

Calls to Action and Landing Page Best Practices (CV101)

Professor: Jeanne Hopkins, MECLABS, Marketing Experiments





Calls to Action and Landing Page Best Practices (CV101)

Inbound Marketing University
June 18 Presented by Jeanne Hopkins



About MarketingExperiments

We conduct experiments to optimize marketing communications

- MarketingExperiments is a member of the MECLABS Group, along with MarketingSherpa, and with InTouch.
- As one of the first research groups on the Internet, MarketingExperiments has pioneered extensive breakthroughs (and has multiple pending patents) in the field of marketing communication.
- Key findings are featured in the MarketingExperiments Journal and in the MarketingExperiments Live Web Briefings.
- In addition, the MarketingExperiments team has contributed more than \$10 million dollars of research for free access at their web site: www.MarketingExperiments.com
- The organization generates revenue in two ways:
 - Professional Certification Courses such as Landing Page Optimization, Email Messaging Optimization, and The Fundamentals of Online Testing
 - 2. Research Partnerships



Calls to Action INTRODUCTION



Calls to Action

- Can your Landing Page "close"?
- Do you want the Landing Page visitor to...
 - □Pick up the phone and call you?
 - □ Sign up for a free webinar, download?
 - □ Go to another page for more info?
 - □Just click?



Calls to Action

- Instead of a button, why not a link?
 - □ Buy a (fill in the blank) and never (fill in the blank) again!
 - □ See (<u>examples of why you should click</u> <u>here</u>)...
 - ☐ Find out how (we've helped others....)
 - □What are the leading indicators that (fill in the blank here)...

_



Calls to Action

- □ Which (fill in the blank) is right for your business?
- Call today and find out what our competitors don't want you to know.
- □ Listen to an excerpt of (our webinar, pod-cast, information).
- Call now for a free 10-minute consultation
- □ Take our (Marketing Best Practices Quiz).



Calls to Action

- What's the first thing you should do if your laptop crashes?
- What factor should I consider before choosing an ESP?
- □ How do we start?
- □ Buy Now!
- Download "Top 10 B2B Mistakes Marketers Make"



LANDING PAGE BEST PRACTICES QUESTIONS



How many of you have redesigned your home page within the last 12 months?



How many tests have you run in the last 6 months?



What is the most difficult aspect of Landing Page Optimization for your company?

- Limited resources in IT
- 2. Marketing dept. doesn't have time
- 3. Lack of analytics
- 4. Knowing what to test



LANDING PAGE OPTIMIZATION DEFINITION OF CONVERSION



Conversion Sequence

$$C = 4m + 3v + 2(i-f) - 2a^{\circ}$$

Wherein:

"C" = Probability of conversion.

"m" = Motivation of user (when).

"v" = Clarity of the value proposition (why).

"i" = Incentive to take action.

"f" = Friction elements of process.

"a" = Anxiety about entering information.



Conversion Sequence

$$C = 4m + 3v + 2(i-f) - 2a^{\circ}$$

Approach to Landing Page Optimization:

During this course, our primary focus will be on understanding each of the elements of website conversion using the Conversion Sequence and applying these principles through landing page optimization.

In each session, we will focus on one or more of the conversion sequence elements and how to apply them in real-world optimization situations. Then, we will see an example of how to approach and organize a landing page optimization effort from beginning to end.



First we need a precise definition of Conversion:

Conversion is the process of successfully achieving the primary objective of a specific page or website.

Conversion Rate is the primary measure of conversion and is computed as:

The **Conversion Sequence** is used to structure your approach to profitably maximizing Conversion Rate through Optimization.

$$C = 4m + 3v + 2(i-f) - 2a^{\circ}$$



LANDING PAGE OPTIMIZATION CASE STUDIES



MarketingExperiments Case Study: New York Times

Background:

• The New York Times came to us with a subscription product that they were having difficulty marketing called the "Electronic Edition." They had been marketing the product for more than 2 years, conversion was under 0.5% and growth in subscriptions had plateaued. Despite a healthy marketing budget, multiple channels of traffic, and significant promotional offers the rate of new subscriptions was stagnant. Our initial impression after reviewing the website and the product was that it might be a "product" problem rather than an "optimization" problem but the only way to be certain was through a series of tests.

Objective: To grow the number of subscriptions.



Original



An exact digital replica of the printed paper.



Get all the news you need to stay wellinformed with The New York Times Electronic Edition.

It's not a web site, but a digital reproduction of America's premier newspaper! Every article, color photograph and advertisement is automatically delivered to your computer each morning. It's there for you to read offline, anytime.

Experience the Electronic Edition today.

- Click on the 'Buy Now' button to get started. You'll be taken to a purchase options page.
- · Choose today's issue or a subscription option.
- In order to view The Times electronically, you'll be asked to register to download the free NewsStand reader software.









Great reasons to try the electronic edition

1. Portable.

No need to be online - read The Times anytime, anywhere!

2. Easy to read.

Zoom in to articles, pictures and graphs to maximize your easy, comfortable reading.

3. Convenient.

You can auto-schedule your electronic delivery and have the newspaper waiting for you!

4. Efficient.

Keyword searches - gives you the power to research any topic, person or event instantly.

5. Compact.

Store past issues on your computer.

Fast, neat and highly compact means to retain information for quick reference later.

6. Organized.

Jump to article continuations with a single click. Makes your reading experience effortless.

7. Expect the World.

All the local, national and international news from the winner of 90 Pulitzer Prizes, far more than any other newspaper.



The original EE landing page is where we started testing. On the left is the original design. On the right is an optimized design which focuses on how the offer is displayed. By including the offer price on the landing page (which also removed one page in the order process), switching from standard buttons to radio buttons, and weighting the call-to-action more effectively, we were able to improve conversion.







By changing the display of this offer, the customer's decision was simplified, which reduced friction.

Original

The **original form** adds Friction because there are 3 objectives and 3 evenly weighted options.



Optimized

The **simplified design** offers 4 options but has only 1 objective - to Confirm their subscription





On the right is an optimized design which focuses on how the offer is displayed.







40			~ I
ш	ш	ze	u
	ti	timi	timize

Statistics	Original	Optimized
Unique visits:	3872	3726
Orders	26	43
Conversion	0.80%	1.32%
Increase In Conversion	6	4%
Increase In Orders	6	5%



In the second major test we tested the regular paid up-front offer against a 7-day free trial to see if we could convert more customers to paid subscribers. The free trial converted **541%** better than the standard paid up-front offer.

Subscription Path Test: Free Trial vs. Paid Offer

Statistics	Regular Paid Offer	Free Trial
Unique visits:	5000	5000
Paid Orders	24	154
Increase In Orders	541	1.60%







How was anxiety reduced in this test that led to a **541%** increase in conversion? In the original offer, there were "paid" offers that listed the prices AND a free trial offer. In the optimized version, all offers were "free trials." The price of the subscription after the free trial was also de-emphasized. By removing the prepaid options and de-emphasizing the paid nature of the offer, customer anxiety was reduced enough to compel more than 5 times as many customers to complete the subscription process.







To further optimize the subscription process we completely redesigned the landing page. The redesigned page converted **47%** better than the prior optimized page design.

Original Page (Old Design) vs. Radical Redesign (Optimized)

Statistics	Old Design	Optimized
Unique visits:	2812	2897
Paid Orders	19	29
Conversion	0.68%	1.00%
Increase In Conversion	4	7%
Increase In Orders	5	52%







Offer copy is extremely important and needs to be continually tested. MarketingExperiments analysts thought that the original copy used to present the offer could be improved to help convey the value proposition more clearly. Here are the test results.

Test Results

Statistics	Original Offer Copy	New Offer Copy
Unique visits:	8620	8759
Paid Orders	136	155
Conversion	1.58%	1.77%
Increase In Conversion	1	12%
Increase In Orders	1	4%





Prior research had shown that with subscription based paid products, long copy usually produced a higher conversion than standard short copy. We tested this approach with the Electronic Edition and found the following.

Test Results

Statistics	Standard Copy	Long Copy
Unique visits:	2478	2348
Paid Orders	36	65
Conversion	1.45%	2.73%
Increase In Conversion	8	8%
Increase In Orders	8	0%

Standard Copy



Long Copy











Results from previous live optimizations:





69% Increase In Conversion



Results from previous live optimizations:



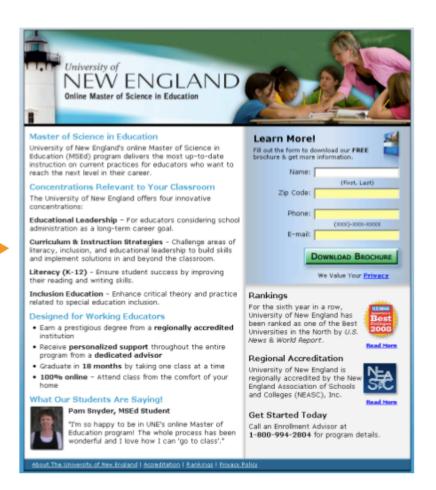


93% Increase In Total Revenue



Results from previous workshop attendee:





300% Increase In Conversion



MarketingExperiments Case Study: SQL Server User Group

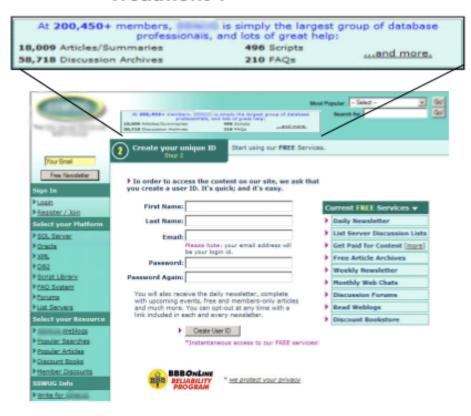
Background:

- At the beginning of the engagement, this company was already one of the largest SQL Server professional user groups in the world. The site is a community and information resource for database professionals that includes articles, forums, code libraries, FAQs and discounts on software, subscriptions, and more.
- But membership growth had stalled.

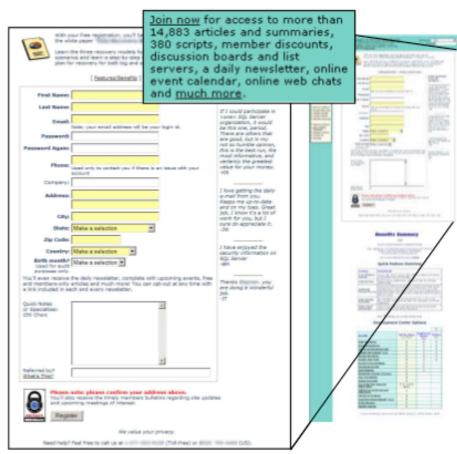
Objective: To increase the rate of new member growth.



Treatment 1



Treatment 2



Which of these pages generated more subscription signups?



MarketingExperiments Case Study: Thinking Craft

Background:

- We worked with a survey marketing company called Thinking Craft on one of their sites ActualMe.com. We tested two separate alternatives for the primary objective. The first was to capture email address-only on our landing page. The second was to capture email address with additional customer information. We also tested the length of the copy (short copy vs. long copy). Below are the test treatment clusters.
 - Short Copy With Email Capture Only (Treatment 1)
 - Short Copy With Full Form (Treatment 2)
 - Long Copy With Email Capture Only (Treatment 3)
 - Long Copy With Full Form (Treatment 4)

Objective: To increase conversion lead capture.



Treatment 2

Treatment 1

actualme



Treatment 3



Treatment 4



Which of these pages yielded the highest conversion to lead capture?



MarketingExperiments Case Study: ENCYCLOPÆDIA Britannica

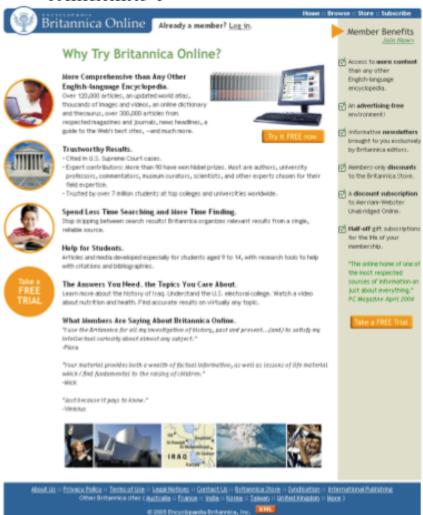
Background:

• We worked with the Encyclopaedia Britannica to increase subscriptions for their online encyclopedia subscription product. The objective of this page is to get visitors to sign up for a free trial of the online product.

Objective: To increase conversion to trial sign-up.



Treatment 1



Treatment 2



Which Page results in the greater number of trial sign-ups?



What is the most difficult aspect of Landing Page Optimization for your company?

- Limited resources in IT
- Marketing dept. doesn't have time
- Lack of analytics
- 4. Knowing what to test





Attend LPO Certification Tour

http://www.marketingexperiments.com/trainingitems/2009-training-tour.html

Use Promo Code IMU200 for \$200 off the registration fee

Join our LinkedIn group Follow us on Twitter