience.

Notice how the picture can already tell a bit of a story. Always go for visuals that will instantly make a connection with your audience, especially for the title slide.
While it may seem like a small detail, your logo should also be part of your title slide.
The Logo is the Perfect Visual Representation of Your Company Story

You can choose to integrate the logo as part of your slide design, like the picture to the left, or use it in place of listing your name and position, saving space on the slide. Either way, keep in mind that your brand should always be perfectly integrated in your presentation deck.
Presentations are Judged by the Title Slide

Presentation expert Scott Schwertly writes,

“Approach your title slide like a handshake: it should be firm, straightforward, and give your audience an idea of the kind of character they are dealing with.”

Don’t neglect the title slide when you prepare to make a positive first impression.