

BRAND BASICS TOOLKIT

MARKETING TOOLKIT



Welcome to your customized toolkit for navigating the world of tourism marketing! Whether you're just starting out or looking to enhance your existing efforts, this toolkit is here to guide you step by step. We've simplified complex strategies into easy-to-follow advice so that you can confidently promote your unique experiences and connect with travelers. Let's embark on this journey together and unlock the potential of your small business in the world of tourism.

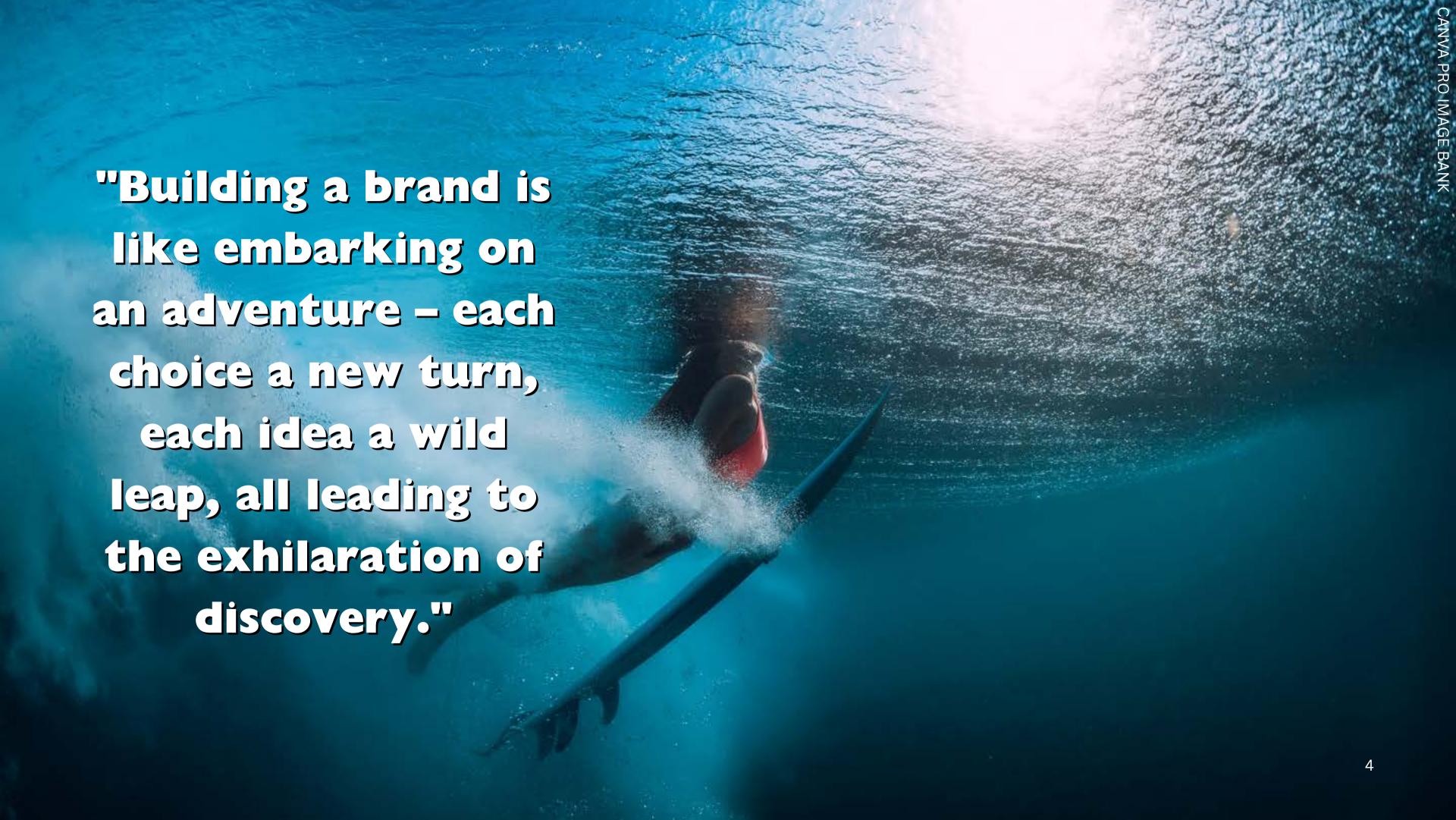
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Getting Started:
The Essential Tools
for Your Tourism
Business





CONSISTENT & RELIABLE DATA CONNECTION







Why it's essential:

To stay connected, respond to customer inquiries, and ensure you're always reachable.



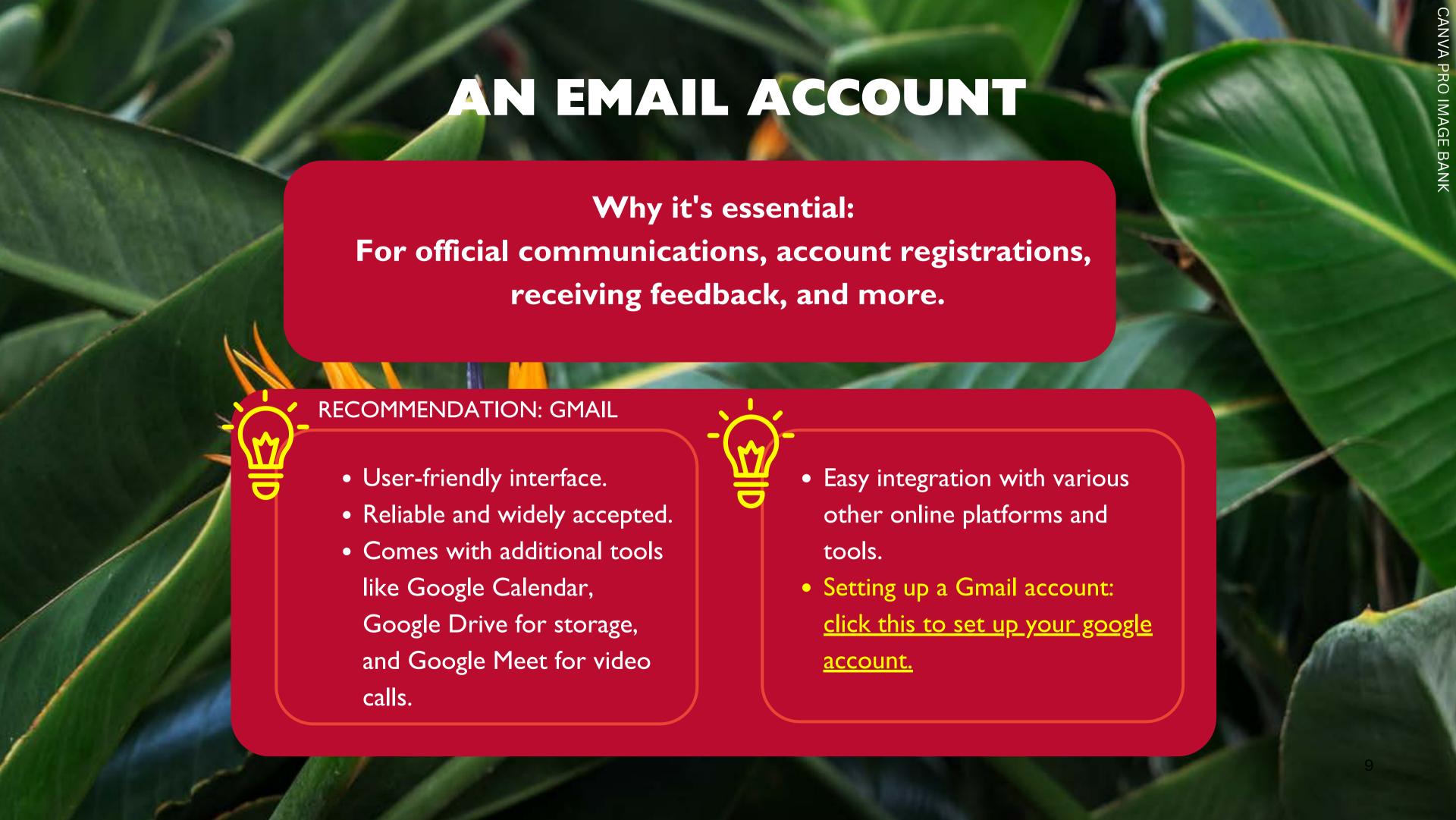
Choose a data plan that offers a good balance of affordability and data volume.



Make sure the service provider has strong coverage in your area.



Wi-Fi can be a boon, especially for activities that consume more data like video calls or uploading high-quality images.



Google: Empowering Tourism Businesses

Google is a powerhouse for tourism businesses. Beyond being the world's leading search engine, its tools, including Google Maps, Google My Business, and Google Ads, enhance visibility and connect businesses to travelers. With added features for communication, data analysis, and trends tracking, Google ensures your tourism venture isn't just on the map but stands out on it.

LINK TO GOOGLE WORKSPACE TRAINING.
LINK TO GOOGLE FOR SMALL BUSINESS TUTORIAL.

Google tools for tourism:
free and easy to use
click to set up.
TUTORIAL









What is a brand?

A brand is like the personality and identity of your business. Just like people recognize you by your personality, clothes, and how you talk, a brand is how people recognize your business. It's made up of your logo, colors, how you communicate, and what your business stands for.

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Think of it as the unique fingerprint that sets your business apart. Your brand tells people what you do, how you do it, and why you do it. It's what makes your business memorable and helps you connect with your customers in a special way.

Just like your own identity, a brand is what makes your business one-of-a-kind.

Why is branding essential for your tourism business?

Imagine two shops side by side: one is colorful, welcoming, with a catchy name, and the other is plain with no signboard. Which one would you enter? Branding helps your tourism business stand out, attract more customers, and leave a lasting impression. It's how travelers remember and choose you over others.







Your mission:

This is your business's purpose. It answers the question, "Why does my tourism business exist?" Perhaps it's "To provide authentic Sri Lankan experiences for global travelers."



Your vision:

This is the future you imagine because of your business. It could be something like, "To be the top choice for travelers seeking a true Sri Lankan adventure."



Your values:

These are the core beliefs guiding your business decisions. They might include "Authenticity, Sustainability, and Hospitality."













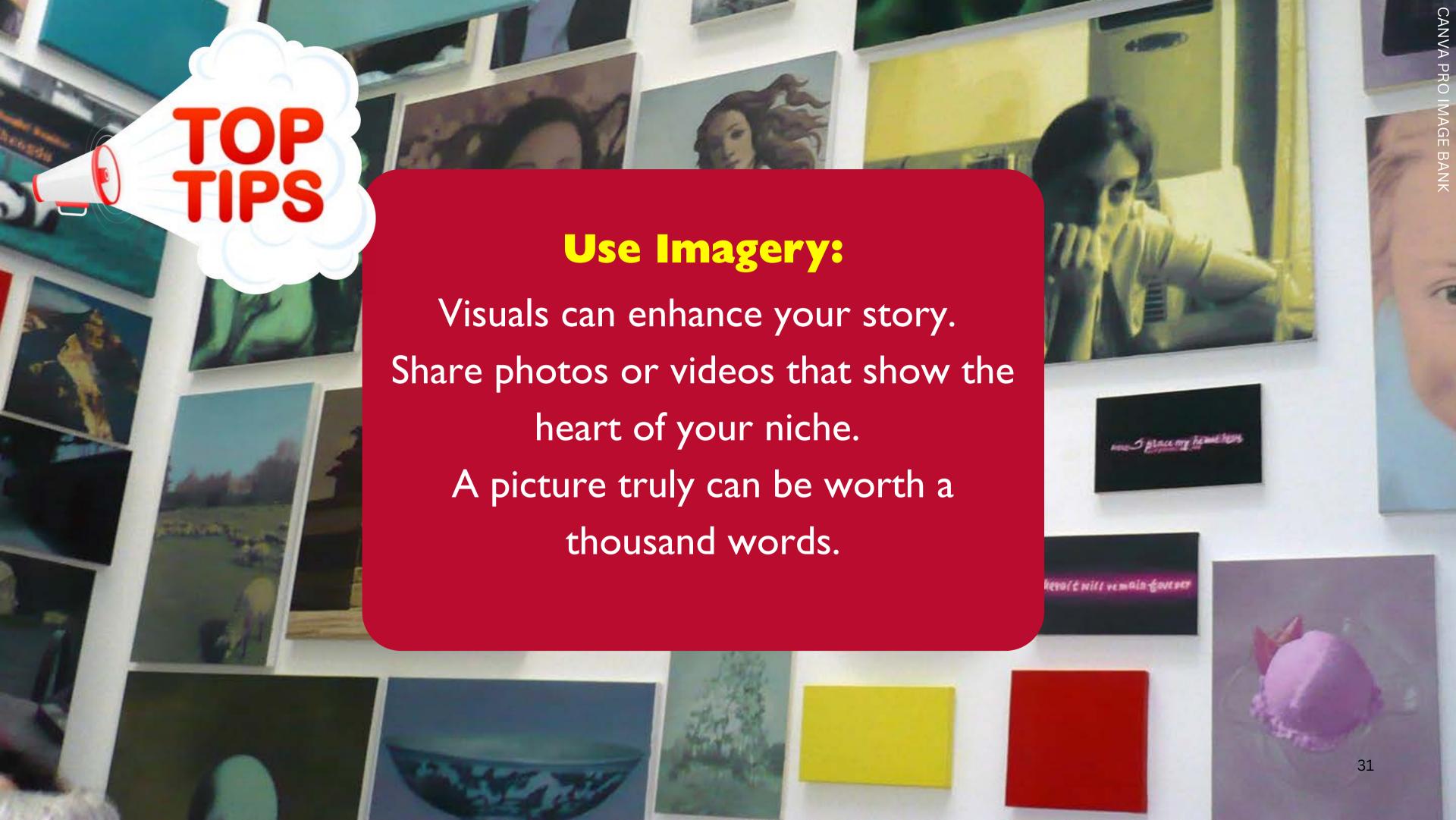
Keep it Real:

Act like you! don't worry about your English or try to be someone else. Be you. Be genuine in your storytelling.

Share authentic moments and experiences that showcase what travelers can really expect from your niche tourism offering.

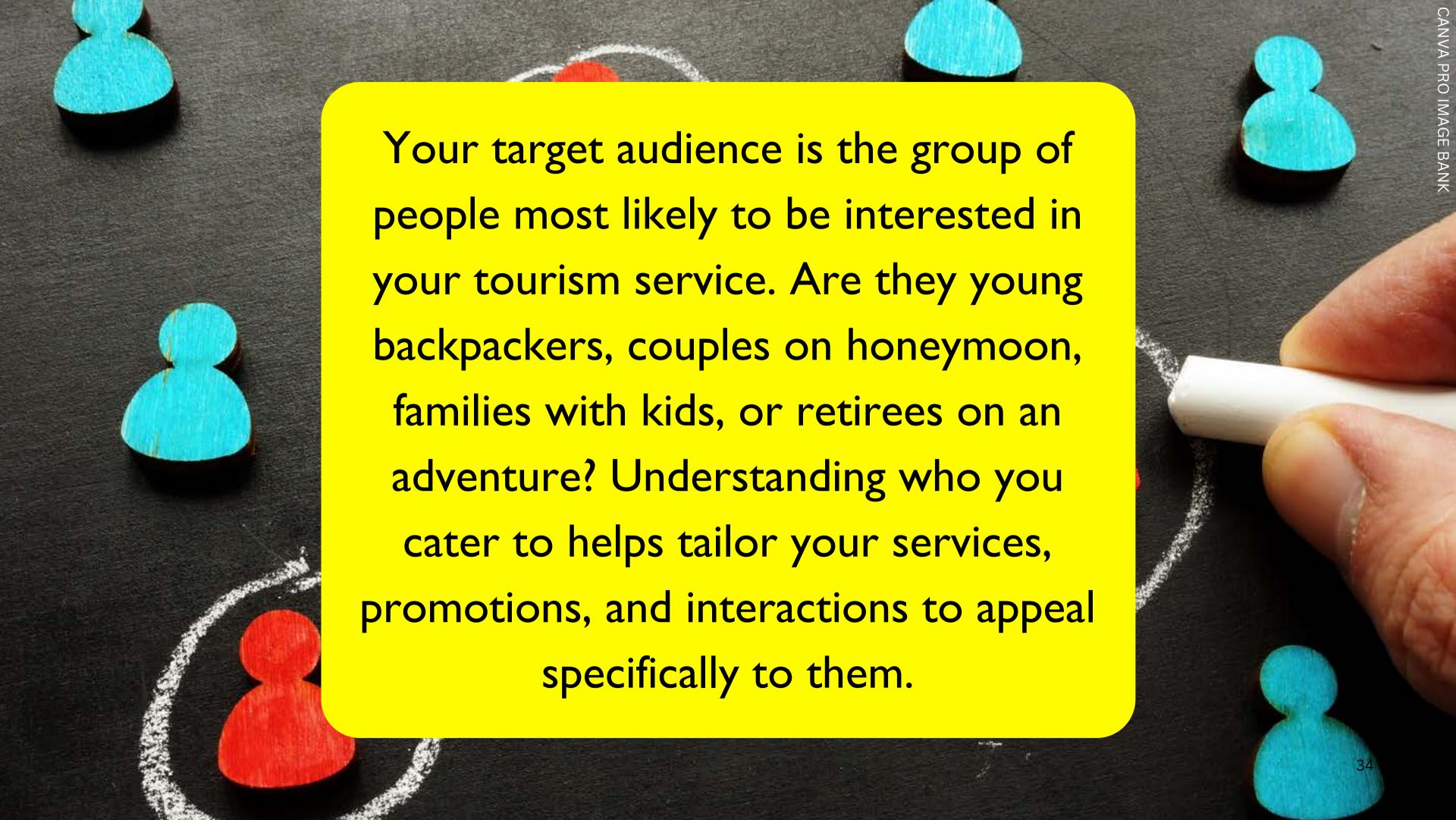




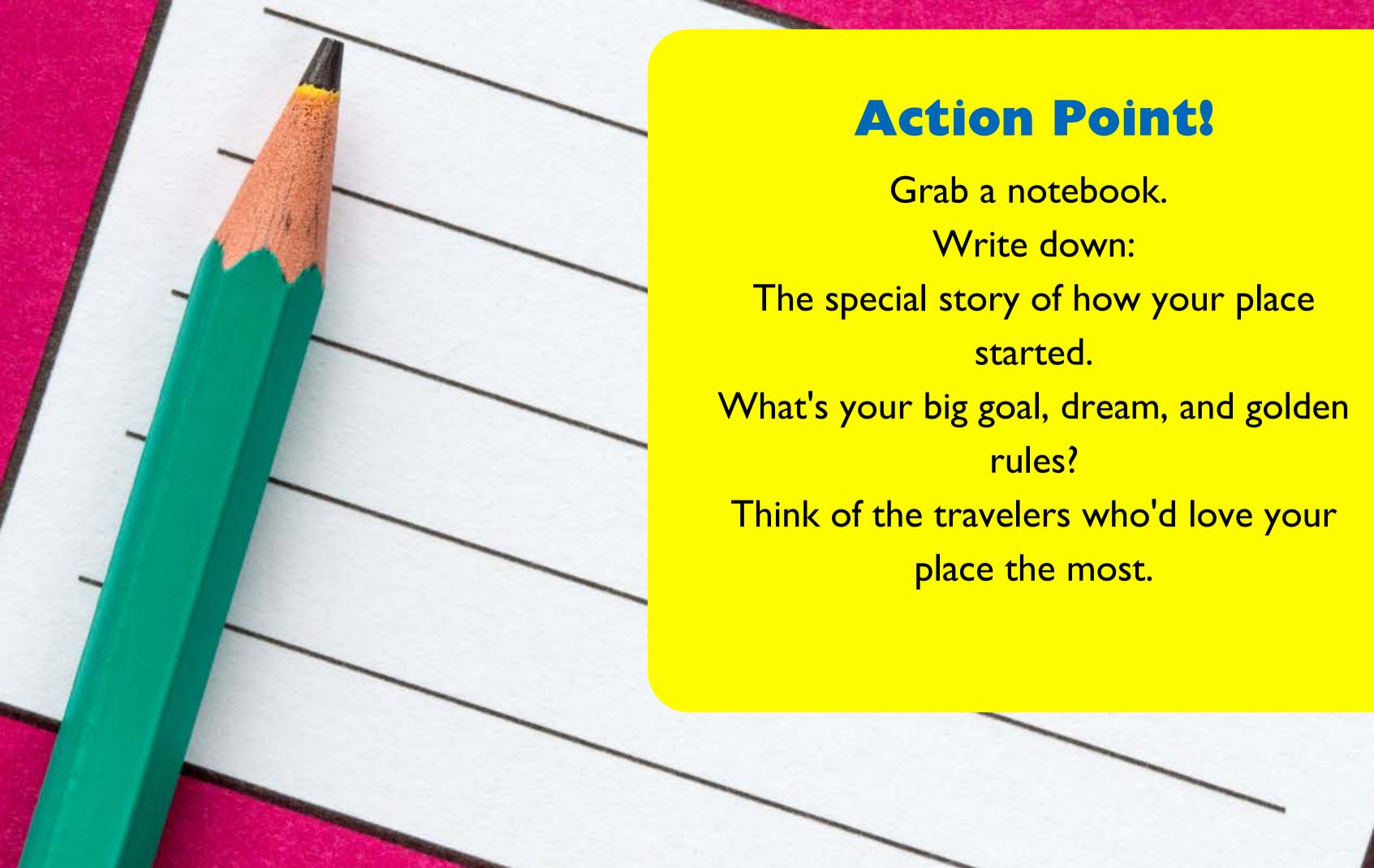














Your business name is like a traveler's first hello from you. It's their first impression, so you want it to be friendly and catchy.



- Keep it short and sweet.
- Make sure it's easy to say and remember.
- Think of what feelings you want it to evoke. Adventure?
 Relaxation? Joy?



Checking for name availability:

Before you get too attached to a name, do a quick search online. Make sure no other business has the same name or too similar.





Creating a Tagline: Simple Steps

- 1. Purpose: Understand what your business stands for. Are you about thrilling adventures, serene getaways, or cultural dives? Start there.
- 2. Keep it Short: Aim for 3-6 words. Short taglines are catchy and easy to remember.
- 3. Make it Memorable: Think of something that sticks in the mind. Rhymes, alliterations, or clever plays on words can be effective.



What is a logo and why is it crucial?

A logo is like the face of your business. Just as we recognize our friends by their faces, people will recognize your business through your logo. It's a tiny picture or design that holds the big essence of your brand.



Elements of a great logo:

- Simplicity: Choose clear, straightforward designs for easy recognition.
- Relevance: Ensure your logo fits your business. Beach huts might use waves; mountain lodges could feature peaks.
- Memorability: Create a unique logo that travelers remember from their Sri Lankan experiences.



Process of developing a great logo:

- Start with your story.
- Brainstorm words that describe your brand.
- Sketch ideas based on these words.
- Ask people what they think.
- Refine your sketch.



Tools & resources to create a logo:

Don't worry; you don't need to be an artist to create a logo! There are online tools to help:

- Canva: A user-friendly tool with loads of templates.
 Perfect for beginners.
- Looka: It's like magic! You input your business details and preferences, and it generates logo ideas for you.
- Talk to a freelancer: If you'd like to work with a human touch, there are many local freelance designers who can craft a logo for you at affordable rates.



- Simplicity is Key: Keep your logo simple. A clear and clean design is easier for people to remember.
- Reflect Your Niche: Your logo should hint at what your business offers. If you're about nature, maybe a leaf or a mountain. If it's cultural, maybe a symbol that represents that.
- Choose Colors Wisely: Colors can evoke emotions. Pick colors that match the feelings of your tourism. Cool blues for relaxation, vibrant yellows for energy choose wisely.

- Versatility Matters: Your logo should look good on websites, social media, and even on brochures. It needs to work well in different sizes.
- Stand Out: Your logo should be unique. Avoid copying others. It's like having your own special stamp.
- Think Long-Term: Don't follow trendy designs that might get outdated. Your logo should be relevant for years to come.

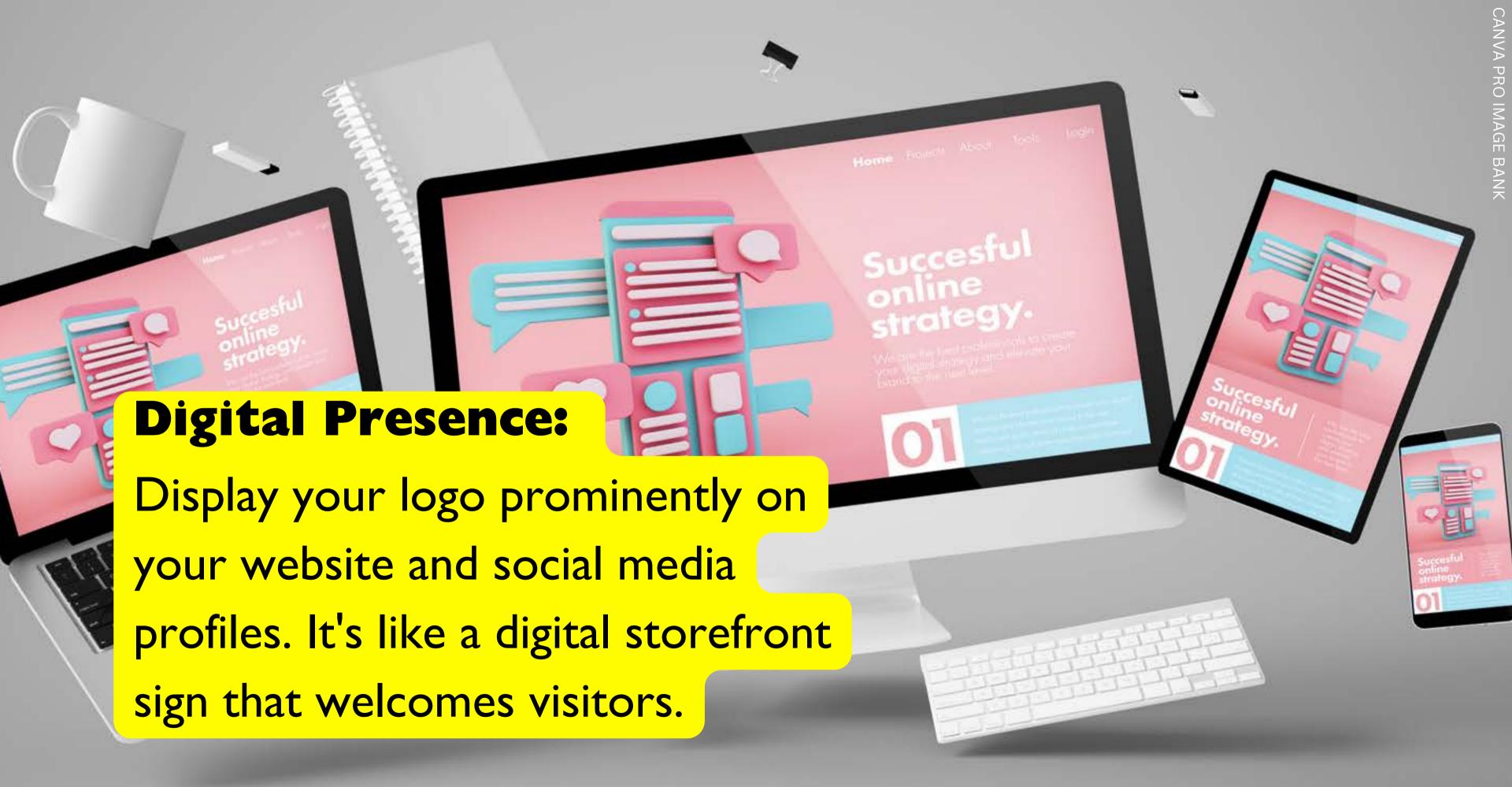


- Your logo doesn't work in black and white: Your logo should work in both color and black-and-white. If it relies heavily on color, it might not look good when printed or displayed in black-and-white. Consider having two versions: one for color and one for black-and-white.
- Your logo isn't scalable: Your logo will appear in various sizes, from signage to small app icons. Ensure it looks great and is easily recognizable at any size. Avoid excessive text in your logo to maintain clarity.
- Your logo has too many complex details: Simple logos often work best. Don't overcrowd your design with too many elements or text. When in doubt, keep it clean and straightforward.

- Your logo looks like another logo: Be original. Avoid designs that resemble other well-known logos or those of similar businesses in your industry.
- Your logo is not memorable: Your logo should leave a lasting impression. A simple logo is more likely to stick in people's minds compared to a busy one.
- Your logo is offensive or insensitive: This can alienate potential customers and tarnish your brand's reputation, so always ensure your design respects cultural, racial, and social norms and values.

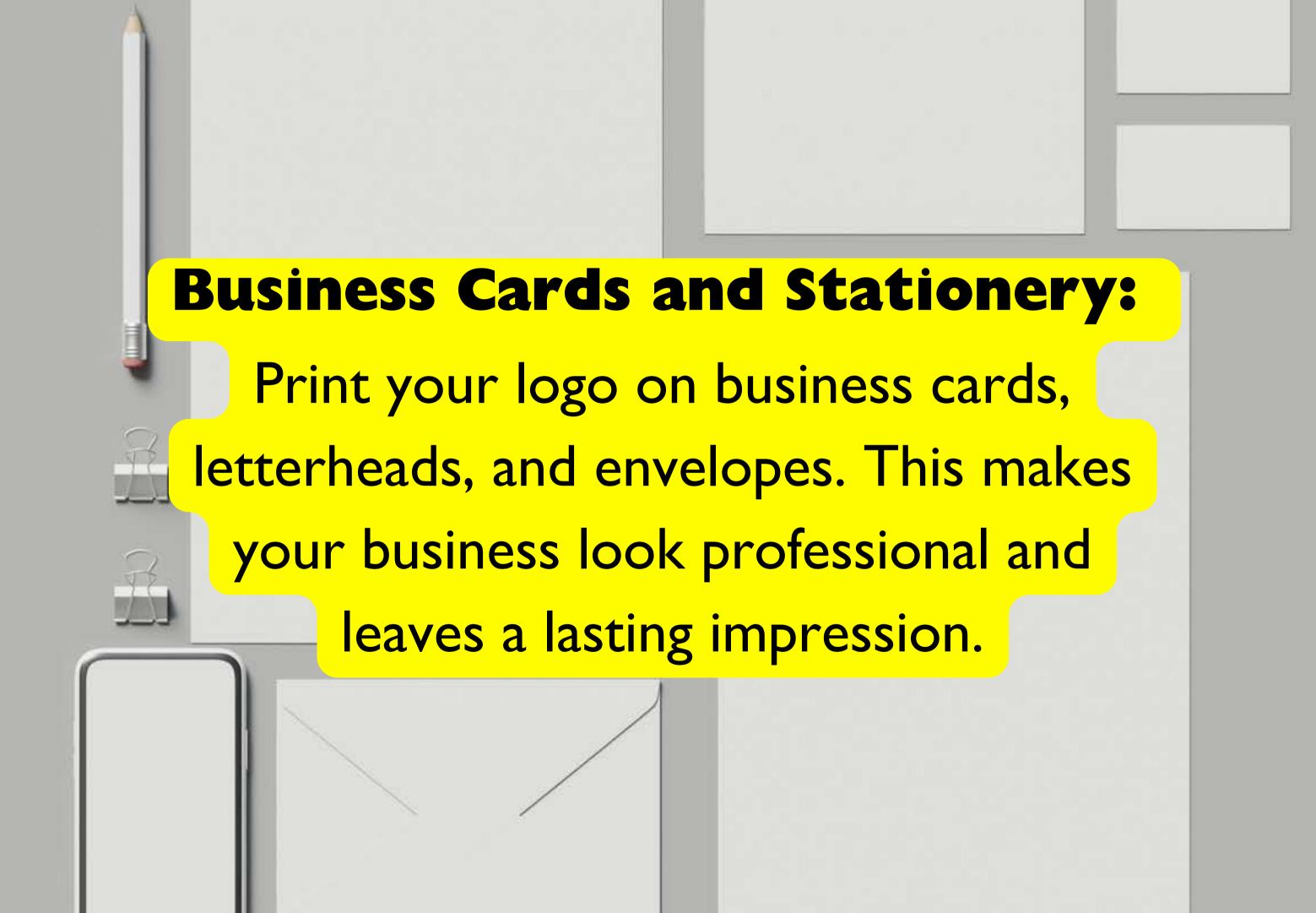
Consistent Branding:

Use your logo consistently across all your marketing materials, from social media to brochures. This repetition helps people remember your brand.



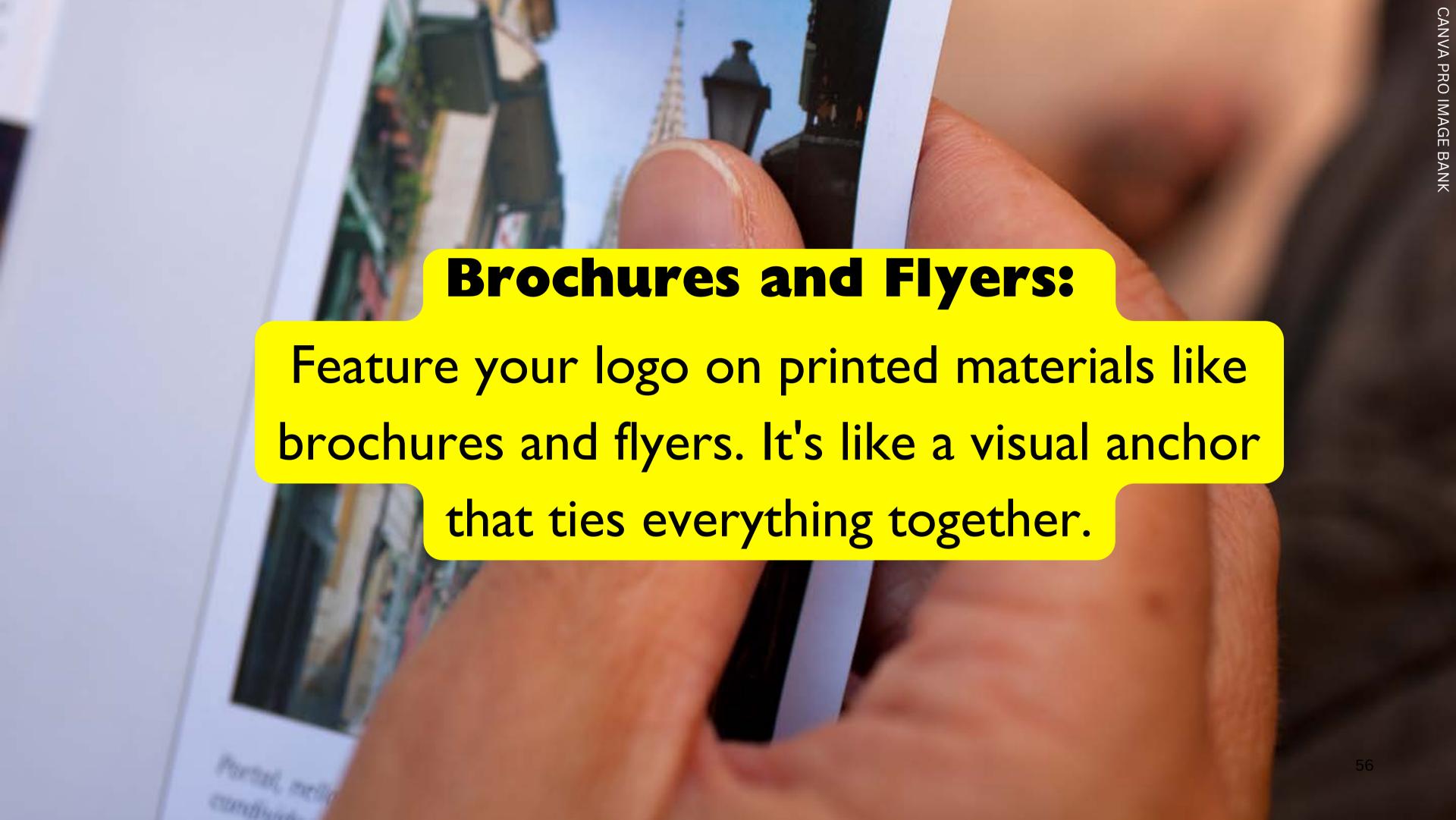
Social Media Posts:

Add your logo to your social media posts and stories. It's a way to mark your content and make it recognizable.





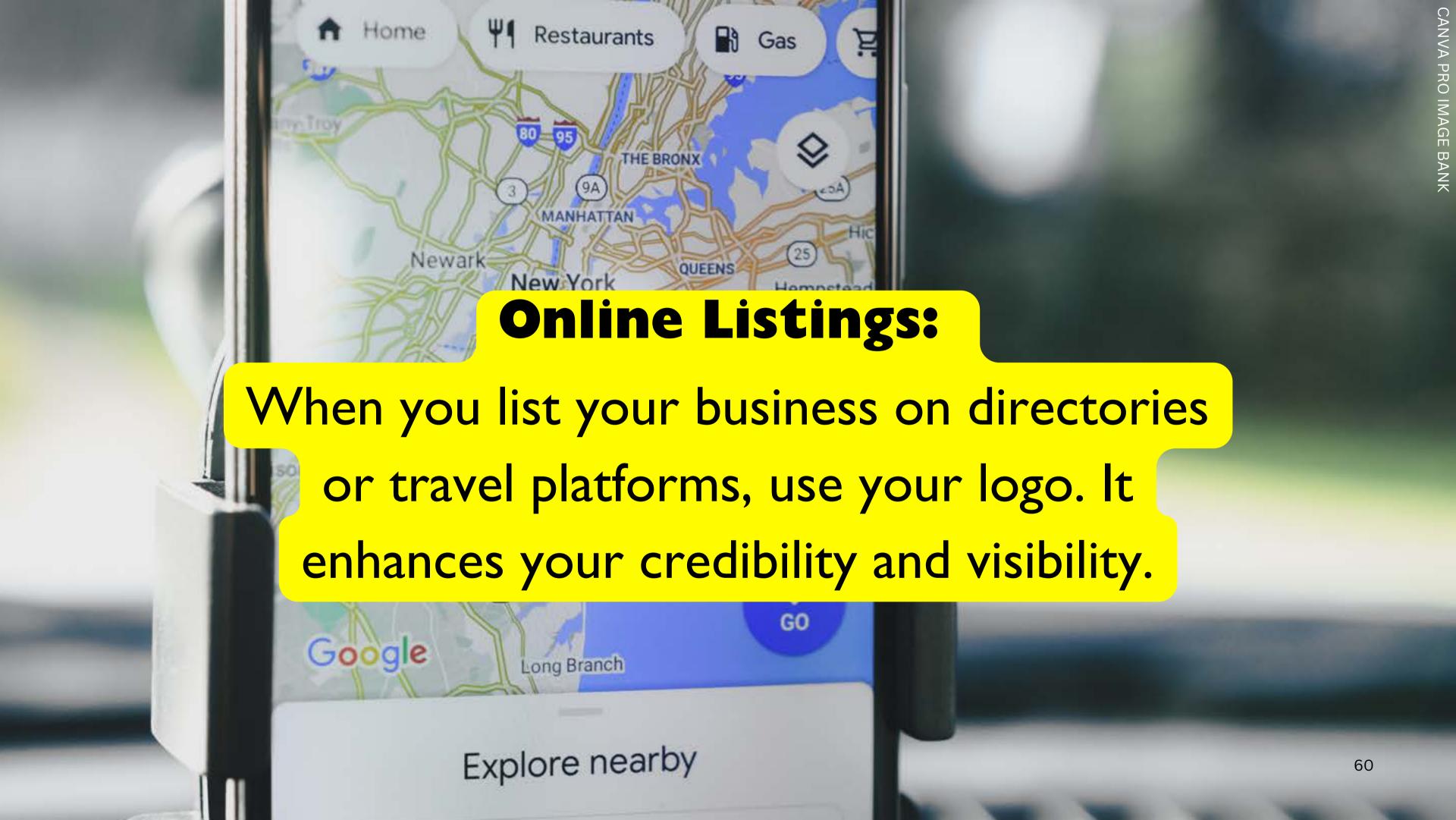














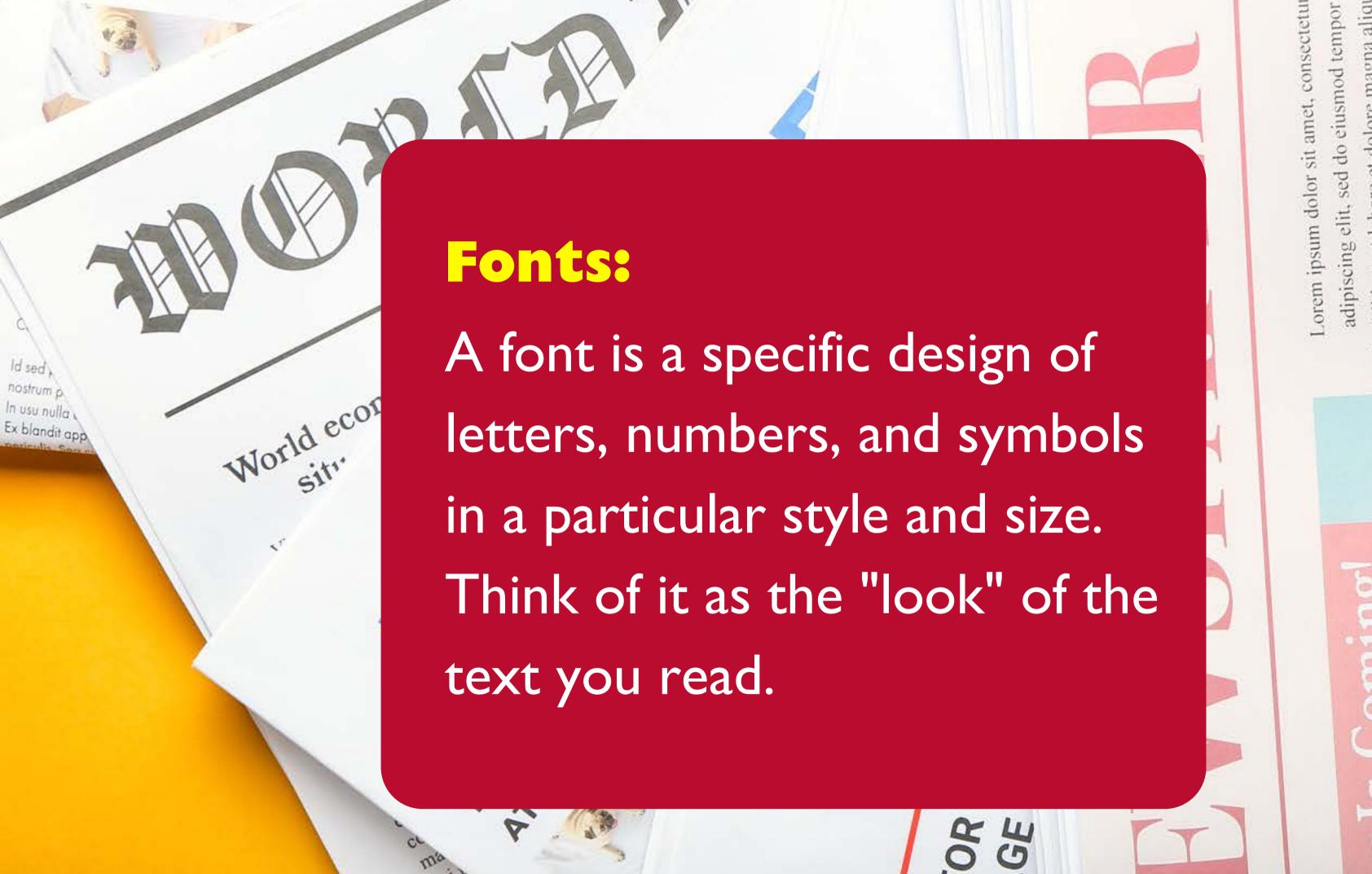


Now that you've designed your logo and you're on the path to boosting your business, let's talk about something super important - keeping things consistent. Whether you're doing everything yourself or thinking of getting some help, having a simple visual standard guide is like having a reliable roadmap.



What do you need to create consistency for your brand?

Fonts
Colors
Logo Placement
Layouts
Imagery
Tone of voice



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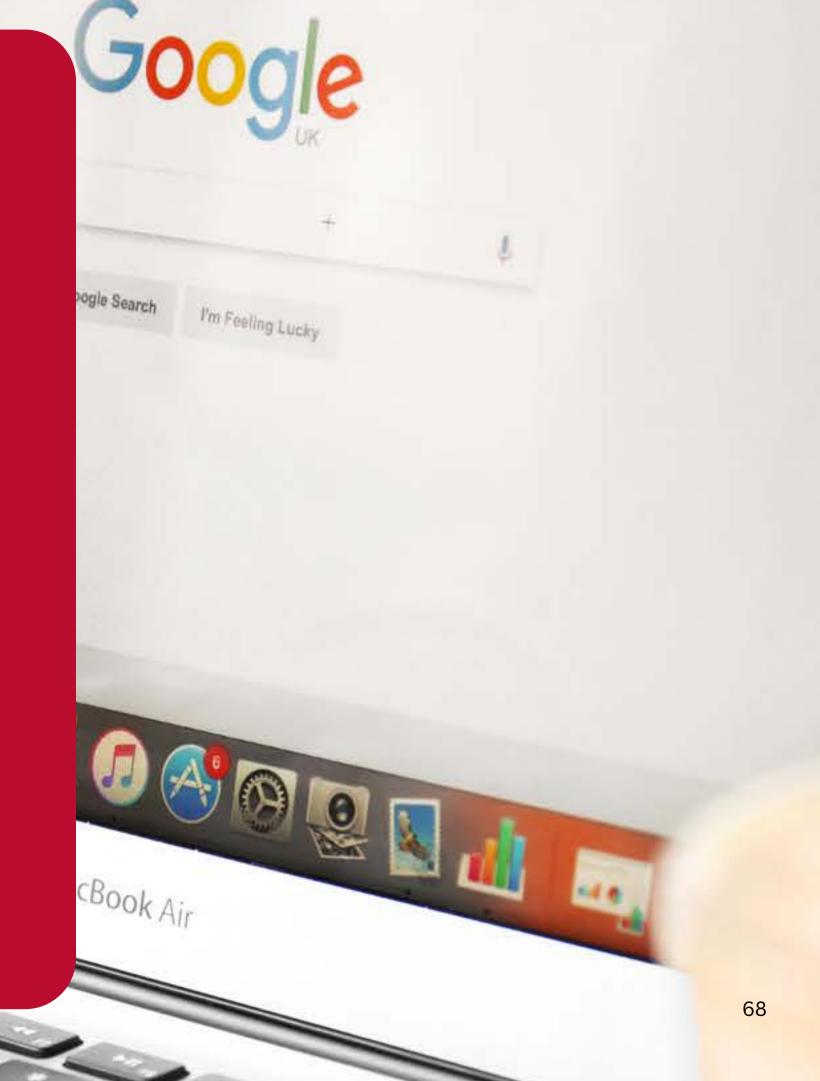
CANVA PRO IMAGE BA

Pre-installed on your computer: Operating systems like Windows, macOS, and Linux come with a set of default fonts.



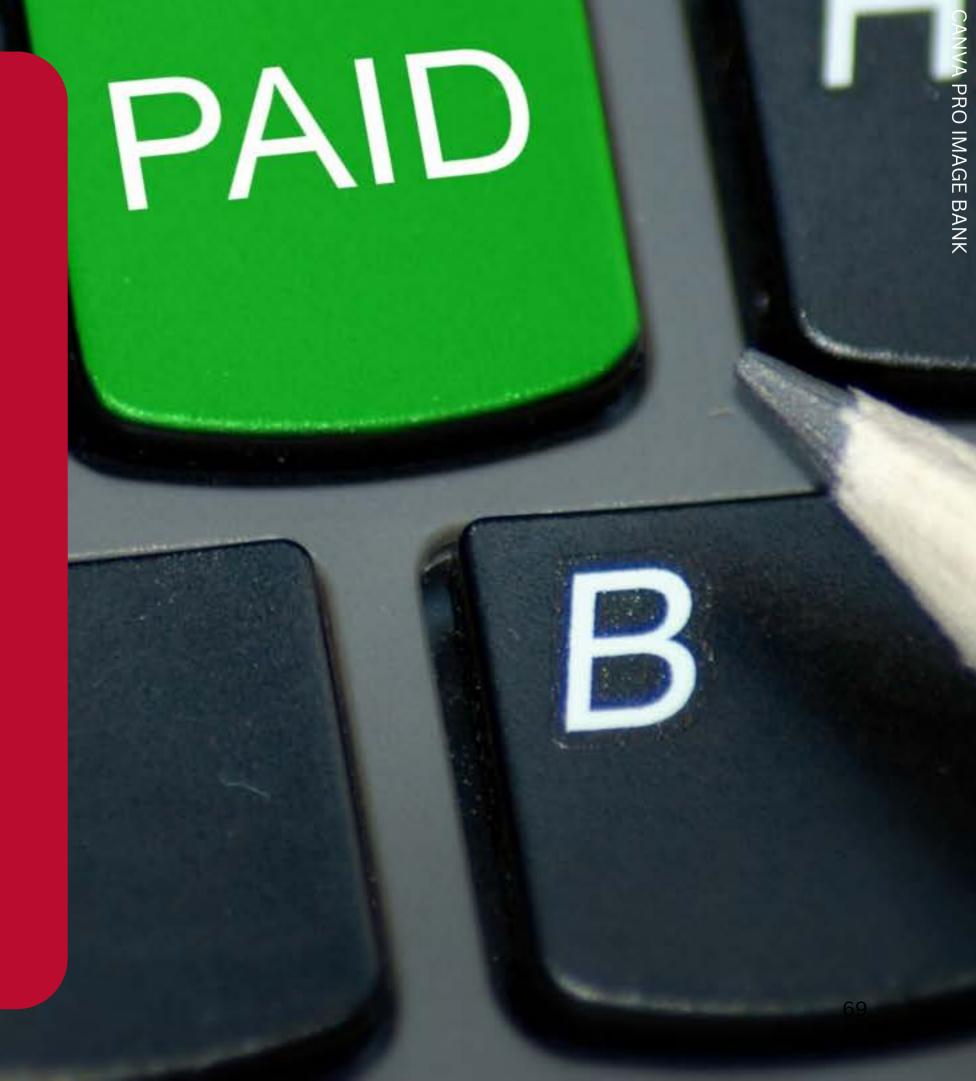
Online Font Libraries (Free):

- Google Fonts: A comprehensive collection of free fonts that are optimized for web and print.
- Font Squirrel: Offers a selection of high-quality free fonts and a handy font identifier tool.
- DaFont: Features a wide variety of fonts, many of which are free for personal use.
- FontSpace: A platform with thousands of free fonts shared by designers around the world.



Online Font Libraries (Paid):

- MyFonts: A large collection of fonts for purchase, including popular options like Proxima Nova and Brandon Grotesque.
- Fonts.com: Offers a wide range of fonts from various foundries for purchase.
- Fontspring: A font licensing platform that's popular for its one-time fee model and clear licensing terms.









When using fonts, especially from free sources, always check the licensing terms. Some fonts may be free for personal use but require a license for commercial use. Ensure you have the right to use the font in your intended manner to avoid legal complications.



- Do Consider Legibility: Opt for fonts that are easily readable across different mediums, sizes, and devices. This ensures your message is always clear.
- Do Choose Fonts that Reflect Your Brand Personality: Whether it's a friendly, handwritten font for a cozy B&B or a sleek, modern typeface for a luxury resort, the font should embody your brand's character.
- Do Maintain Consistency: Use the same font styles across all your brand materials, from your website to printed brochures, for a cohesive look.

- Do Pair Fonts Well: If using more than one font, ensure they complement each other. A common practice is pairing a serif font with a sans-serif one.
- Do Think About Font Weights: Utilize different weights (like regular, bold, or light) of the same font family for variety while maintaining cohesion.
- Do Check Licensing: Ensure you have the correct licenses for commercial use and understand any restrictions they may have.



- Don't Use Too Many Fonts: Stick to 2-3 fonts at most. Having too many can make your materials look cluttered and inconsistent.
- Don't Overlook Mobile and Web Display:
 Ensure your chosen fonts display well on mobile devices and various browsers.

 Web-safe fonts or those optimized for screens are a good choice.
- Don't Forget about Print: A font might look good on screen but not in print, or vice versa. Test your fonts in different contexts.

- Don't Follow Trends Blindly: While it's good to be aware of trends, choose fonts that are timeless and align with your brand's core identity.
- Don't Neglect Spacing: The spacing between letters, called kerning, can impact readability. Ensure your font choice allows for proper kerning adjustments.
- Don't Rely Solely on Free Fonts: While there are excellent free fonts available, investing in a premium font might provide more weights, styles, and better quality for your brand.

























Understand the preferences and cultural meanings of colors for your audience. Some colors might resonate differently across cultures.

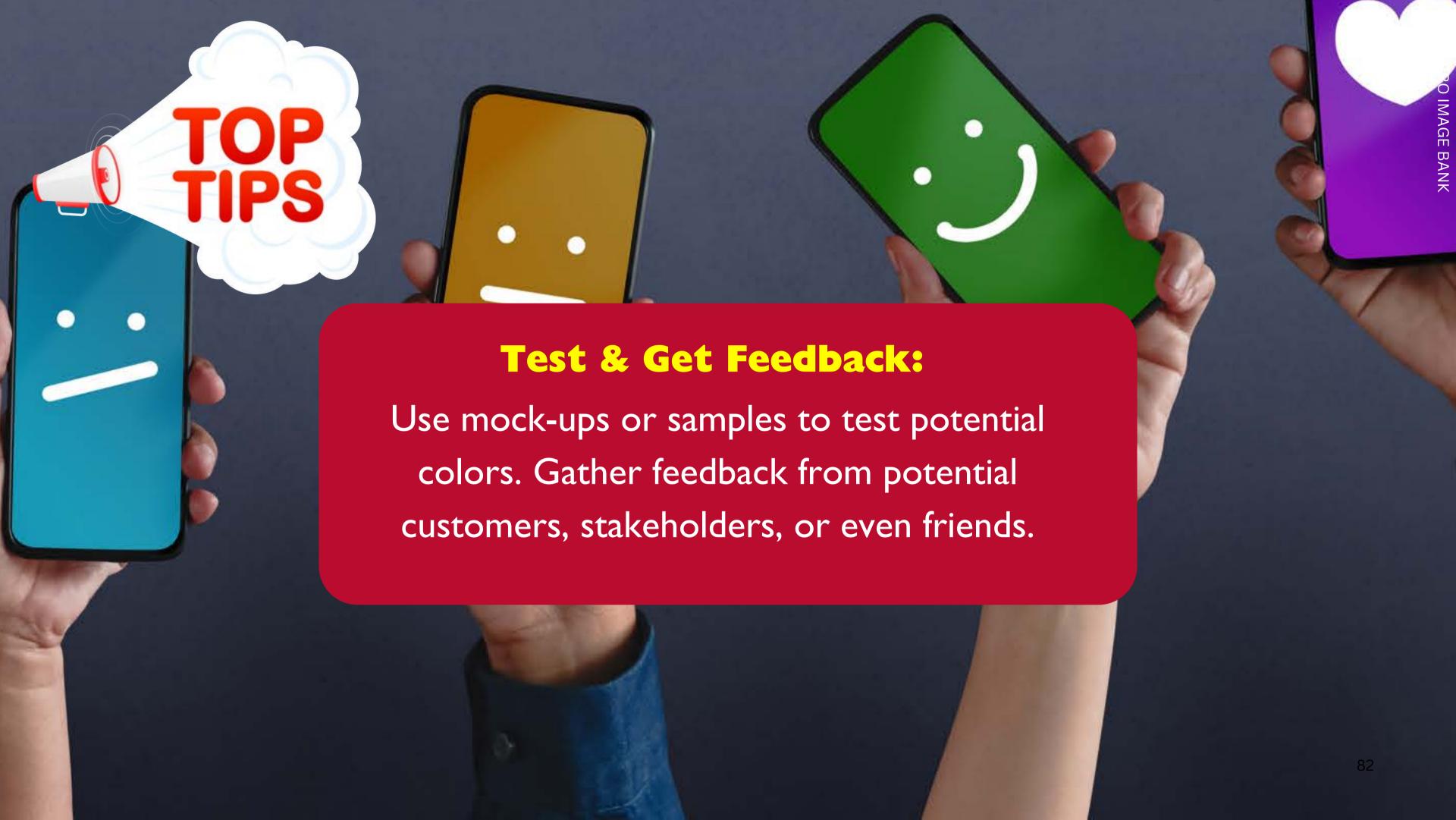


















Think Long-Term:

Trends come and go, but your brand color will be with you for a long time. Choose something timeless, not just trendy.

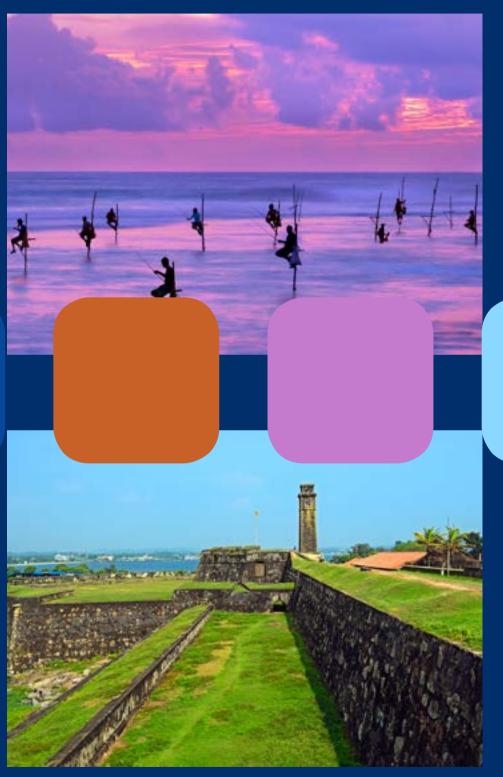
Not sure where to start?

Here's a pro-tip! Snap photos of the experiences you're promoting, whether it's Sigiriya, beach weddings, or thrilling adventures. Analyze the dominant colors in those images for authentic brand inspiration.

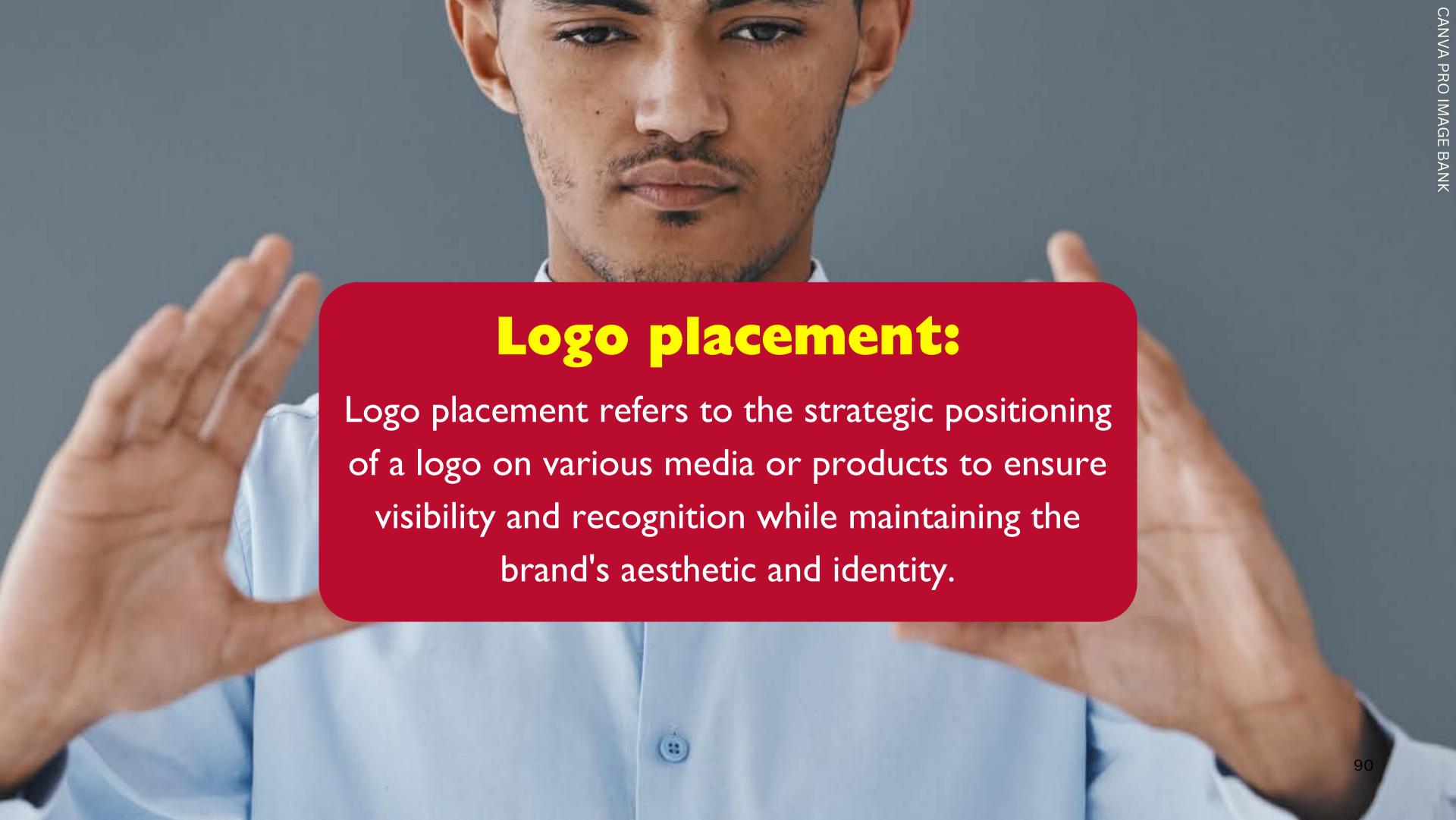










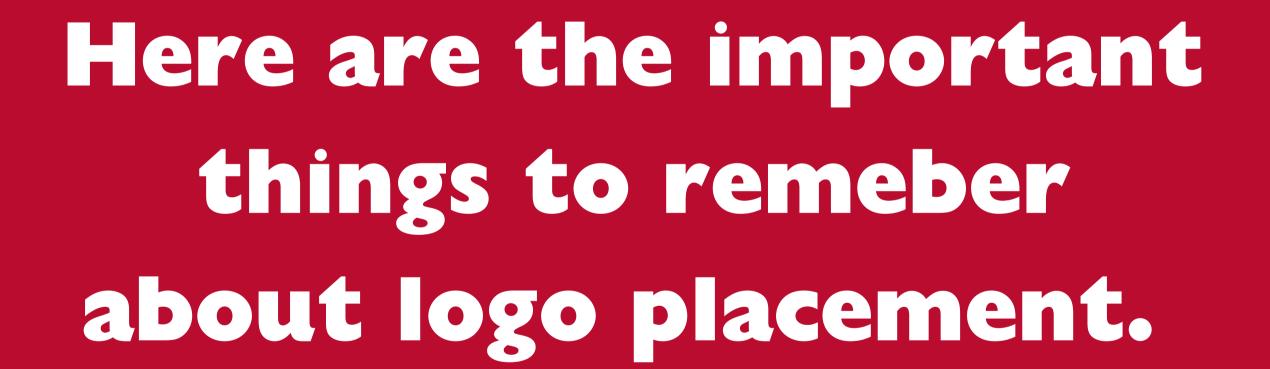




















Visibility is Key:

Ensure your logo is positioned where it can be easily seen, whether on a brochure, website, or any promotional item.

























Maintain Consistency:

Use the same logo placement across similar materials. If your logo is in the top left corner of your brochures, maintain that placement in other print materials for consistency.









Avoid Clutter:

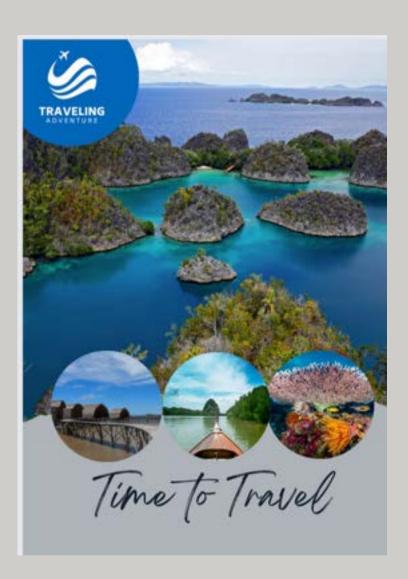
Ensure the area around your logo is free from other graphics or text.

This 'white space' helps your logo stand out and improves legibility.













Size Matters:

Your logo should be large enough to be recognizable but not so large that it overwhelms other content.

Adjust size according to the medium — a billboard logo will be much larger than one on a business card.



















Adapt to Different Mediums:

While consistency is important, be flexible based on the medium. For instance, on social media platforms, your logo might fit better as a square profile picture.

















































Consider the Background:

Your logo should contrast well with its background. Avoid placing a dark logo on a dark background or a light logo on a light one.

I.O CAR BRANCO

2.0











1.4 OUR LOGO

A minimum area within and surrounding the logo, type mark and seal must be kept clear of any other typography as well as graphic elements such as illustrations. thematic images and patterns, and the trimiledge of a printed piece. More than the minimum clear space is encouraged.

Minimum clear space on all sides of logo and type mark is equal to the height of the "U" in the type mark. Minimum clear space on all sides of seal is equal to half the width of acronym box. See examples below.

Additional clear space is required when co-branding materials with partner logos. Rules for co-branding can be found in section 4.1.











HINHUM CLEAR SPACE

SEAL. (1/2 WIDTH OF ACRONYM BOX)

I.O GLAR GRANN 2.0

1.4 OUR LOGO

Incorrect logo, type mark and seal usage

The only correct uses of the logo, type mark and seal are as shown on the previous pages. A few typical incorrect examples are shown below,





WRONG FONT





COLORS TRANSPOSED

PROPORTIONS DISTORTED



SHADOW ADDED







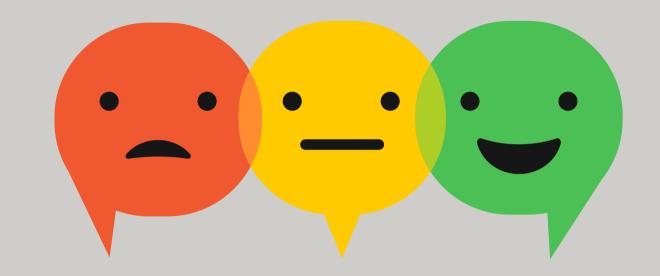
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6.0



Respect Brand Guidelines:

If you have brand guidelines or if you are collaborating with a partner who has brand guidelines, adhere to them. They'll often provide specifics on logo size, placement, and even the amount of surrounding white space.









Test & Gather Feedback:

Before finalizing any promotional material, get feedback.

Sometimes, what looks good to you might not resonate with others.



For example, while some see 2000 years of tradition others see animal cruelty.



Or, while some see this as a carefree summer, others may see this as obscene.



Lots of people love dogs, but some religious communities don't.

Adapt for Cultural Sensitivities:

Especially important for tourism businesses that cater to international tourists. Ensure your logo placement doesn't convey unintended messages in different cultures.





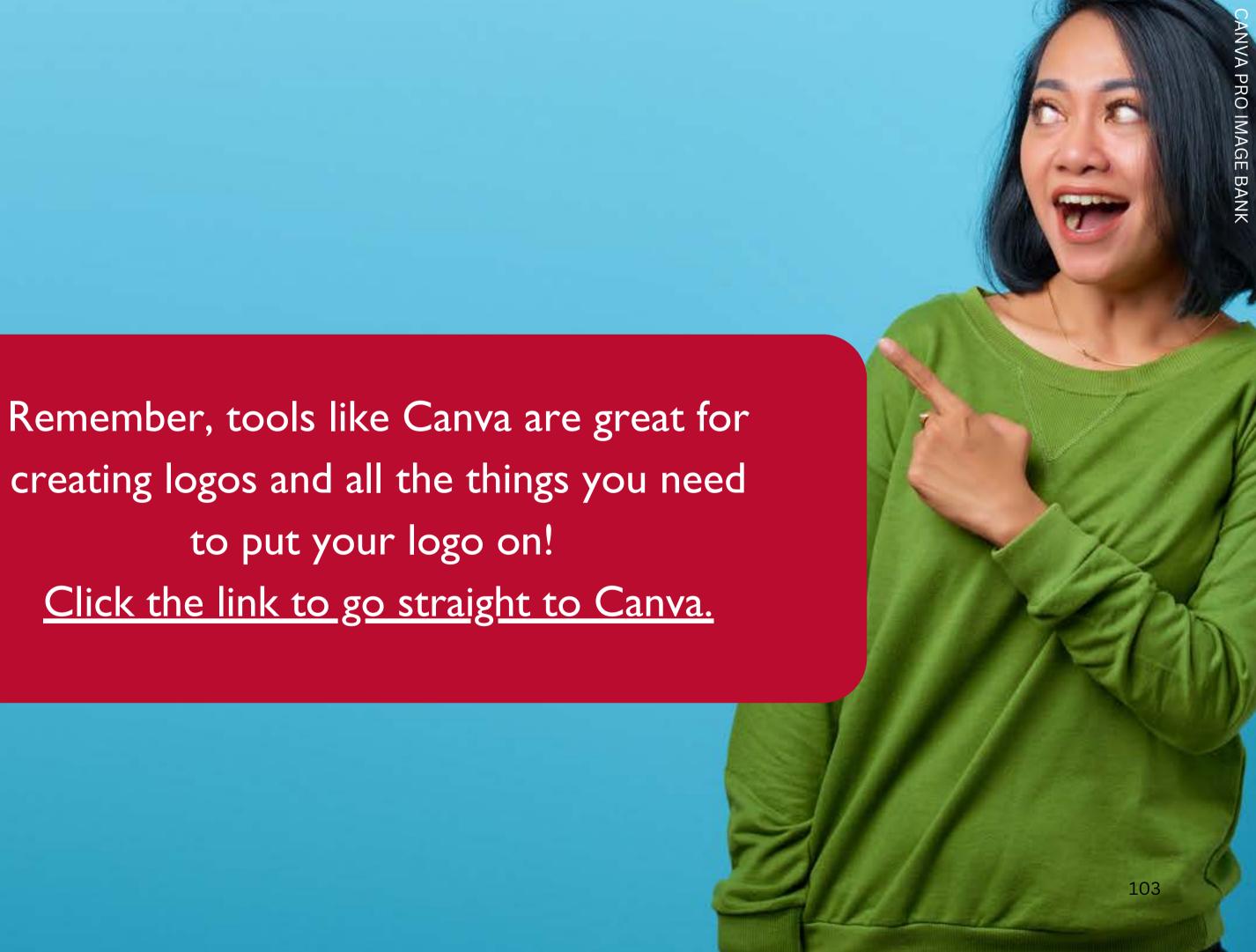


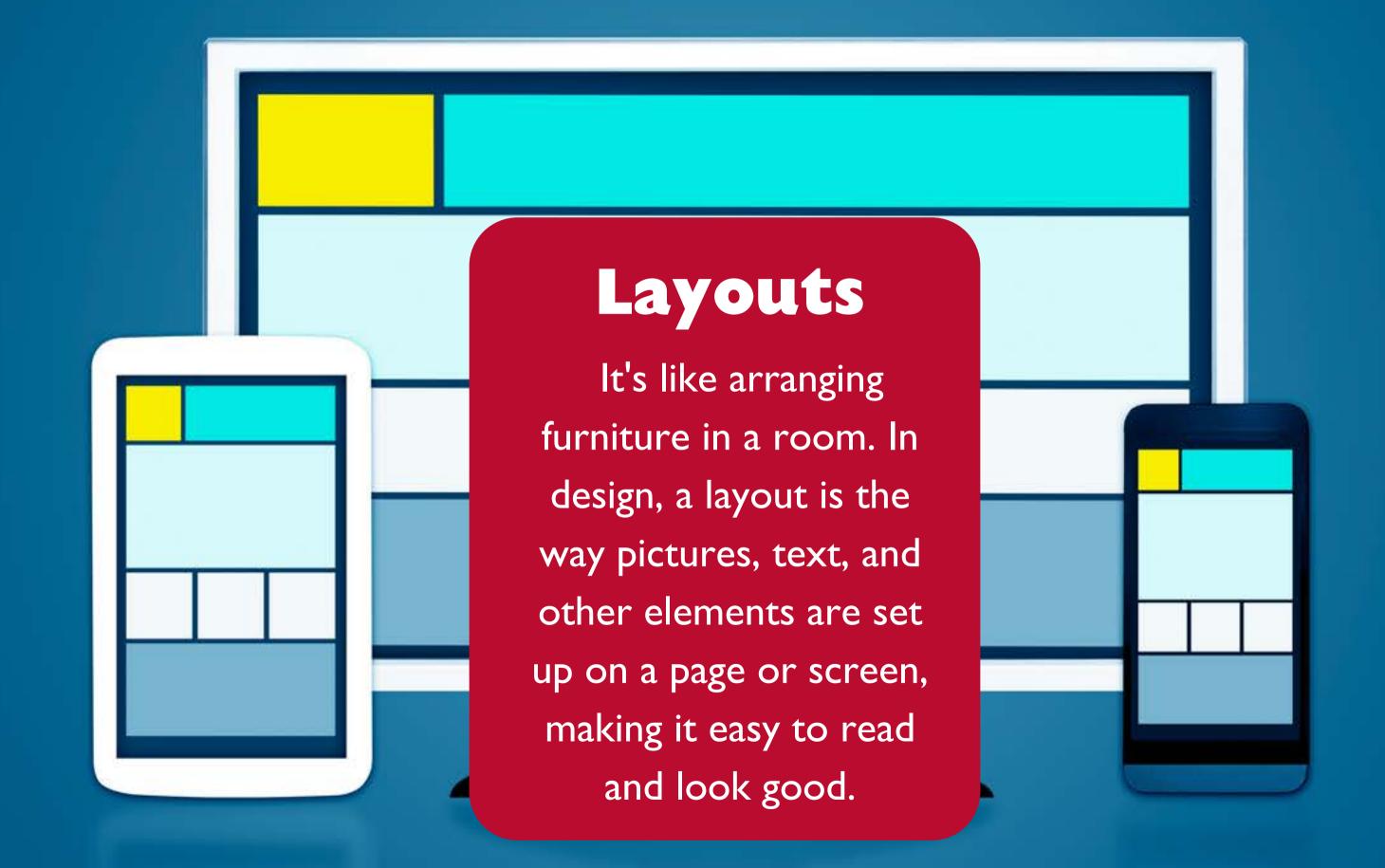


Protect Your Logo:

Ensure your logo isn't placed too close to the edge of printed materials, where it might get cut off or folded.



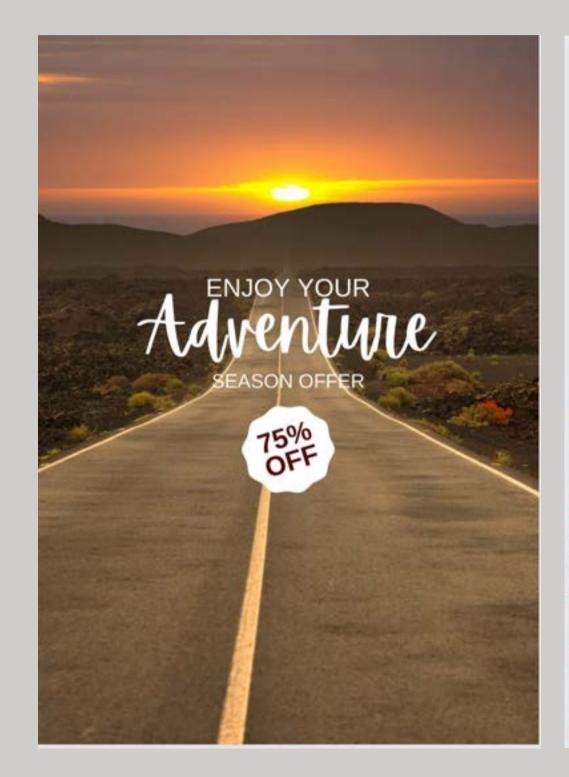






This one is about a promo; 75% off.

This one is about seasonality.





Purpose First:

Know what you're trying to achieve.
Are you informing, selling, entertaining?
Your layout should support this goal.

Clean Clutter





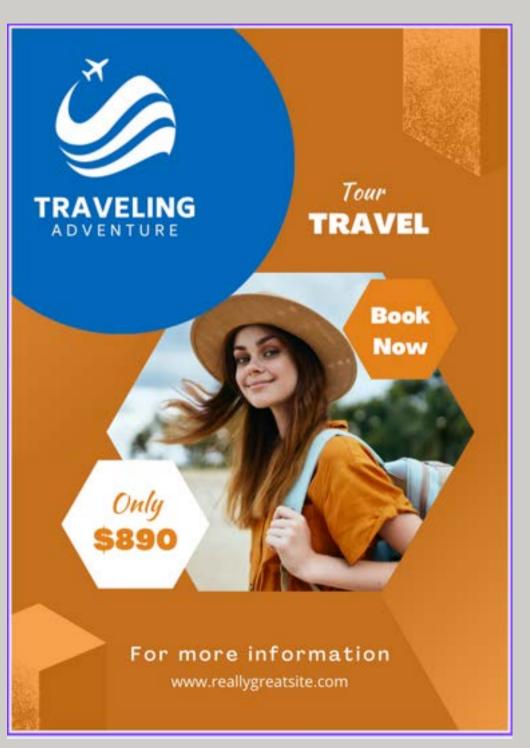


Keep It Clean:

Don't cram everything in. Just like in a room, having some empty space can make it feel more comfortable and easier to navigate.

Balanced

Not balanced



Balance is Key:

Think of your layout like a seesaw. If there's too much on one side, it'll tip.

Spread elements evenly to make it look harmonious.

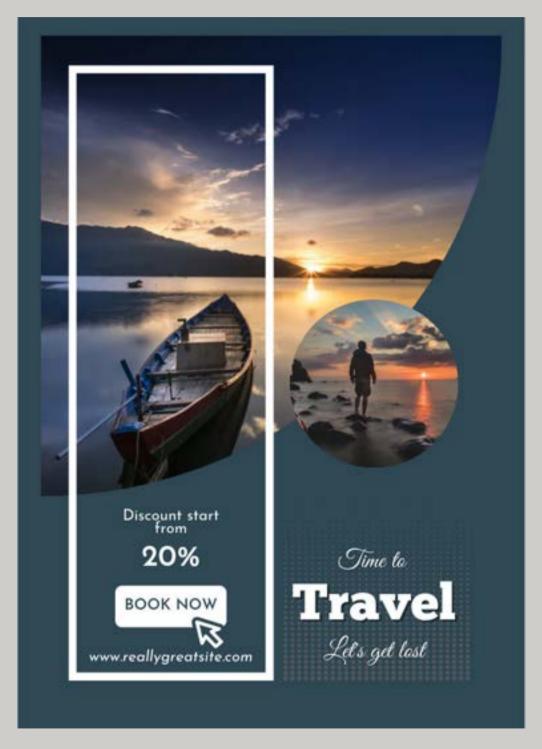












Guide the Eye:

Use size, color, and positioning to direct viewers to the most important parts first. It's like setting up signposts on a road trip.







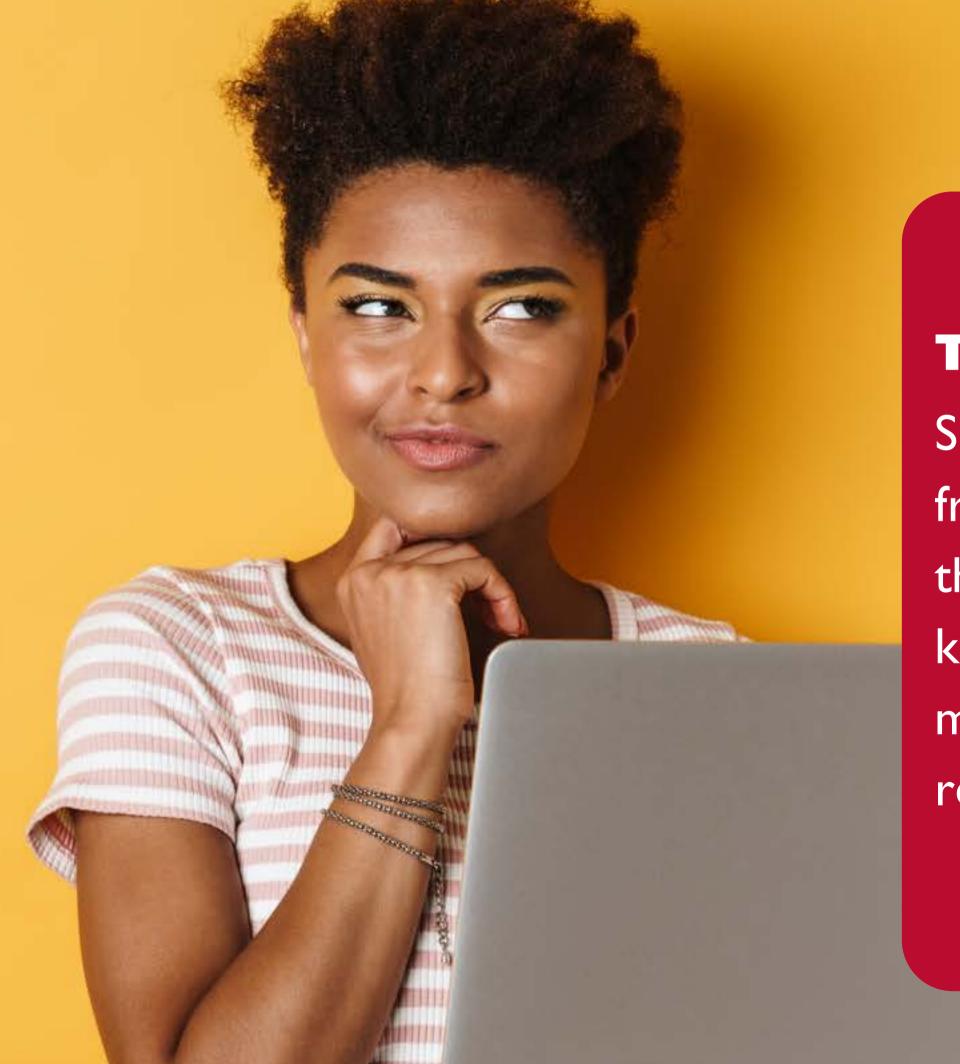






Stay Consistent:

If you're designing multiple pages or screens, keep some elements consistent (like where the logo or title goes). It's like having a familiar landmark on a journey.



Test and Tweak:

Show your layout to a friend or colleague. If they get lost or don't know where to look, maybe it's time for a little rearrange.

Remember, a layout is like telling a visual story. Make it as clear and engaging as you would when narrating a tale to a friend. Happy designing!



Do I have to hire a designer?

Not necessarily! While professional designers bring expertise and unique skills to the table, today's digital landscape offers tools that empower even non-designers to create compelling visuals.





Take Canva, for example. It's a user-friendly design platform packed with customizable templates for almost any project you can think of: from posters to business cards to social media posts. With its drag-and-drop interface, extensive font library, and vast collection of images, you can craft professional-quality designs without the steep learning curve. Click to go to Canva.

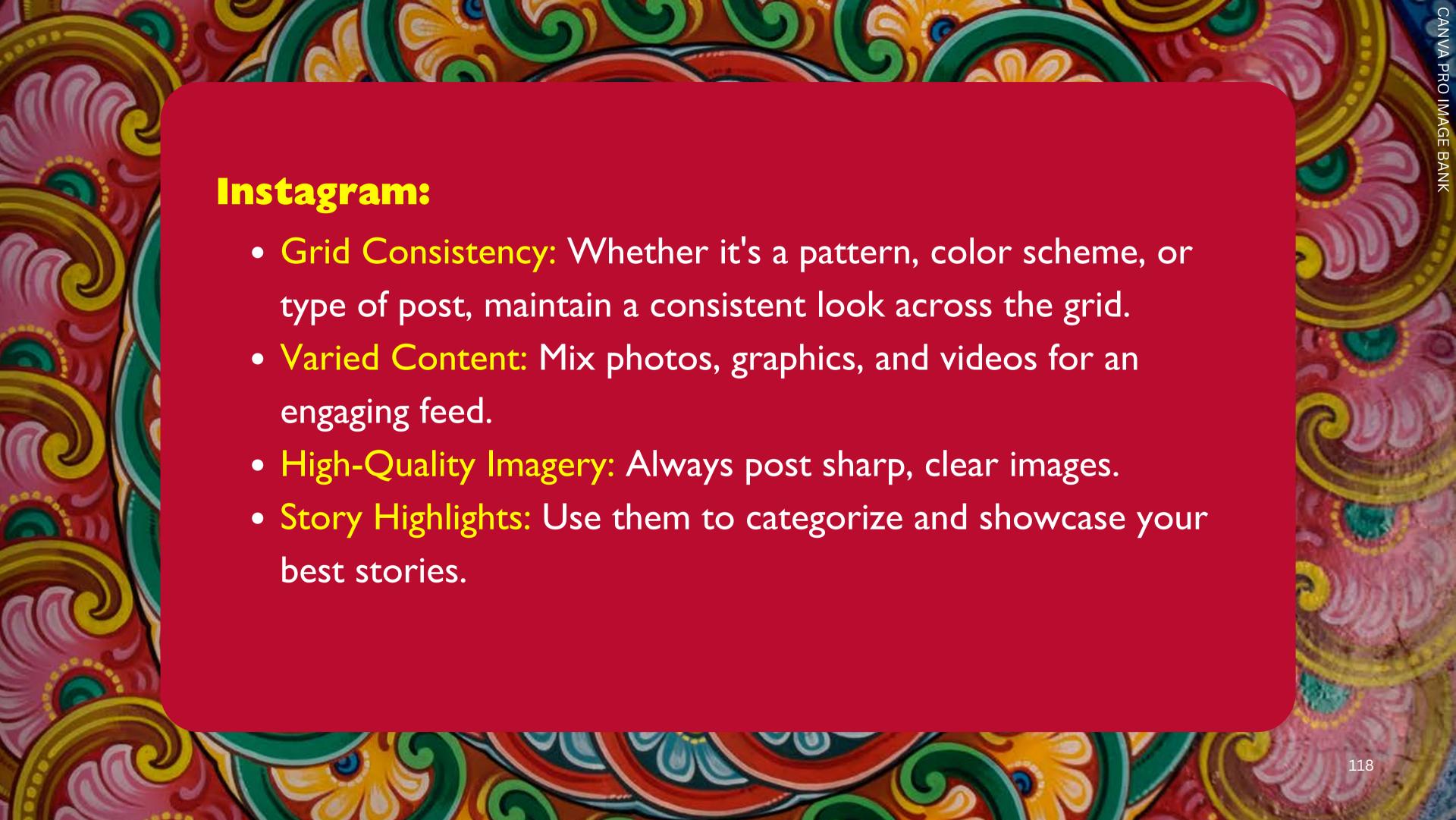
So, before diving into the costs of hiring a designer, give tools like Canva a try. You might be surprised by the design potential you never knew you had!

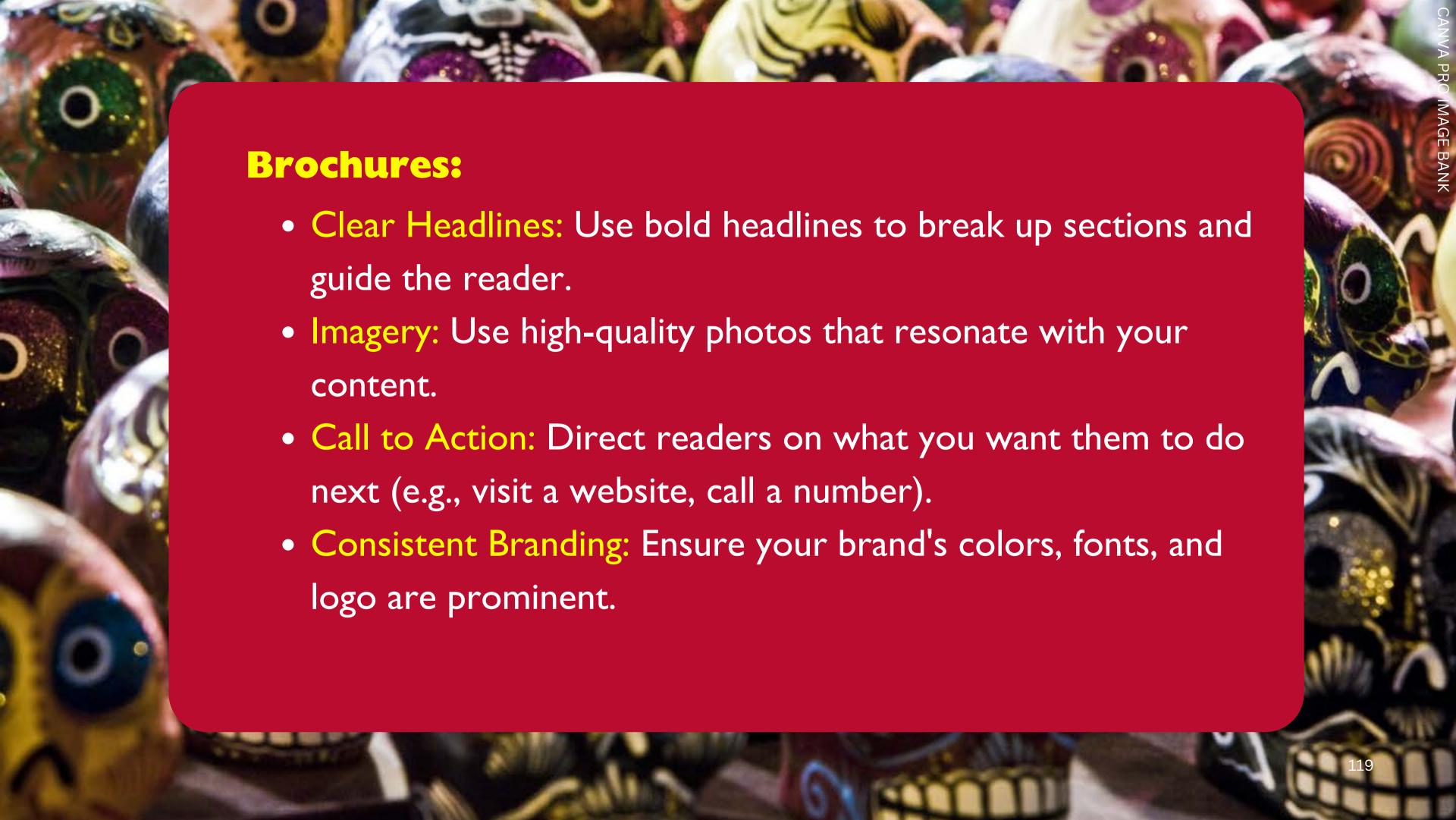




Here are some tips to help you make better design choices...







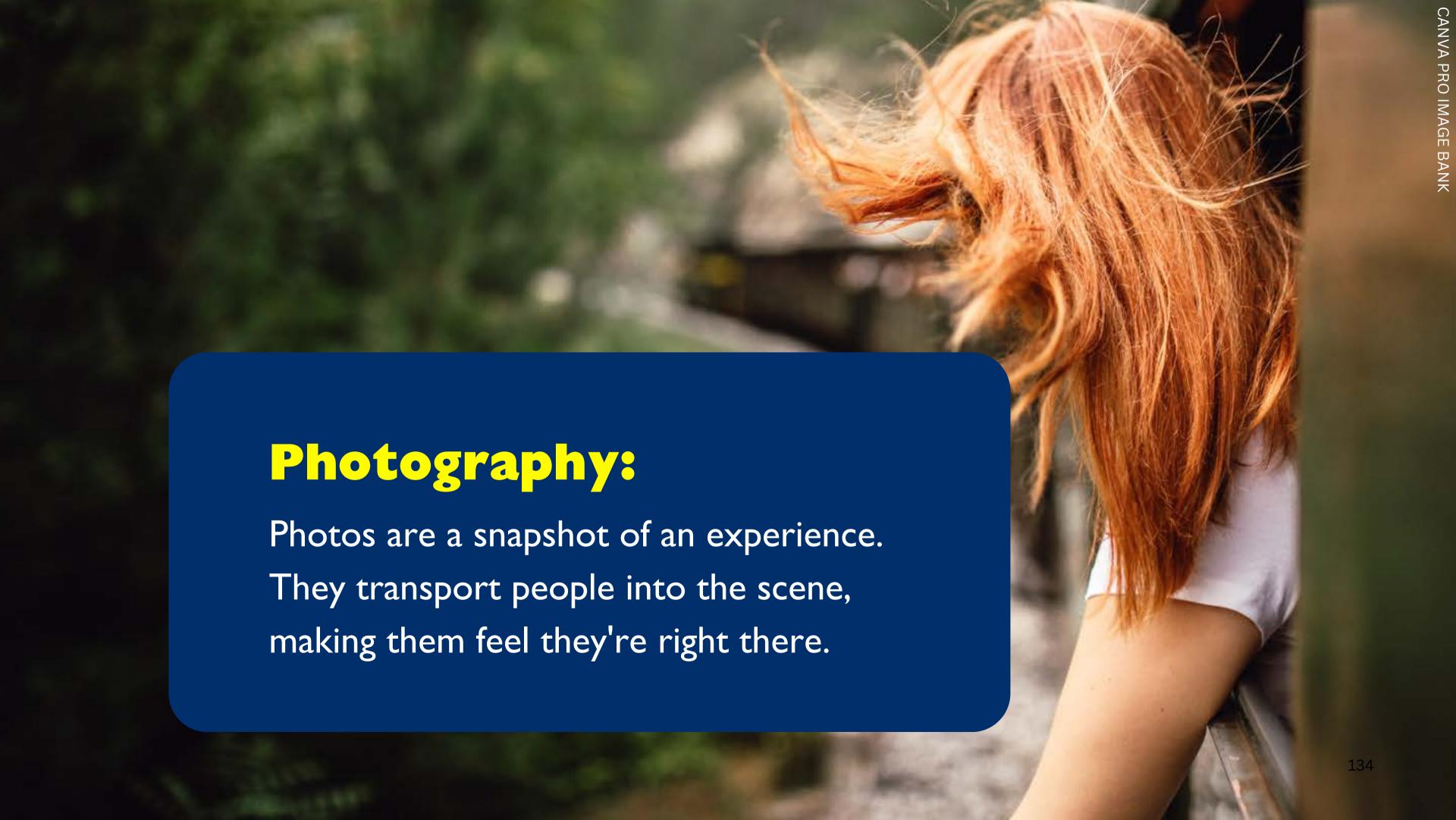












- Long Shots: Capture the entire scene. This could be a landscape, a beachfront, or a bustling marketplace. Use it to give your audience a complete view of a place or setting.
- Medium Shots: These show a bit more detail and are often used for group shots or to focus on a specific element within a larger scene. If you're promoting a cultural dance, for instance, a medium shot might capture a group of dancers in their entirety.
- Close-Up Shots: Zoom in on a specific detail. This could be a dewdrop on a leaf, intricate designs on traditional wear, or the spices in a dish. Use close-ups to highlight unique features or evoke specific feelings.

Long shots







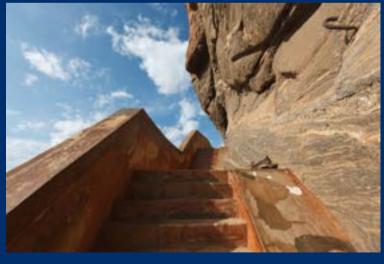






















Graphics:

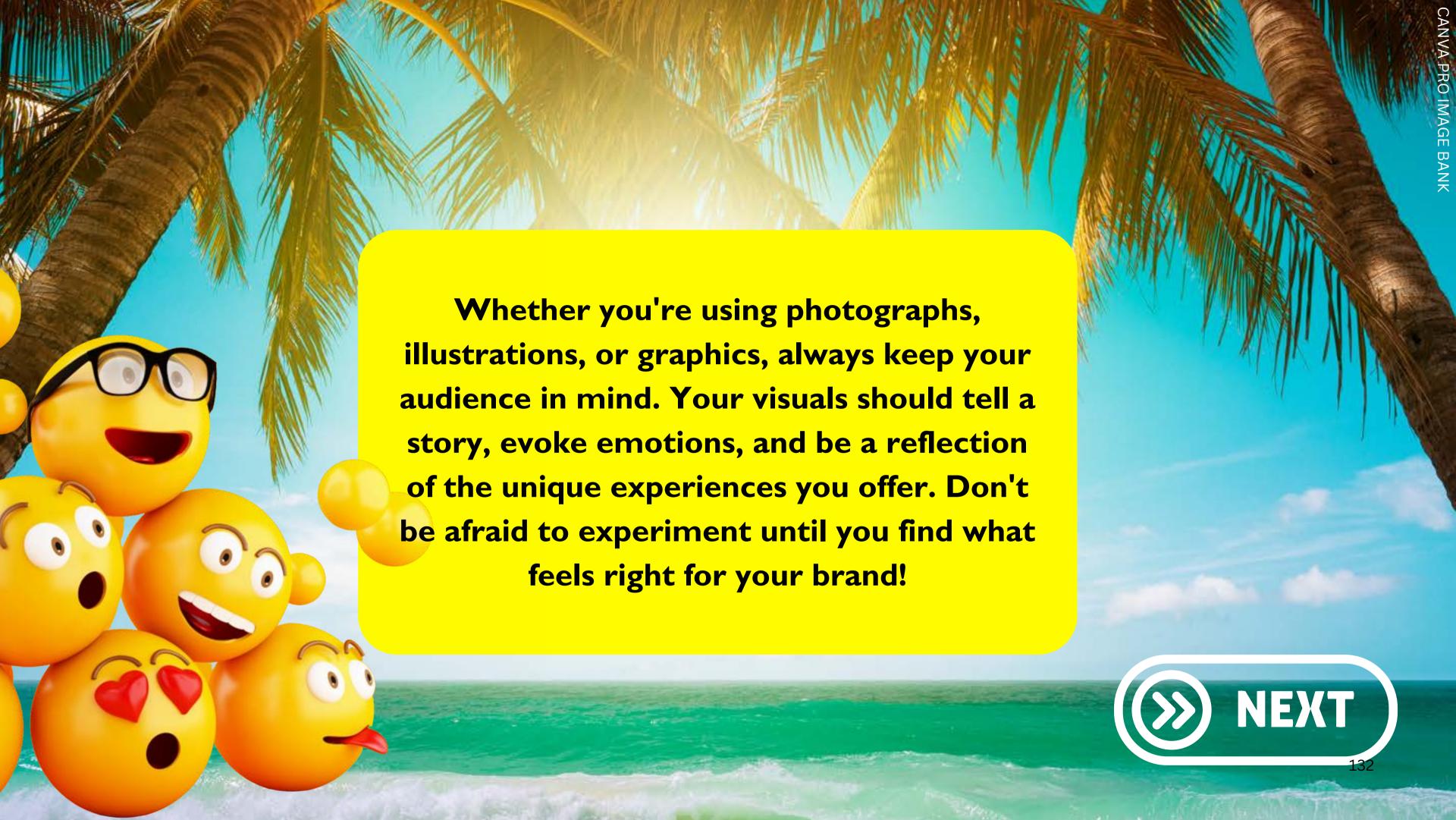
Graphics are a blend of text, designs, and sometimes photographs. They're great for promotions, infographics, or just jazzing up a post.

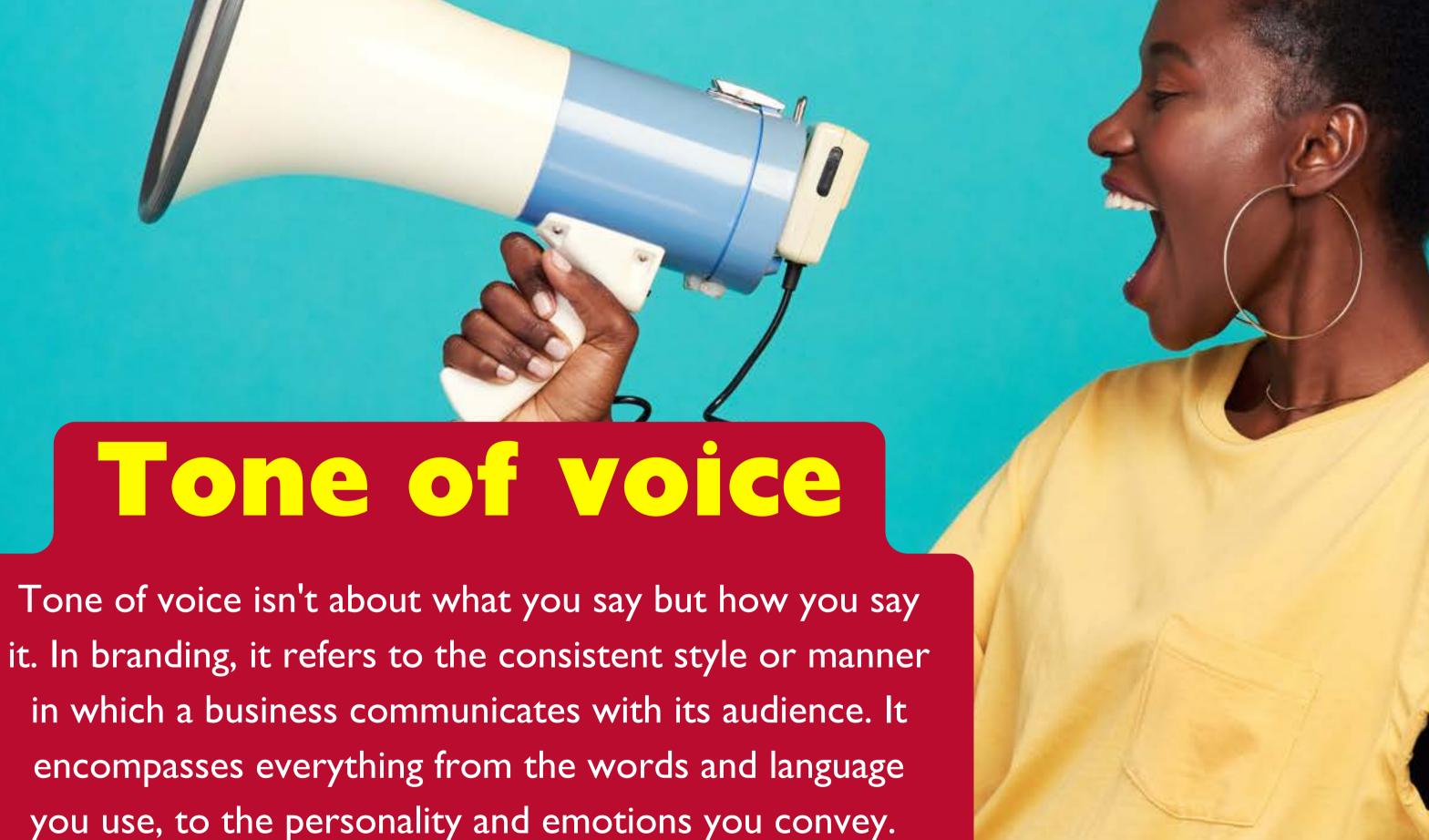




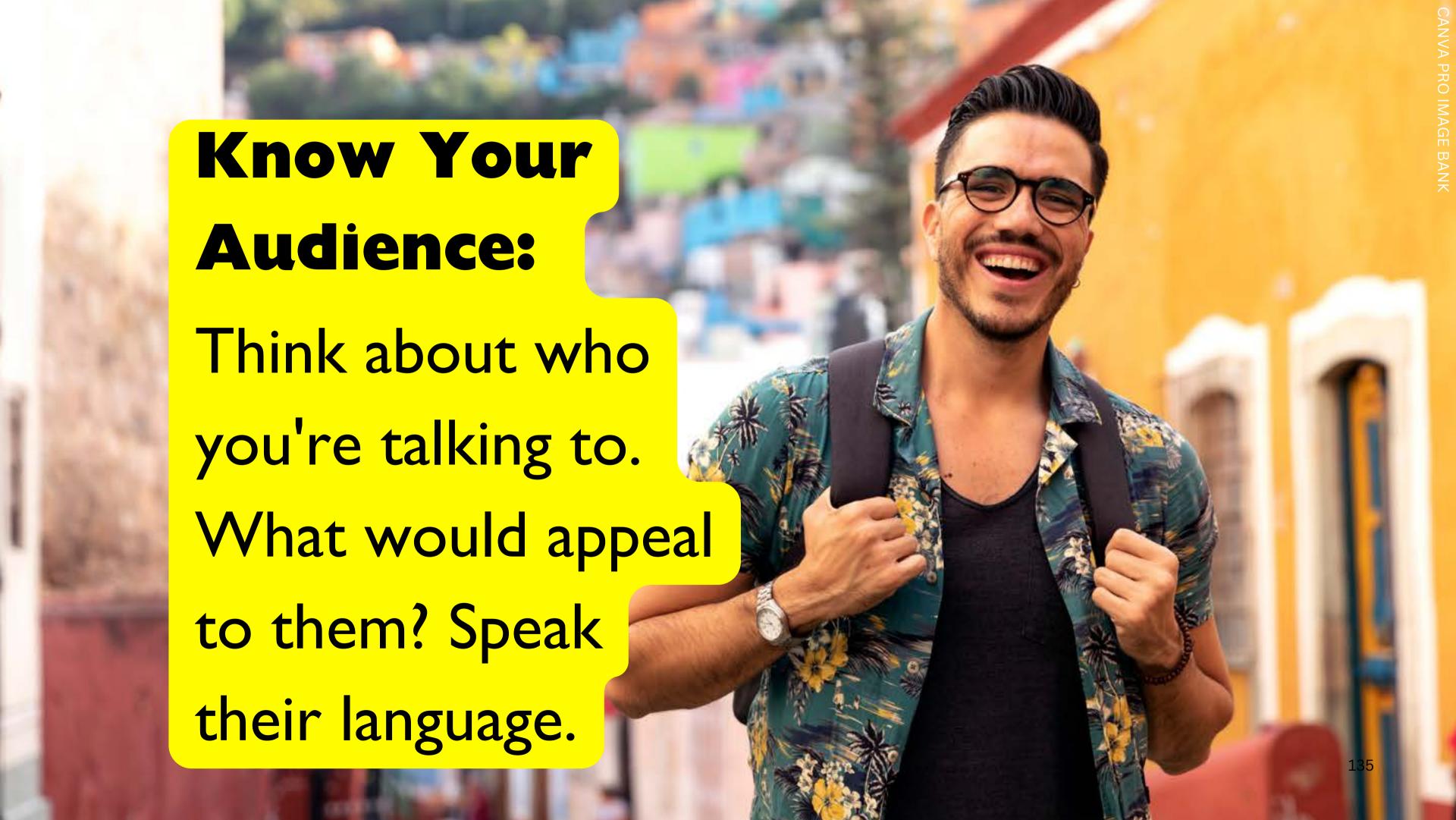
 Keep it Simple: Especially for MSMEs, simplicity can be your strength. Don't clutter; a clear message with an engaging design works wonders.

• Use Graphics to Inform: Share fun facts about your location, services, or history. It's a great way to engage and educate your audience.





Whether you're playful, formal, casual, or passionate, your tone of voice gives your brand a distinct personality, making it recognizable and relatable to your audience.







Be Authentic:

Don't try to sound

like someone else.

Be true to what your

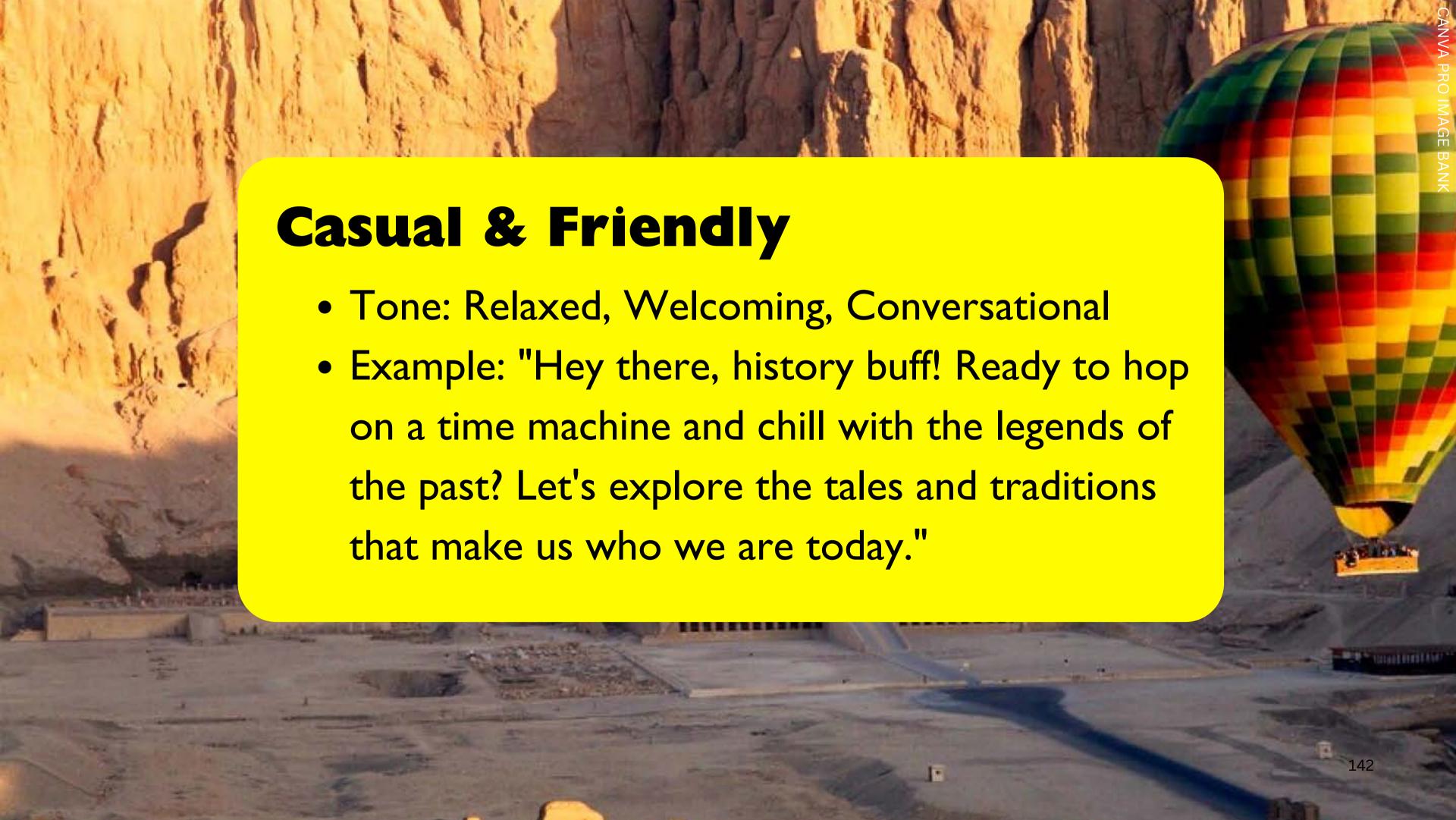
business stands for.



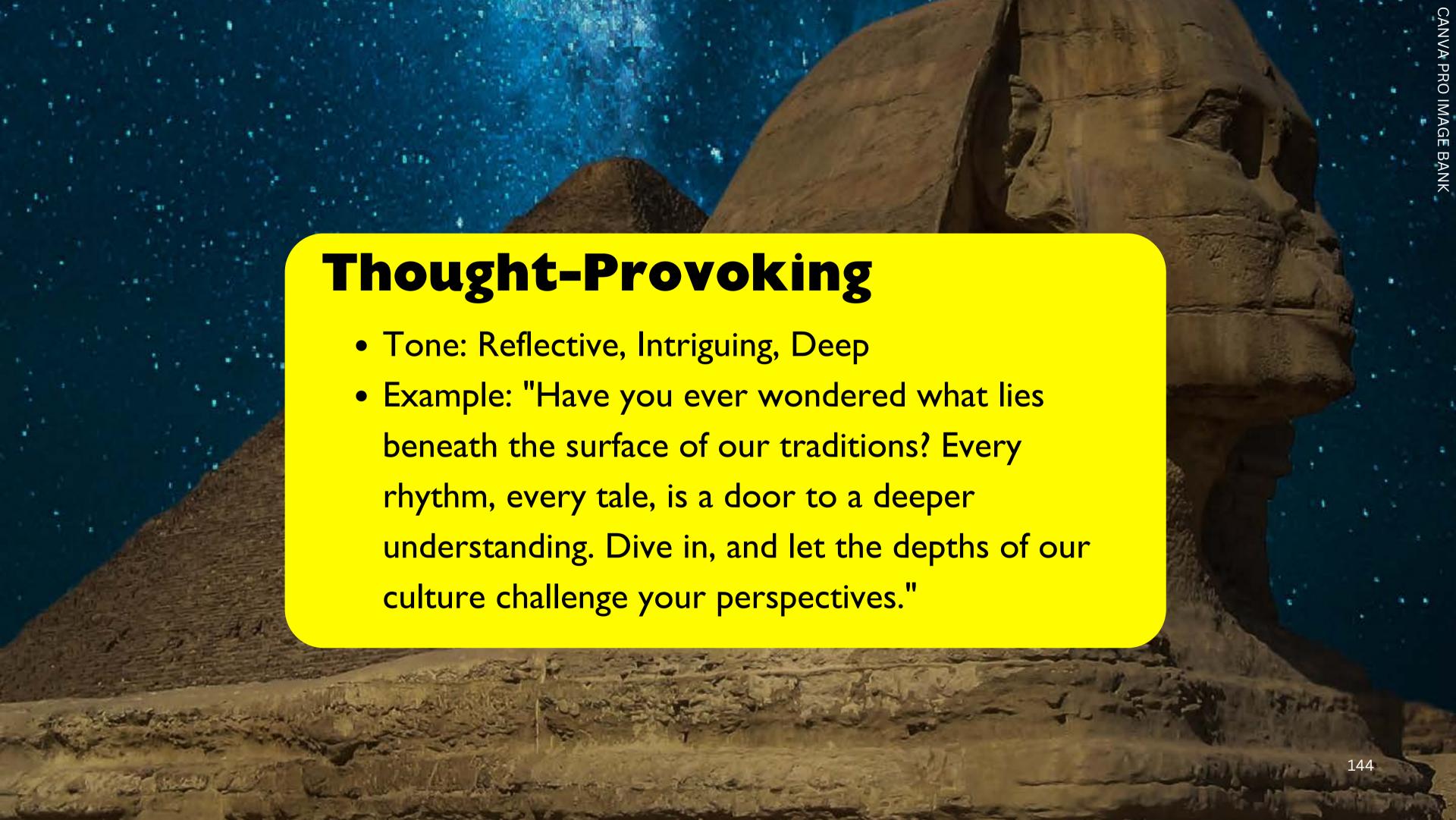
































"Building a brand is not just about logos or taglines; it's about creating a feeling, an experience, and a promise to your audience."

