

LESS IS MORE

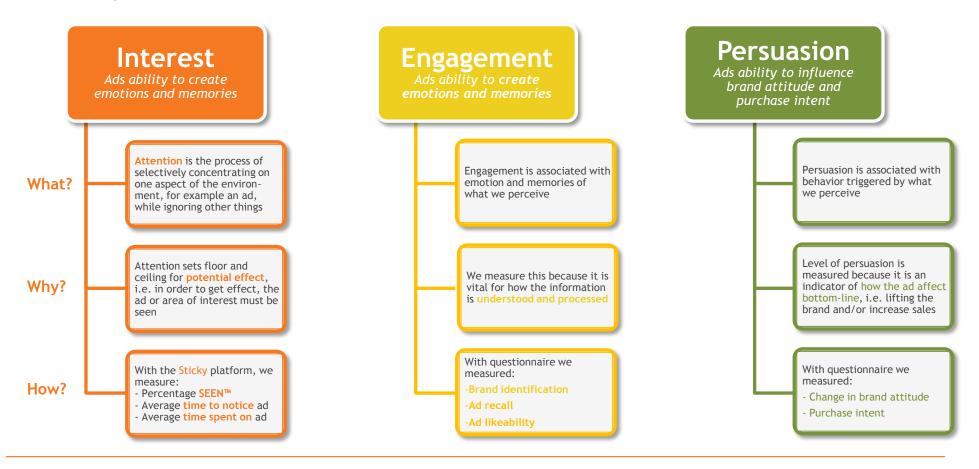
A study on how different online display ads work in different environments

March 2014

A study to find out how to get best performance of online display advertising



In order to have effect, any communication need to pass several critical bottlenecks with the receiver. In this study we've measured over all the crucial bottlenecks to see how the different ads perform in in different environments:



A study to see how the site environment affect ad effectiveness



Example of clean site in the test



Example of cluttered site in the test

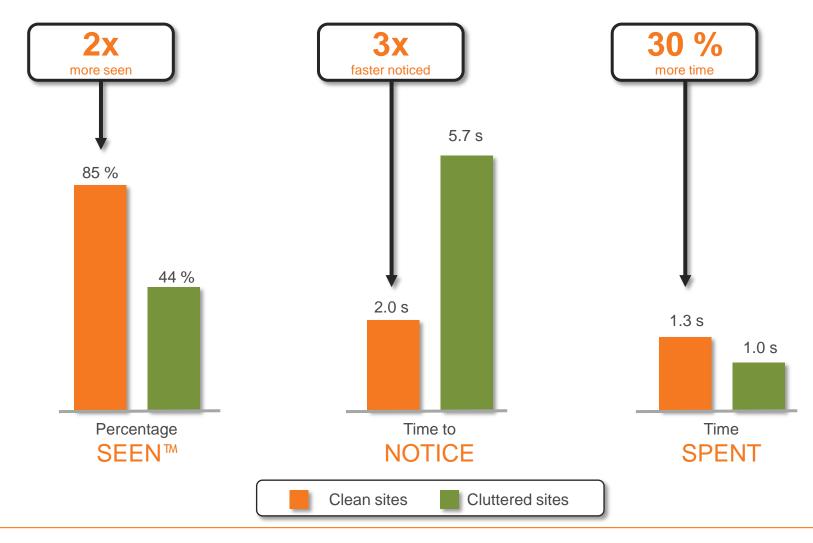




Ads get higher attention in a clean environment.



Overall the ads were noticed more, quicker and given more time when published in a clean environment

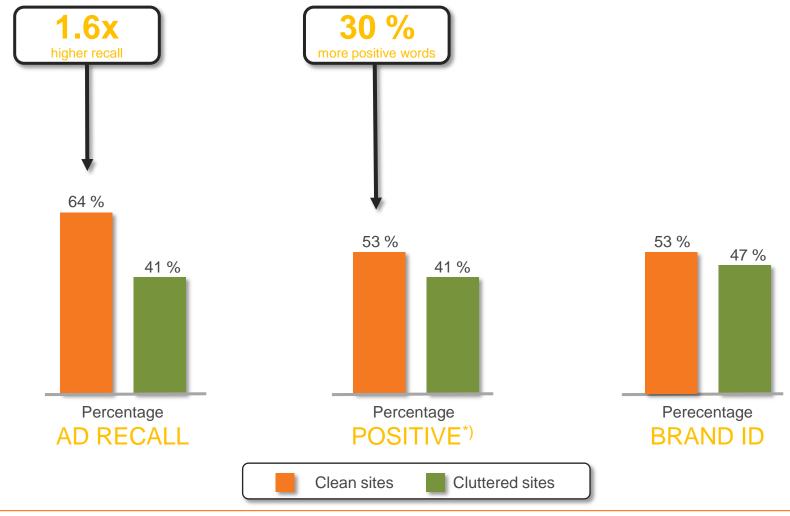




Ads perform better in a clean environment.



Overall the ads were remembered to a higher degree and more positively viewed when published in a clean environment



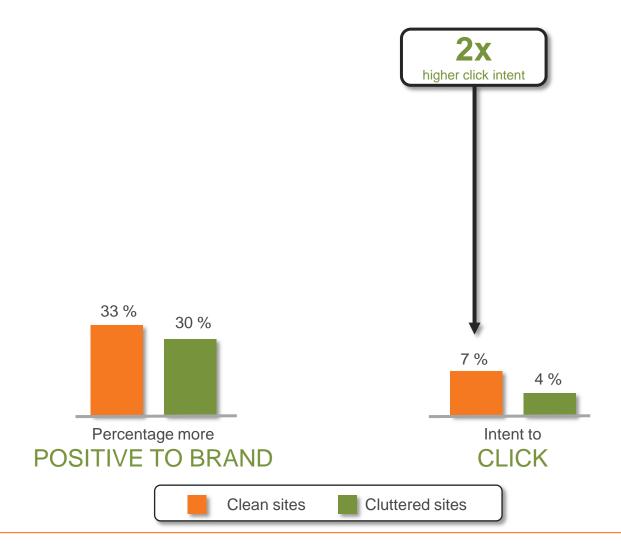
^{*)} Survey question posed: "Below are some words and phrases that could be used to describe an ad. Which of these words or phrases, if any, describe the ad you just viewed? You may select as few or as many as you like". The percentage positive words chosen presented above

Persuasion

Higher intention to click in a clean environment.



Overall users indicated higher likelihood to click the ads when presented in a clean environment



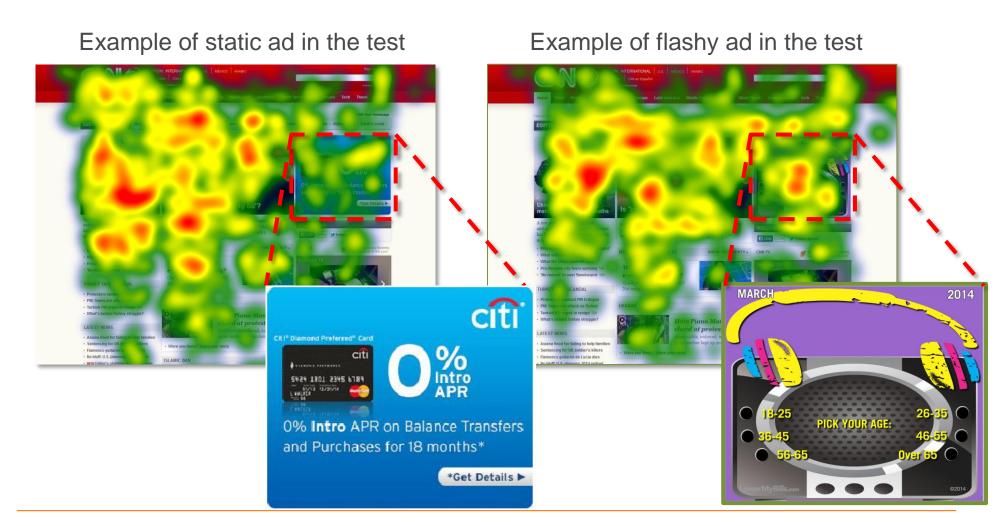


Conclusion: "Less is more..."

Advertising is all about being noticed – an ad that is not seen can not have any effect:

- The results from this test suggests that the effect of an ad is significantly higher when placed in a clean environment compared to a more busy environment
- More people see the ad, they notice it quicker and spend more time with it. This triggers stronger recall, more positiv emotions and higher intention to interact with the ad.
- From the advertiser's end of the telescope this means higher ROI and for the publisher a clean site addds value to the ad inventory and might even justify a higher CPMs





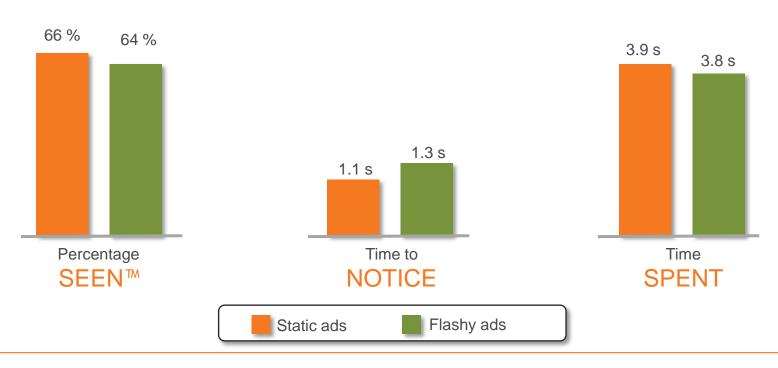


Static and flashy ads get similar level of attention



Overall the ads were noticed very similarly regardless of them being static or flashy

No evidence for higher attention with flashy ads!





Static ads more positively received.



Overall the ads were remembered to a higher degree and more positively viewed when published in a clean environment

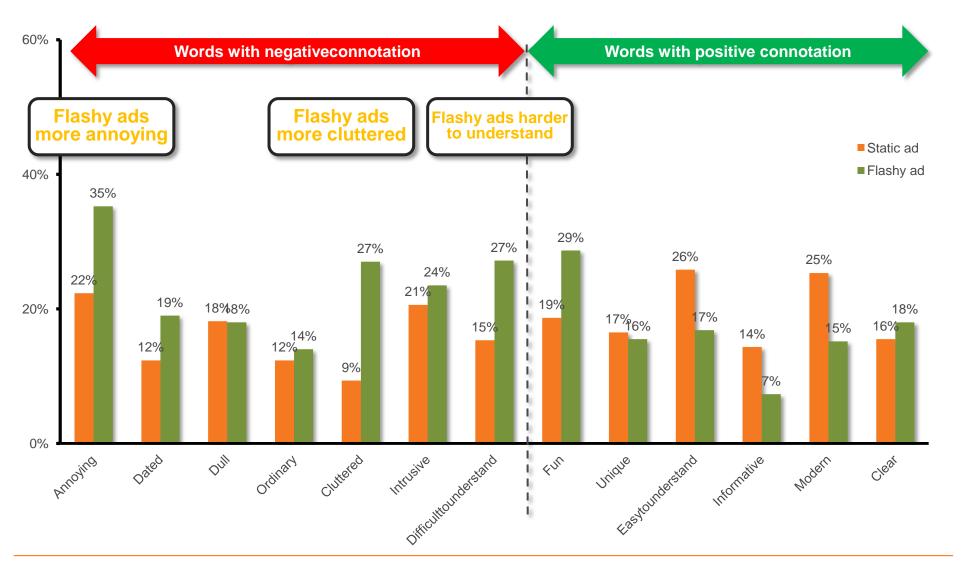




Flashy ads annoying and hard to understand.



The flashy ads are perceived as more cluttered and hard to understand than the static ones. However, also more fun.

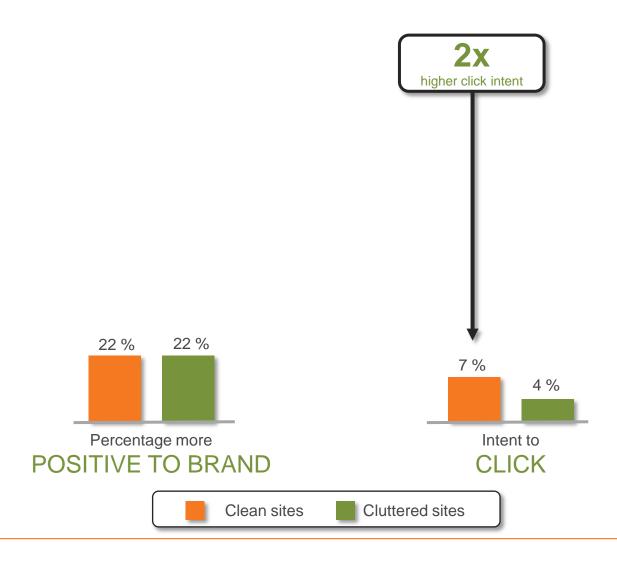




Higher intention to click a static ad



Overall users indicated higher liklihood to click the static ads than the flashy ones





Conclusion: No call for 'smoke and mirrors'

Advertising is all about being noticed – and it's intuitively appealing to think that a flashy ad would catch users attention to a higher degree:

- However, the results from this test suggests that a static ad has equally good chance of catching user's attention
- At the same time the static ad generates more positive feelings than the flashy, resulting in a higher intention to interact with the ad.
- From the advertiser's end of the telescope the use of static ads means higher ROI and for the publisher it help keeping the site calm



Methodology/Technology



Methodology/Technology

WebCam Based EyeTracking Platform

- In this test we've measured over all the crucial bottlenecks to see how the communication is performing and where it potentially fails.
- By combining eye tracking statistics with the answers from the survey questions, we get a clear picture over the advertising performance.
- The test was conducted in Germany and the US and included a total of 1,200 respondents and a number of ads were tested across different sites

How it works



Respondents are recruited from web panels or tested site.

Respondents are rewarded for their participation by the panel company.



The survey can be sent out to panelists anywhere in the world.

Panelists receive a link in a e-mail leading to the survey



In the survey respondents are asked permission to access their web camera.

Thereafter the respondents eye/web camera is calibrated.



The stimuli is presented on the respondents computer screen

During the test the respondents gaze is tracked through the web camera.

Session ends with a quick questionnaire



Eye Tracking Statistics & Survey Questions

Attention

Ads ability to draw and retain attention

Attention is measured via Web Cam EyeTracking and presented in aggregated statistics:

- Percentage seen the ad
- Average time to notice ad
- Average time spent on ad

Interest

Ads ability to create emotions and memories

Ad Recall:

Do you recall seeing this ad during the test?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Likeability:

Which of the statements below best describe how much you like or dislike this ad?

- ☐ Like it very much
- ☐ Like it somewhat
- Dislike it somewhat
- Dislike it very much

Engagement

Ads ability communicate the brand and main message

Brand identification:

How easy or hard was it to identify the brand in the ad?

- ☐ 5 Very easy
- □ 4 □ 3
- **2**
- 1 Very hard

Ad perception:

Below are some words and phrases that could be used to describe an ad. Which of these words or phrases, if any, describe the ad you just viewed? You may select as few or as many as you like.

- Annoying
- Clear
- Cluttered
- □ Dated
- Difficult to understand
- Dull Dull
- Easy to understand
- ☐ Fun
- ☐ Informative
- ☐ Intrusive
- ModernOrdinary
- Unique

Persuasion

Ads ability to influence brand attitude and purchase intent

Intent to click:

How likely would you be to click on this ad?

- Verv likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

Change of opinion:

After seeing this ad, have you changed your opinion about the advertising brand?"

- Yes, much more positive
- ☐ Yes, somewhat more positive
- ☐ No
- Yes, somewhat more negative
- ☐ Yes, much more negative