



# PowerPoint 101

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# Introduction

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Presentation dos and don'ts

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Time saving tips and tricks

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Resources and best practices

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Q&A



# Hi, I'm Ally!



- I've worked at Liberty for 7 years, first in GRS claims internal comms, then Strategic Partnerships as a **presentation designer-turned-B2B marketer**, and now in Marketing!
- I manage all **B2B marketing** for the Employer channel, plus now the **Brand Builder** platform
- My background is in **graphic design**, and I still freelance outside of Liberty doing apparel design, creative direction and hand lettering
- I'm a native Mainer and still love to talk about all things **Maine** when given the opportunity
- I'm an avid baker, primarily desserts, and a huge hockey fan (**go Bruins!**)



# Today's objectives:

- 1 Understand the principles of good presentation design
- 2 Learn tips and tricks for working efficiently in PowerPoint



# Presentation dos and don'ts



**Top 3**  
presentation dos  
and don'ts

1

Don't let your data be lazy

2

Do use white space

3

Don't use clip art



1

Don't let your  
data be lazy



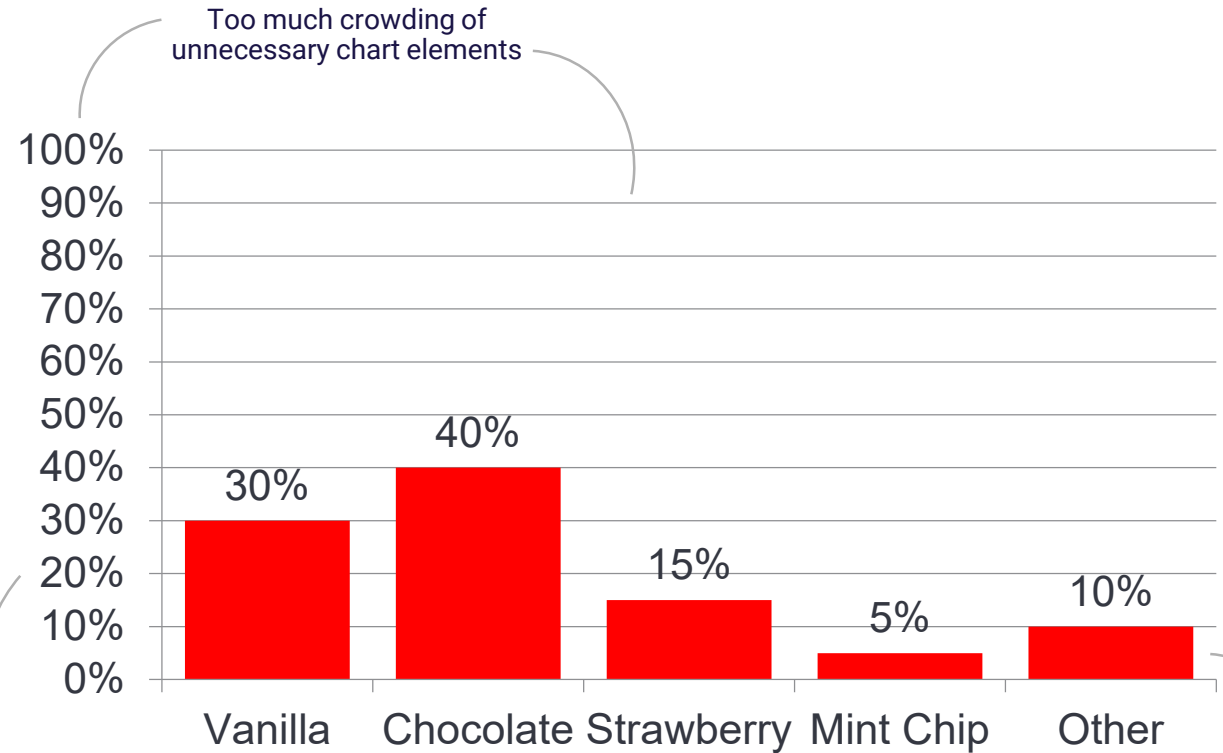
# “Lazy data”

No visual hierarchy or differentiation

Season	% Answered
Spring	25%
Summer	35%
Fall	30%
Winter	10%
# of Respondents	4058

What's the key takeaway?

Not enough white space for our eye to move through the information



Default axis setting

No typographic hierarchy

Jarring and off brand color



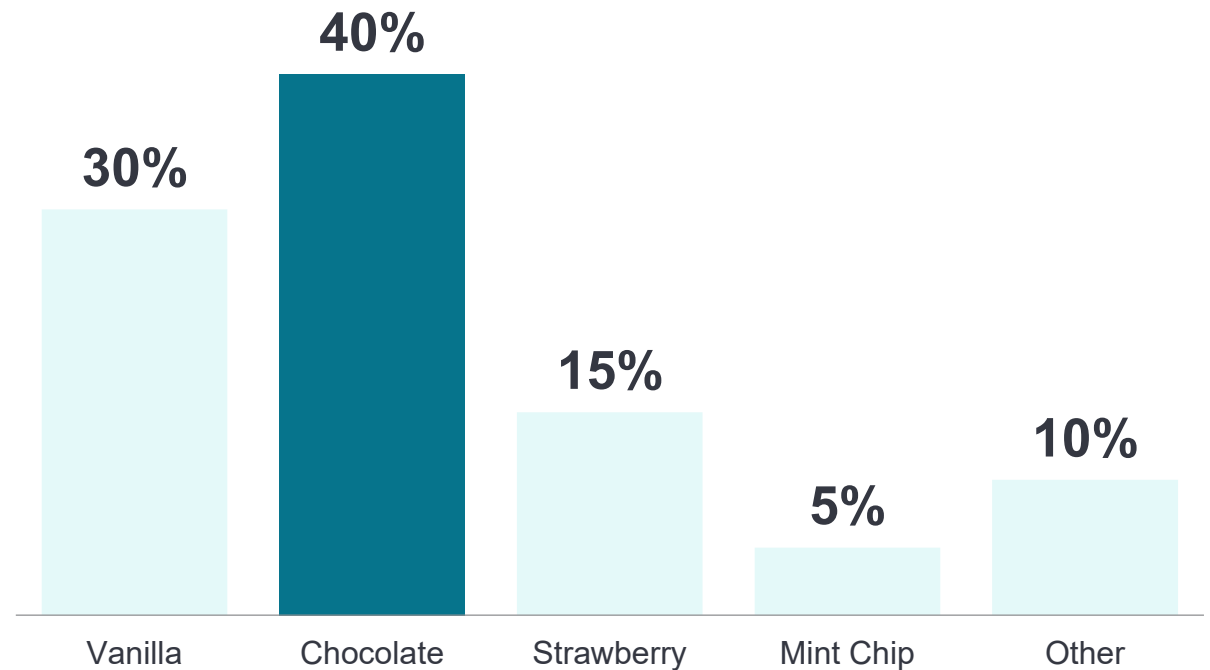
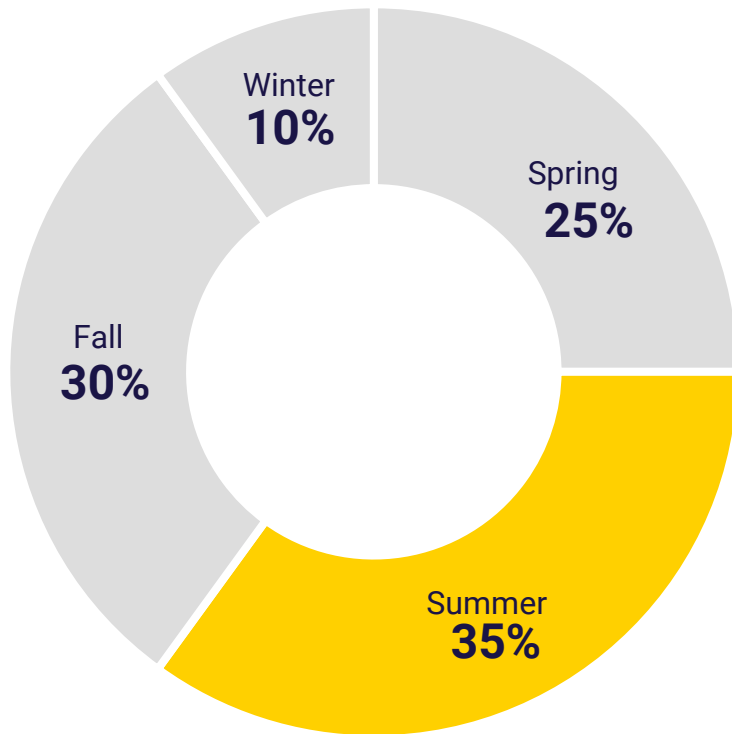


It's all about creating

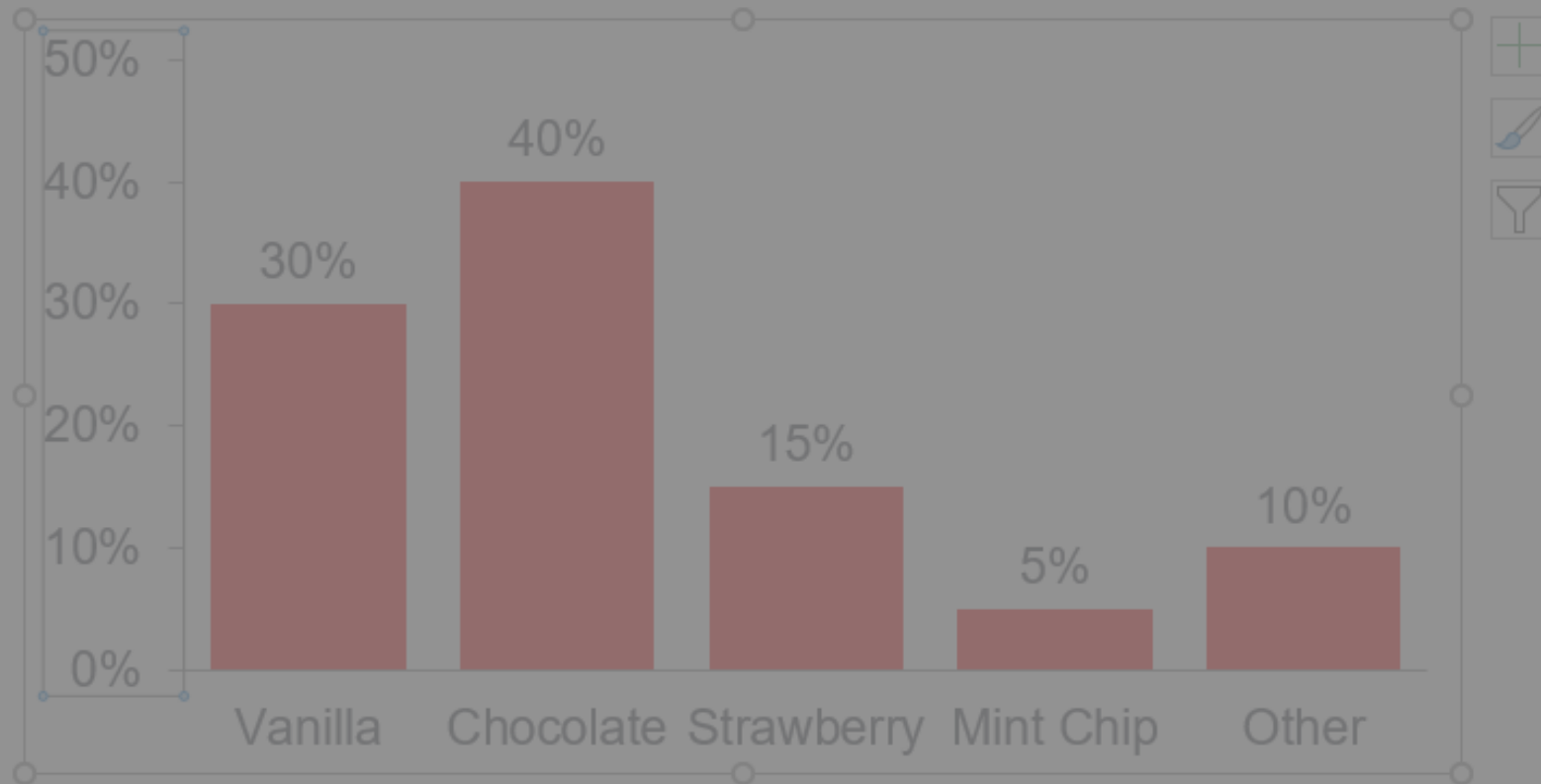
**visual hierarchy.**



# How do we fix it?



# Issues of “lazy data”



### Format Axis

Axis Options | Text Options

Axis Options

**Axis Options**

Bounds

Minimum  Auto

Maximum  Reset

Units

Major  Reset

Minor  Reset

Horizontal axis crosses

Automatic

Axis value

Maximum axis value

Display units

Show display units label on chart

Logarithmic scale Base

Values in reverse order

**Tick Marks**

Major type

Minor type

Labels

Number

2

Do use white space



# When a slide lacks white space...

No hierarchy or differentiation between the headline and bullets

## *Results of survey responses for 2020*

- *97% of people took the survey*
- *Of those who took the survey, 72% responded favorably*
- *Of those who took the survey, 60% feel supported*
- *Of those who took the survey, 82% enjoy their work*
- *Of those who took the survey, 88% feel customer problems and complaints are resolved timely*
- *Of those who took the survey, 50% feel processes are well organized and efficient*

Italics strain the eye

Copy is redundant, reducing white space and creating fatigue

Line spacing is >1, which makes it difficult to read



# Results of the survey responses for 2018

- 97% of
- Of those
- favorab
- Of those
- Of those
- Of those
- problems and complaints are resolved timely
- Of those who took the survey, 50% feel processes are well organized and efficient

Paragraph ? X

Indents and Spacing

General

Alignment: Left

Indentation

Before text: 0.38" Special: Hanging By: 0.38"

Spacing

Before: 0 pt Line Spacing: Single At 0

After: 0 pt

OK Cancel

Tabs...

72% responded

60% feel supported

82% enjoy their work

88% feel customer



# How do we fix it?

## Survey Results

Feedback from an engaged audience reveals opportunities for improvement



- 88% feel customer problems and complaints are resolved timely
- 60% feel supported
- 72% feel engaged
- 82% enjoy their work
- **50% feel processes are well organized and efficient**



Again...

**visual hierarchy.**





“Good use of white space  
between paragraphs and in  
the left and right margins  
increases comprehension **by**  
**almost 20%.”**”



# Less is more.

## **Rules of thumb:**

- <50 words / slide
- Keep font sizes for copy between 16 and 24



3

Don't use clip art

(seriously, don't.)







Use animations and transitions sparingly and only when necessary.



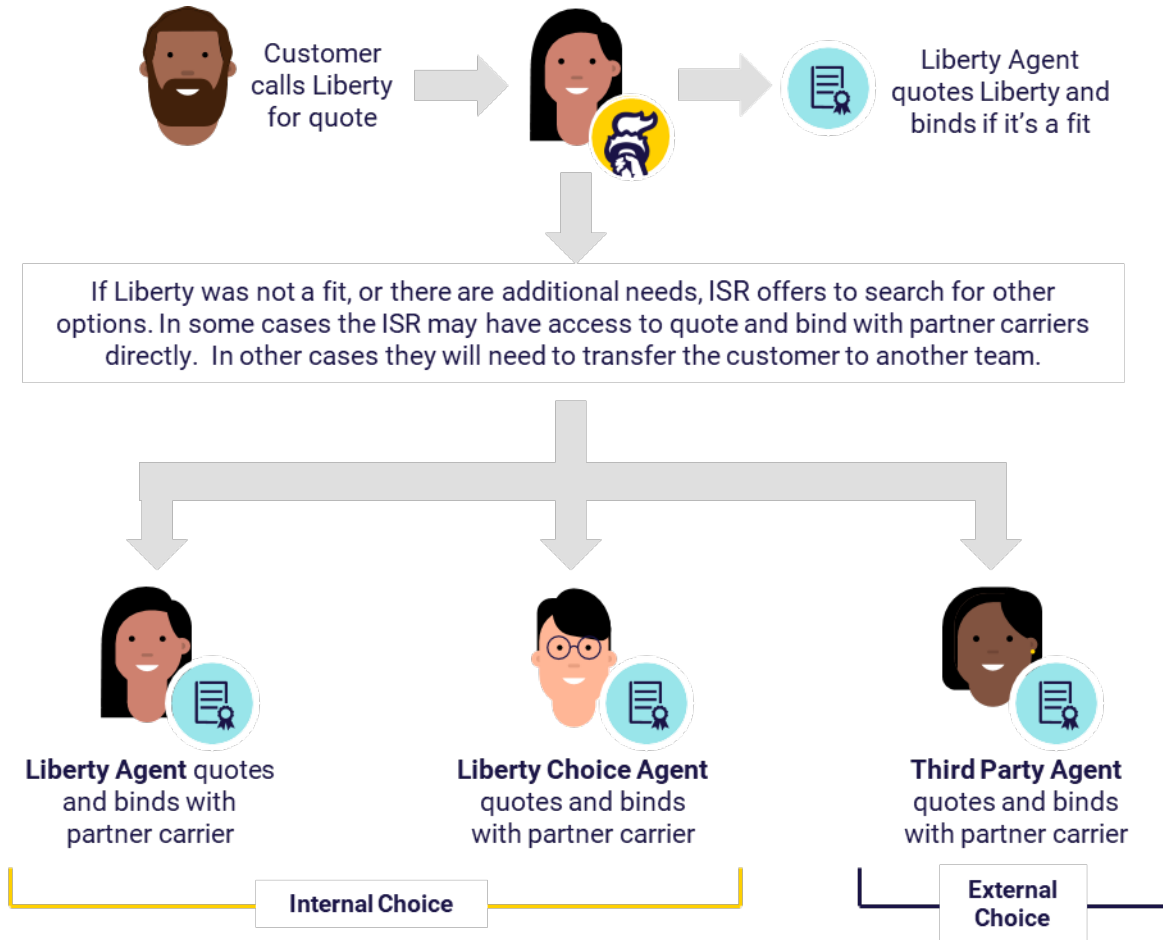
**“Content precedes design.**

**Design in the absence of content  
is not design, it’s decoration.”**

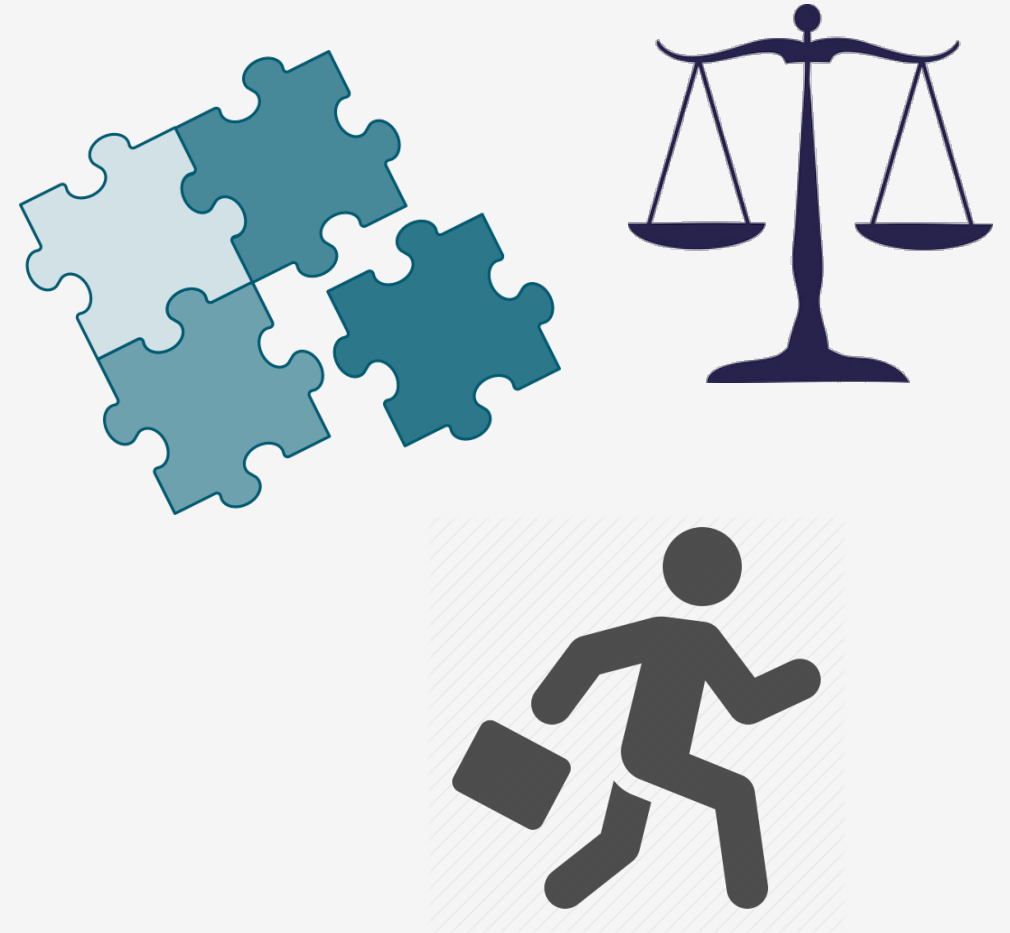
- Jeffrey Zeldman



# This visual tells a story.



# These visuals do not.



# Think outside the screen.

Slides are only a part of your presentation.

**You** are the focus when you're presenting!





# Time saving tips and tricks



**Top 4**  
time saving tips  
and tricks

1

Group objects to resize

2

Streamline your master slides

3

Align and distribute

4

Guides

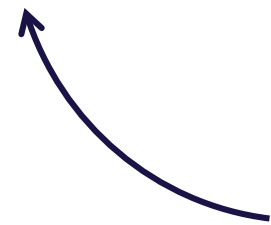
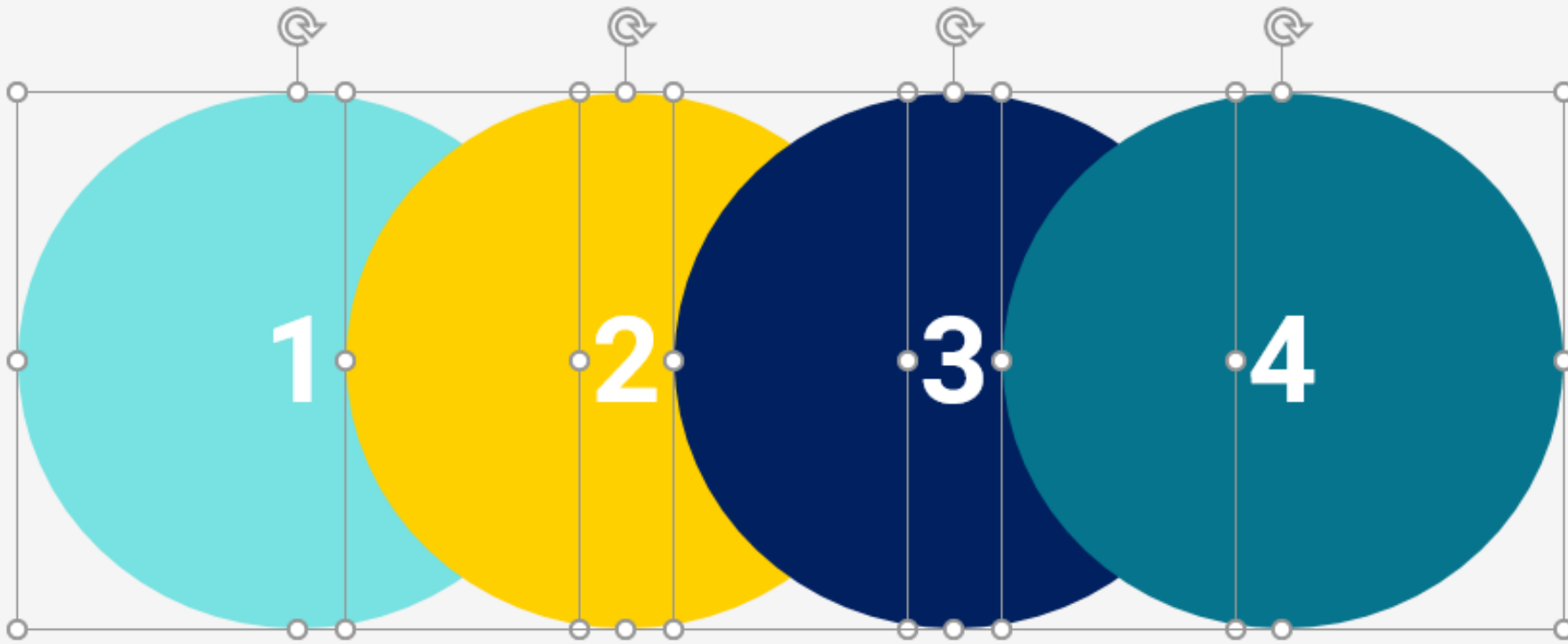


1

Group objects to resize







Resized without grouping





## Resized with grouping

- Maintain spacing and proportions of your objects
- **Tip:** text boxes will increase in size, but the font size will not increase
- **Extra tip:** hold down the **SHIFT** key while resizing to avoid distortion



2

Streamline your  
master slides



Insert Slide Master
Insert Layout
Delete
Rename
Preserve
Master Layout
Placeholder
 Title
  Footers
 Themes
Colors
Background Styles
Fonts
 Hide Background Graphics
 Effects
Slide Size
Close Master View
Close



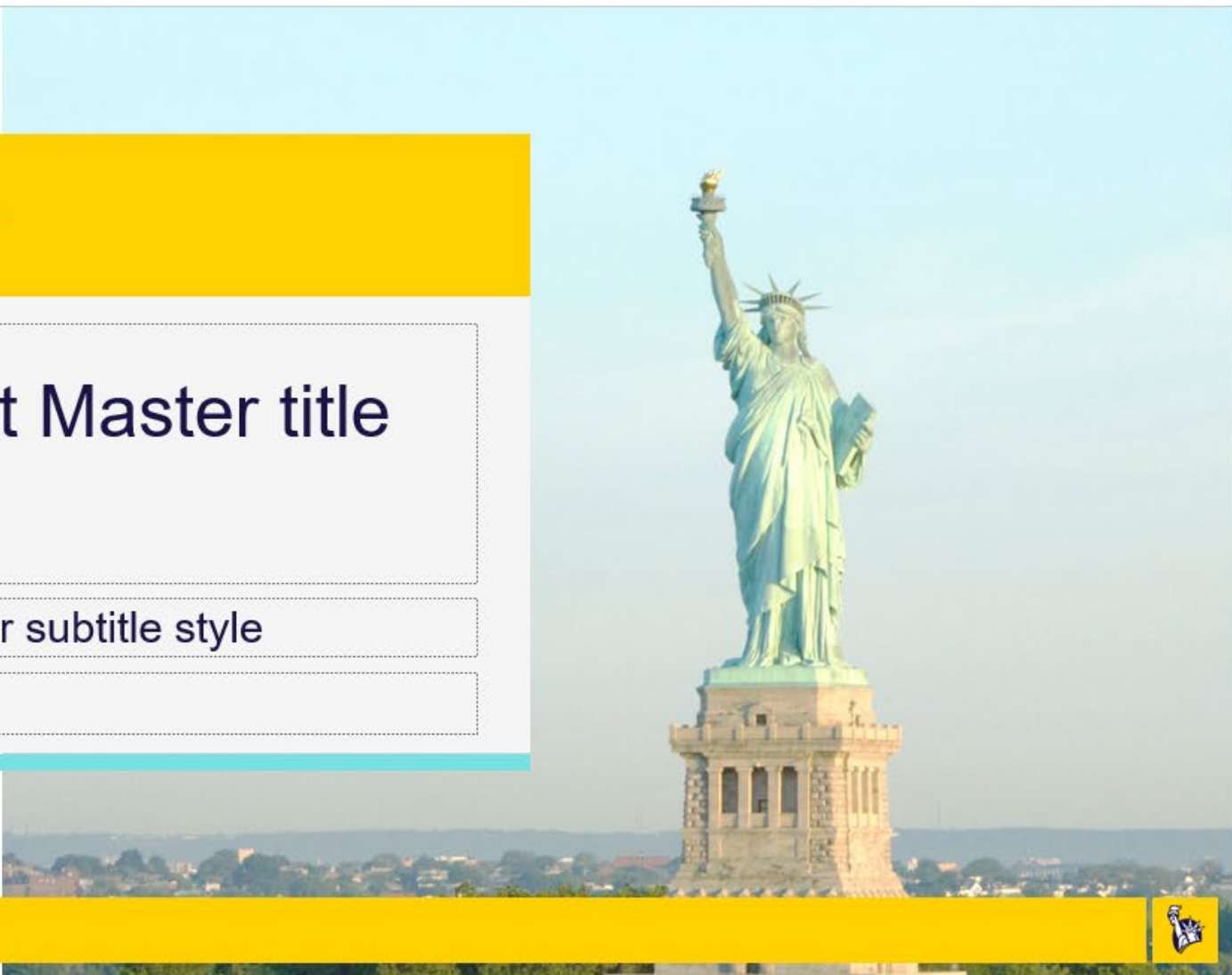

**Liberty Mutual.**  
INSURANCE

Click to edit Master title style

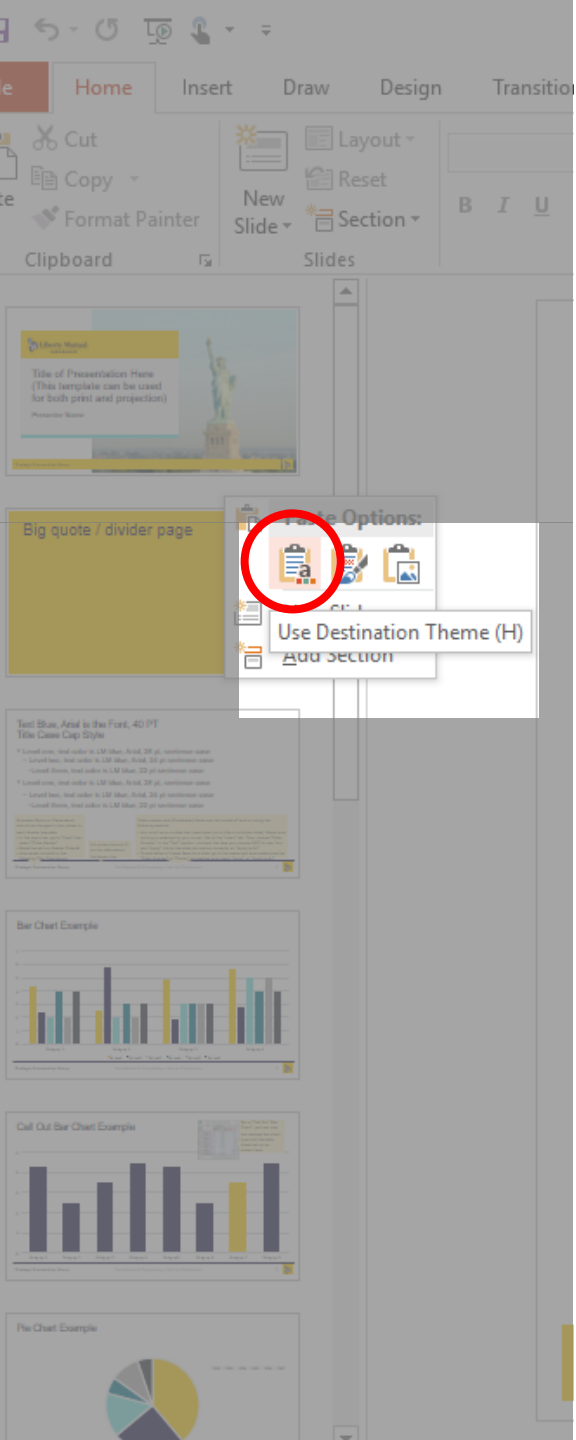
Click to edit Master subtitle style

Edit Master text styles

Strategic Partnerships Group







**Tip:** to fix messy formatting after pasting slides to the destination theme, try the “reset” button on your toolbar



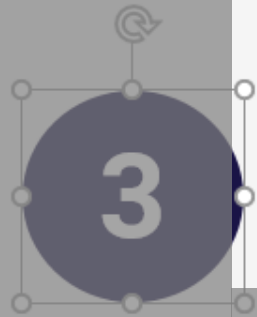
- When pasting in slides from other presentations, **ALWAYS** right click and choose “**use destination theme**” to avoid creating duplicate or extraneous master slides
- Always **remove unused master layouts** to stay organized and eliminate confusion for others who may be using your slides later on

3

Align and distribute







- Order Objects
  - Bring to Front
  - Send to Back
  - Bring Forward
  - Send Backward
- Group Objects
  - Group
  - Ungroup
  - Regroup
- Position Objects
  - Align
  - Rotate
  - Selection Pane...

- Align Left
- Align Center
- Align Right
- Align Top
- Align Middle
- Align Bottom
- Distribute Horizontally
- Distribute Vertically
- Align to Slide
- Align Selected Objects

Align Objects Middle







4

Guides



Normal Outline View Slide Sorter Notes Page Reading View Presentation Views

Slide Master Handout Master Notes Master Master Views

Zoom Fit to Window Zoom Color Grayscale Black and White Color/Grayscale

New Window Arrange All Cascade Move Split Window

Switch Windows Macros

Ruler

Gridlines

Guides

Notes

Show

35

36

37

38

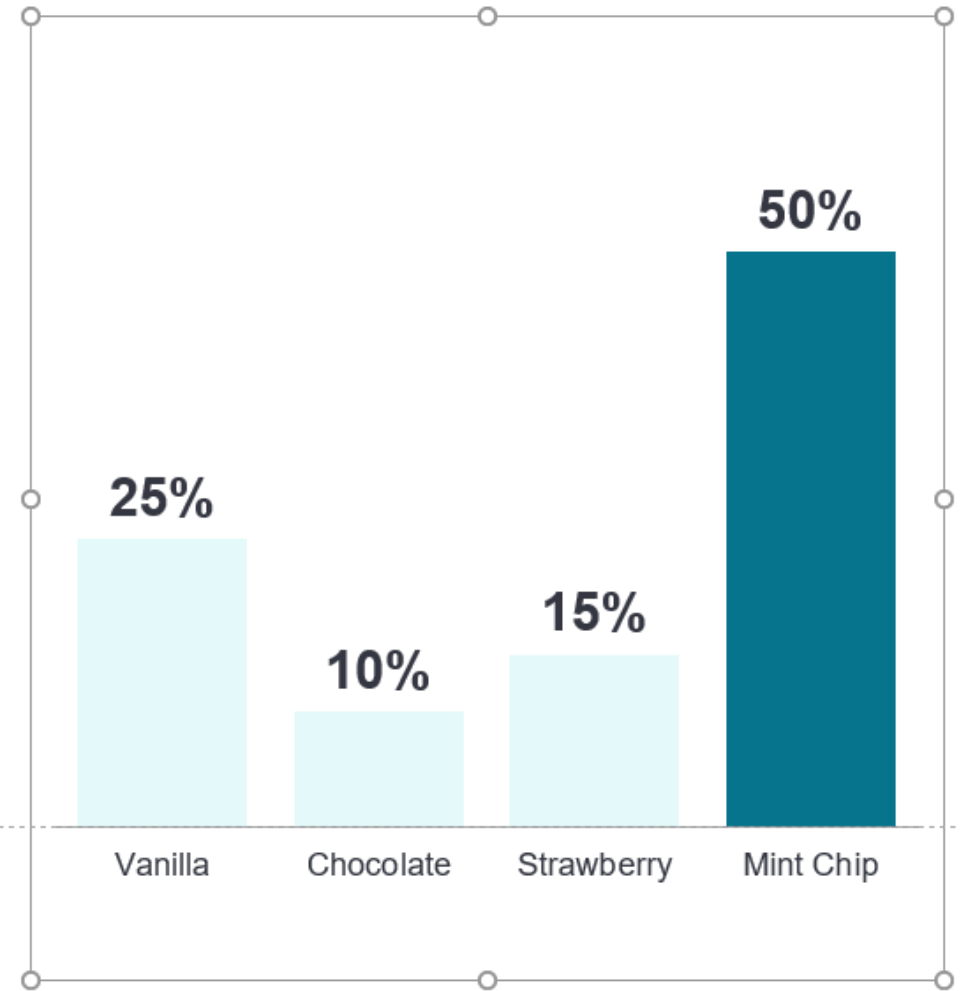
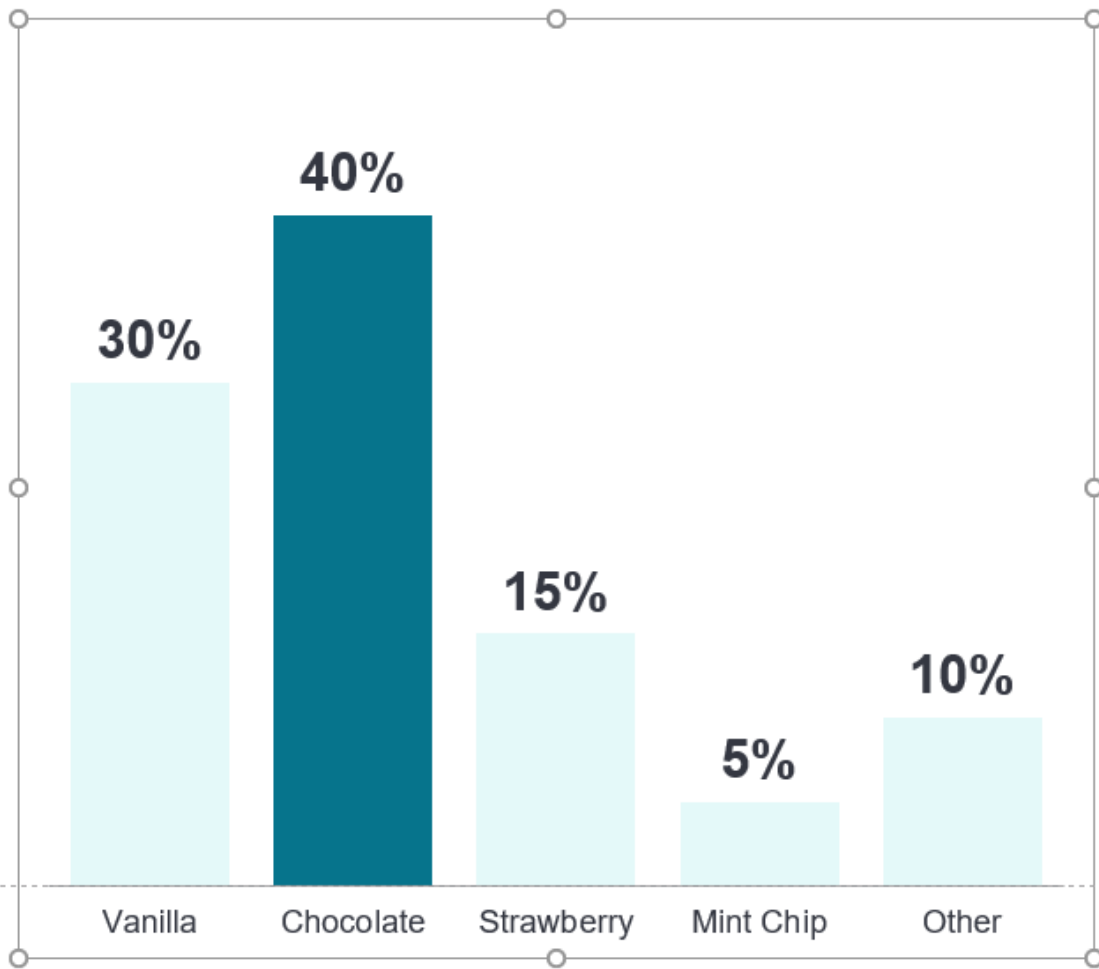
4 Guides

4

Guides

40





# Resources and best practices



- Corporate-approved logos, brand guides and assets can be found at [LibertyMutualBrand.com](https://www.libertymutualbrand.com), including the icons for PowerPoint resource deck
- PowerPoint templates can be found on the GRM communications toolbox
- Keep your copy to <50 words per slide
- Keep a **consistent and minimal color and font palette** throughout
- **Use white space** for easy reading and legibility
- Remember: LESS IS MORE!

I use this one  
**A LOT!**

This will keep your  
slides looking **fresh**  
and **professional**



# Questions?



Thank you!

