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**THE POWER** of **SPECADS** Anna Koch MERCENSIONER

#### www.metrocreativeconnection.com

- Benefits of Spec Ads
- Why Spec Ads Work
- Spec Ads That Work Best
- Copy & Ad Design
- Spec Ad Styles
- Selling Spec Ads

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# The Benefit of Spec Ads

#### Easier to sell a product

- Something they can see now
- Preview of the quality
- Harder to brush off



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# The Benefit of Spec Ads

#### Suggested focus

- A reason to advertise
- Marketer not salesperson
- New approach



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# The Benefit of Spec Ads

- Creative freedom
- Trust in designer
- Successful ad



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# Spec Ads

Are they worth the trouble?

YES, they are!

- 1. Prospect list
- 2. Reason to advertise
- 3. Design the ad
- 4. Present the ad to sell



#### Spec Ads

Do your research

Go to the business Scroll social media Read reviews Find noteworthy business information





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# Why Spec Ads Work

#### Opens the door

- Gives something to show not ask
- Provides a starting point of conversation
- Begins an idea exchange
- Printed leave behind piece



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# Why Spec Ads Work

#### Generates a marketing idea

- No marketing team or time
- New ideas spark enthusiasm
- Showcases your expertise
- Builds a partnership
- You have ideas for success





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# Why Spec Ads Work

#### Saves time

- Well thought out ad
- Steers the discussion
- Fewer drafts vs starting from scratch
- Gauge interest







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# Why Spec Ads Work

#### **Physical product**

- Product versus concept
- Presented with logo
- Creates ownership
- Feel invested









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# What Types of Spec Ads Work

### • CLEAR BENEFIT





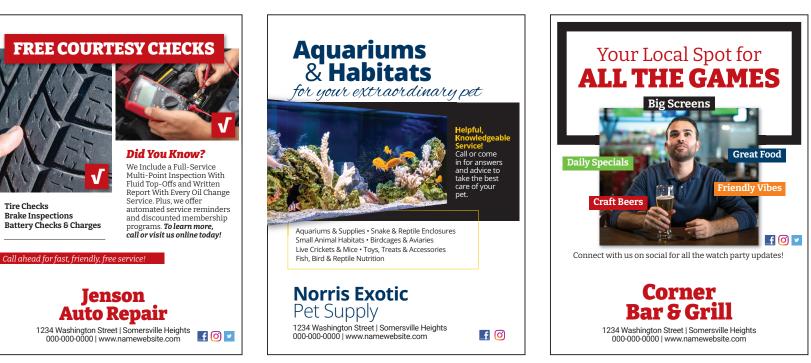
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# What Types of Spec Ads Work

## • HIGHLIGHTING A DISTINCTION



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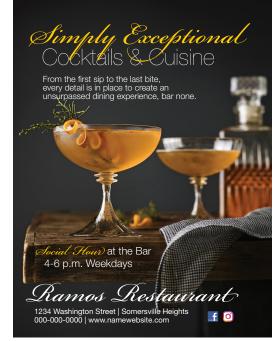
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# What Types of Spec Ads Work

### SHOWCASING PERSONALITY







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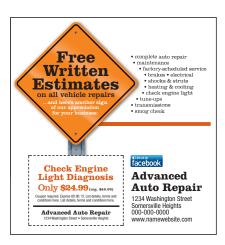
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# What Types of Spec Ads Work

#### • CAMPAIGNS











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# What Types of Spec Ads Work

#### • MULTI-ADVERTISER



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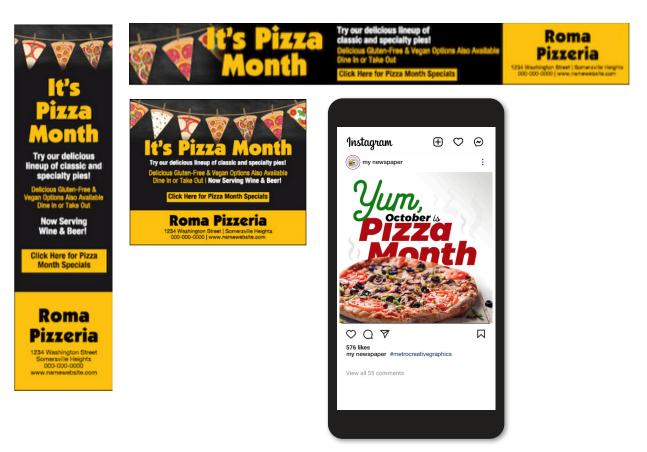
# What Types of Spec Ads Work

#### • PRINT AND DIGITAL



Roma Pizzeria

000-000-0000 | www.namewebsite.com



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# Spec Ad Copy and Design

Sales and design staff working together Sales understanding of design Relaying information properly Reducing number of edits



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#### Spec Ad Copy and Design



**90%** of the information processed by the brain is visual.

**It takes 13 milliseconds** for the human brain to process an image.

The human brain processes images **60,000 times faster** than text.

terms are appendix.

# Spec Ad Copy and Design



#### A RAM study (2021) Image vs. Text Heavy Advertisments

#### Image and text together!

- Attract attention
- Emotional response
- More appealing
- Inspire action
- Invite discussion

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# **Goals For Any Ad**

Attract attention



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# **Goals For Any Ad**

Communicate a benefit



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# **Goals For Any Ad**

Get the customer to act



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# Merging Copy and Art

Visual cues Quick comprehension of purpose Emotional response Properly represent the advertiser



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### **Elements of a Well Designed Ad**

Eye-catching image Appropriate font Strong headline Clear message Proper balance Eye flow Adequate white space Benefit to the consumer Instruction to act



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# **Elements of a Well Designed Ad**



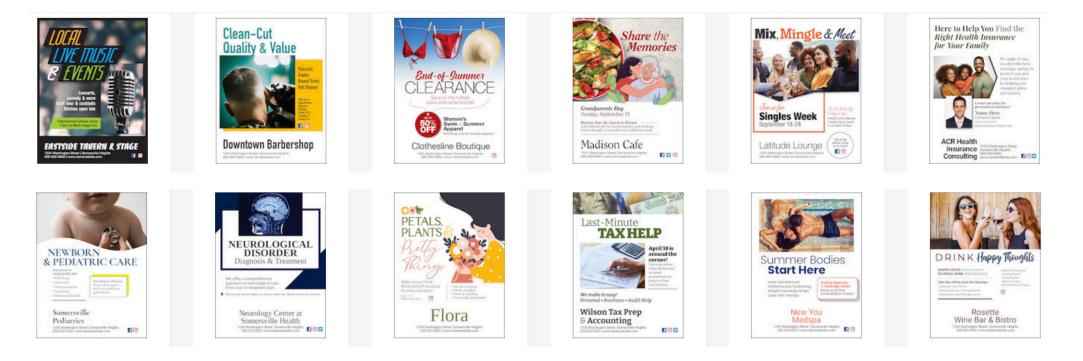
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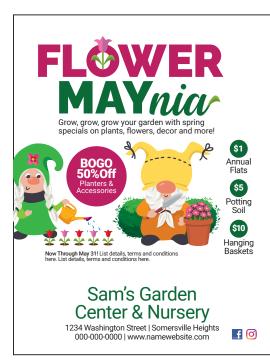
# 



Monthly Best-Selling Advertisers: Restaurants, Bars, Home Contractors & Services, Hair Salons, Gyms, Health & Wellness

## **Spec Ad Style Ideas**

### HUMOR/CLEVER PUNS





# DRINK Happy Thoughts

Retail Wine Shop

Small Plates & Tapas

· Tasting Room

Wines by the

Bottle & Glass

HAPPY HOUR 4-6 p.m. DAILY 1/2-PRICE WINE WEDNESDAYS Join Our Wine Club for Women Discover New Wines

 Enjoy Exclusive Tasting Events Ø Attend Our Monthly Sip Social



#### AFFIRMATION



Personalized trust, estate and asse management services delivered with expertise and integrity to protect your wealth and wishes.



**Innova Investment Management & Planning** 1234 Washington Street | Somersville Heights f 🞯 000-000-0000 | www.namewebsite.com



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## Spec Ad Style Ideas

#### • ALLEVIATE A FEAR





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## Spec Ad Style Ideas

#### • SOLVE A PROBLEM

#### SPECIFIC OFFER



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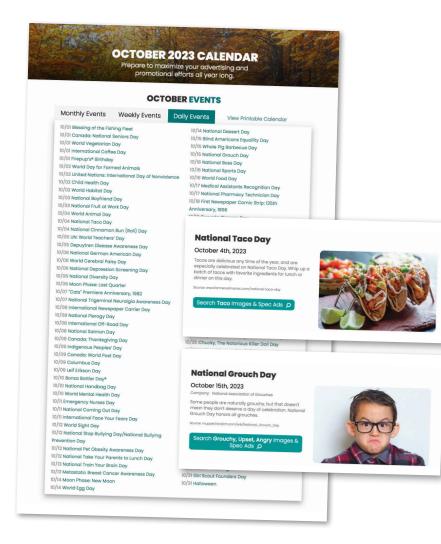
## **Spec Ad Style Ideas**

#### • UPCOMING EVENT TIE-IN









October is Vegetarian Month & National Bullying Prevention Month

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# **Selling Spec Ads**

The power of newspaper advertising

The perfect ad. The right advertising medium? Trust in newspaper advertising. Studies to prove success.



The Relevance Project is an energetic strategic partnership that unites state and provincial press associations to speed the resurgence of community newspapers in North America. It's proud — regularly boastful — of newspapers and what they represent.

relevanceprojectnet.wordpress.com



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# Why Newspaper Ads Work

• TRUSTED SOURCE

#### 2021 Nielsen Study Trust in Advertising

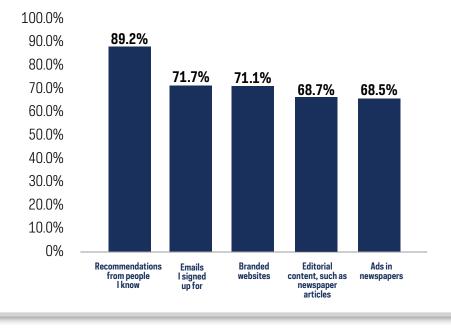
(21 channels compared)

Fifth - **68.5%** trust ads in newspapers

Fourth - 68.7% trust editorial content

Note: web ad & social media did not make the top 5

#### Top trusted advertising channels among U.S. consumers



Nielsen 2021 TIA Study: US | Trust Completely/Trust Somewhat



# Why Newspaper Ads Work

VALUABLE SOURCE

#### 2022 NNA Survey

**81%** said their local paper is a valuable source of local shopping and advertising information

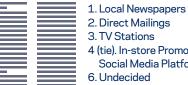
# **MY LOCAL NEWSPAPER...**

PROVIDES VALUABLE LOCAL **SHOPPING, ADVERTISING INFO** 



# **MY LOCAL NEWSPAPER.**

IS THE TOP ADVERTISING MEDIUM FOR SHOPPING, PURCHASING DECISIONS WITH LOCAL MERCHANTS<sup>\*</sup>



4 (tie). In-store Promotions Social Media Platforms

2022 NNA Survey

**Local Newpapers** are the number-one advertising medium for shopping and purchasing decisions with local merchants

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# Why Newspaper Ads Work

#### FOCUSED READING

Reading print leads to better memory Better comprehension of information Less distractions



#### • EMOTIONAL RESPONSE

#### Print Marketing Leaves a "Footprint"



The study used fMRI scanning to observe how brain reactions differed when subjects were shown direct mail print ads than when they viewed the same ad on a screen. The results found that "tangible materials leave a deeper footprint on the brain."

This "footprint" is achieved in two ways:

 More brain responses connected to internal feelings were immediately produced when observing physical materials,
Print involved more emotional processes than when observing ads on a screen. The study finds the latter part is important for "memory and brand associations."

In other words, print makes you feel more strongly, which in turn helps you remember.

#### **Millward Brown Study** *Print Marketing Leaves a "Footprint"*

MRI scans while showing advertisements on a screen vs. holding a printed ad.

Increased brain activity connected to feelings were produced when observing physical materials.

Source: BrainFacts.org

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# Why Newspaper Ads Work

TAKE ACTION

#### 2020 Coda Ventures Newspaper Ad Effectiveness Study

Do people take action after seeing a newspaper ad? What actions did they take?





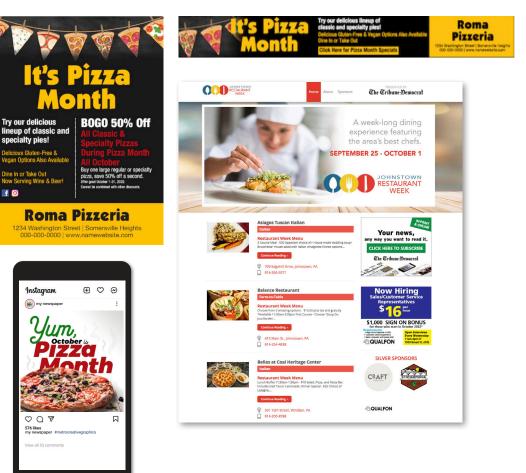
- Dental 6 out 10
- Electronics 7 out of 10
- Eyewear 6 out 10
- Grocery 8 out of 10
- Home 6 out of 10
- Insurance 7 out of 10
- Jewelry 6 out of 10
- Real Estate 7 out of 10

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# **Print and Digital Working Together**

Cross-platform marketing Successful branding Print to digital - QR codes Online directories Social media bonus





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#### We covered it all!

Benefits Struggles Styles and Inspiration Working together The value of newspaper advertising

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THANK YOU

Lanra Koch METRO SENIOR DESIGNER

lkoch@metro-email.com metrocreativeconnection.com