### Tips for Writing Compelling Ads

An "Expert Excerpt" from Metro's Support & Strategy for Creative Pros Webinar

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## Tips for Writing Compelling Ads

## YOUR GOALS FOR EVERY AD:

- 1. Attract Attention
- 2. Communicate a Benefit
- 3. Get the Customer to Act

#### 1. ATTRACT ATTENTION

Here are some ways to make your ad stand out:

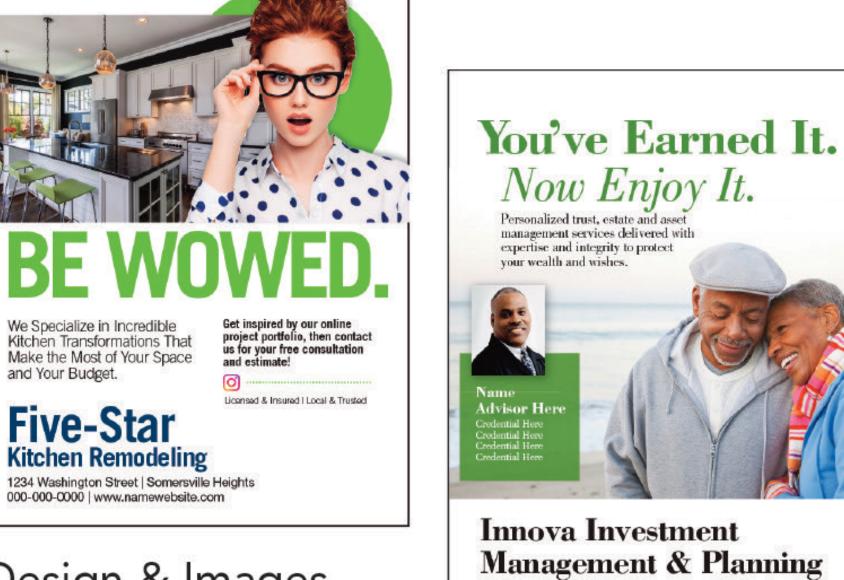
Humor



Headline



Design & Images



Affirmation

1234 Washington Street | Somersville Heights

000-000-0000 | www.namewebsite.com

f O



Match the Tone to Your Target Audience

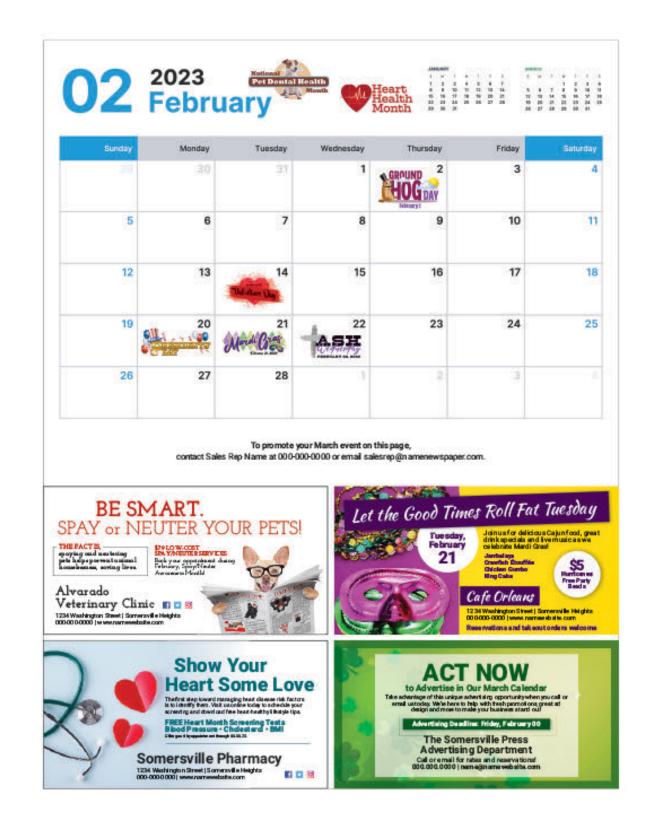
#### 1. ATTRACT ATTENTION

Relevance:



Trends or pop culture references





Event or holiday tie-ins (Your MCC Calendar can help!)

#### 1. ATTRACT ATTENTION

Engagement/Interaction:



Use elements like a coloring panel or puzzle

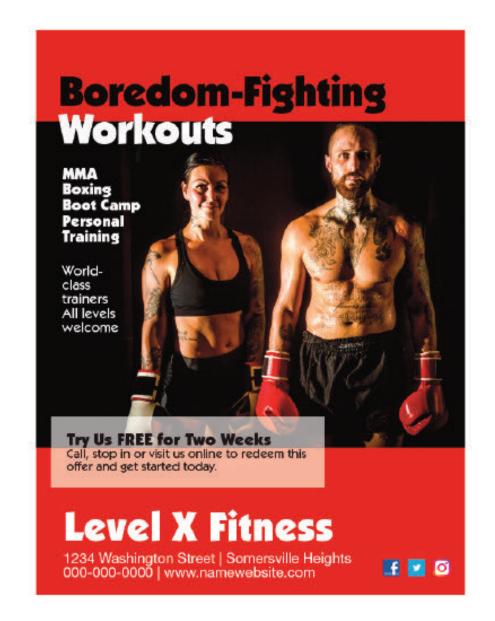




Run a contest

#### 2. COMMUNICATE A BENEFIT

Here are some ways to let customers know what's in it for them:



Solve a Problem



Alleviate a Fear



Appeal to Emotions



Make a Specific Offer (Price, Discount, Etc.)



Differentiate Yourself From the Competition

### 3. ENCOURAGE THE CUSTOMER TO ACT

Here are some ways to create a clear call to action:

- Create a Sense of Urgency
- Offer an Incentive
- Make It Clear and Easy: Call now, email now, sign up online, etc.
- Include Contact Information









#### IN ADDITION...

#### Be Concise

Use clear, easy-to-understand language; avoid unnecessary words; and read through your ad several times to pare down copy.

#### Proofread

Read it once.

Read it backwards.

Take a break.

Read it again.

Read it out loud.

If possible, ask a fresh set of eyes to give it a look.



#### Get to Know Your Advertiser

When working with local businesses, look for ways to give their ads a personal touch.

Are they a family business?

Are they celebrating a milestone anniversary?

Do they support a local nonprofit that resonates with their target audience?

Are they on a review site?

How many years have they been in business?

Do they offer any special services like gift wrapping, reward programs, in-store pickup, or discounts for veterans or seniors?

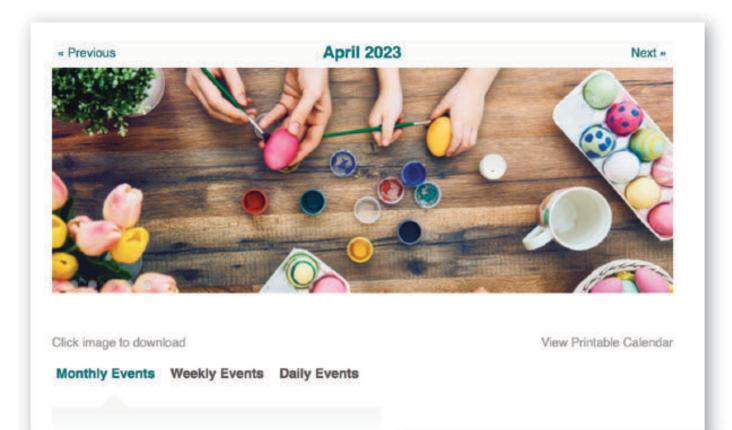
Are they a pet-friendly business?

## FINALLY, GET INSPIRED!

- Make Lists to Keep Track of Your Ideas
- Use Our Events Calendar to Discover Unique Tie-ins
- Make Sure You're Getting Our Emails
- Browse SearchBooks for Timely Content and Inspiration
- Browse MCC for Fresh Ideas
- Use Your MCC Search Filters







Alcohol Awareness Month

Canada: IBS Awareness Month

Canada: National Oral Health Month

Canada: National Parkinson's Awareness

Cancer Control Month

Couple Appreciation Month

Distracted Driving Awareness Month

National Car Care Month

National Card and Letter Writing Month

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

National Decorating Month



February is American Heart Month, but heart disease remains a leading cause of death for men, women and people of most racial and ethnic groups in both the United States and Canada all year. Use resources from your Metro Creative and Editorial Libraries to raise awareness of the importance of heart screenings, throughout 2023 with continuing coverage of this vital topic.





Take Part &
Prefect Your
Heart!



**IMAGES & HEADINGS** 









# Look for all the videos in this series on our Video Tutorial page:

- Support & Strategy for Creative Pros (Complete Webinar)
  - Illustrations & Image Manipulation (Expert Excerpt)
    - Tips for Writing Compelling Ads (Expert Excerpt)
  - Designing Attention-Getting Ads (Expert Excerpt)



#### **Thank You**

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