New York StartUP! Business Plan Competition **Presenting Your Plan**



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Business plan helpful tips Format the day you present **Common mistakes** What judges are looking for Presenting your plan tips Structure and format Technology Day of suggestions Resources Q&A

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Helpful Tips:

•Follow the directions outlined in the **Elements of a Business Plan and Judging Criteria** on the StartUP! Competition website

•Utilize the StartUP! Business Plan Template





Finalists will have **10 to 15 minutes** to go over the main points of their business idea and recap their financial requirements

- Finalists will be asked how the library helped them and how they will use the winnings
- Each finalist is given a set of **3 or 4 questions** that pertain only to their business two weeks before the date of their presentation





- Not managing time of presentation
 - Too many slides
- Inconsistencies in presentation
- Poor use of visuals
 - Poor color scheme
 - Too many graphics
 - Too many words
- Not knowing the plan
- Not answering questions from judgesSeplinig and Garmer





The judges are looking for finalists who: Really know their business Enthusiastic Provide a compelling business case Market demand/need Feasibility – financially/operationally Execution Communicate effective use of grant funds



From the business plan to presentation

- Preparation
- Use of technology
- Rehearse
- The day of the presentation





Start early

Draft by hand an outline of your entire plan

Executive Summary Company Description Product/Service Industry Analysis Target Market Competitive Analysis Marketing Plan Management Team Operations Financial Overview Milestones/Exit Use of Funds



List 3-4 high level points for each component of your plan. Focus on points that: Give you a competitive advantage Speak to successful execution Demonstrate your experience, expertise Plan a baseline presentation 1-3 slides per topic Plan to provide detail on each high level topic Anticipate questions the judges may ask



Crafting Your Story

- Company's background and its products/services
- Competitive edge and marketing strategies
- Financial analysis (projections)





Title slide

- Elevator pitch/company overview
- Market analysis and description of the opportunities
- Company's background and its products/services
- Management team (experience and qualifications)
 - Milestones past and future
 - Customer benefits/ value proposition

Title Slide



- Name of your business
- Your name or presenter's name
- Date of presentation
- Company logo, image, or photo
 - 1-sentence summary of your business
 5-10 words that concisely articulate the business

RutRow, Inc. Dog clothing and accessories for definitive owners

John Doe, Owner Brooklyn, New York September 15, 2010

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- 2-3 sentences that define the market, customer, problem/solution, and uniqueness of the business
- What market/industry are you in?
- What problem are you solving for customers?
- How many potential customers are there? How much potential revenue is possible?
- Why will you succeed (differentiation, barriers to entry, unfair advantage)?
 - Where is the proof (existing customers,

citi Foundation in the store, market research, personal experience)?



Compelling problem(s) to be solved What's the pain or need that your potential customers have? Faster, better, smaller, etc. are solutions, not problems

Include any validating quotes

- Customer quotes, survey results
- Industry analyst
- Newspaper/ industry journals



Describe your business What is your product or service? Compelling benefits How do you provide value to your customers





Market details Size and growth rate for 3-5 years Focus on your segment(s) of the target market How much projected revenue will you earn in 3-5 years





What competitive advantages do you have? How are you better than your competitors?

- Do you have a unique team, partner, invention, intellectual property, insights, or expertise that others don't have?
- How long will the competitive advantages last? Why will customers care?
 - Why will customers choose your product or service, instead of your competitor's?





Who are your current and potential competitors? What alternatives exist?

- How do customers solve the problem today, without your product or service?
- How are you different from your competitors? How are you better than your competitors? How will the customer know that you're better? Include quotes from prospective customers
- What do they say about your competitors? Why would they rather buy from you?



Who are the key players? What is the ideal customer like? What is their profile? Discuss critical partners (current and future) How and what do customers buy? What is the price? **One-time or recurring payment?** Marketing and sales plan How will you market and sell your product or service? Is this comparable to any other company's marketing/sales methods?



Revenue and expenses over the next 3-5 years

- Breakeven
- Positive cash flow
- How do you make money?
- How much money do you make each year, for the next 3 years?
- What are your expenses over the next 3 years?
 - E.g., Development, Marketing/Sales, Staff/Salaries, Office Space, Legal, Inventory, etc.
- Company's marketing/sales methods?



How many people make up your current team?

What are their responsibilities?

What is their level of experience?

- Why is your team qualified to run this business?
- Include academic credentials

How many employees do you need to hire?





- Where does your company stand?
- What milestones have you achieved?
- Incorporated your business or formed an LLC?
- Is the team complete?
- Product, prototype, or sample developed?
- Filed for intellectual property, such as a patent?
- Leased office space, or setup home office?
- Website and business cards created?
- Lined up key partners, clients, advisory board?



Summarize your three key points

- What is your business?
- What problem do you solve?
- Who cares?

Articulate how you will spend the winnings

Questions and next steps

• Answer any questions from the judges

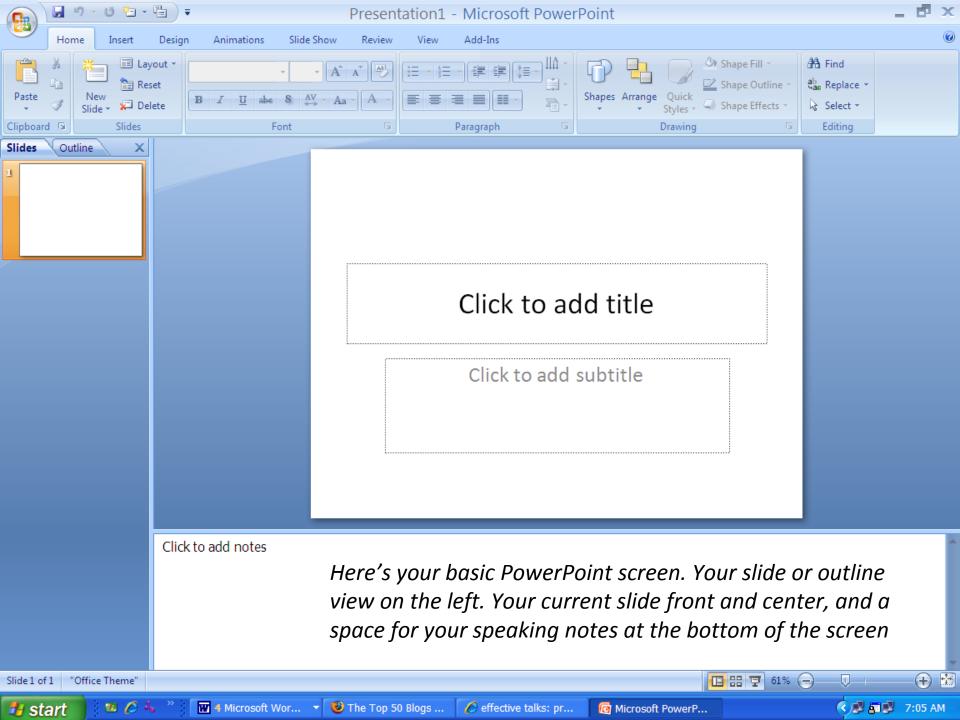


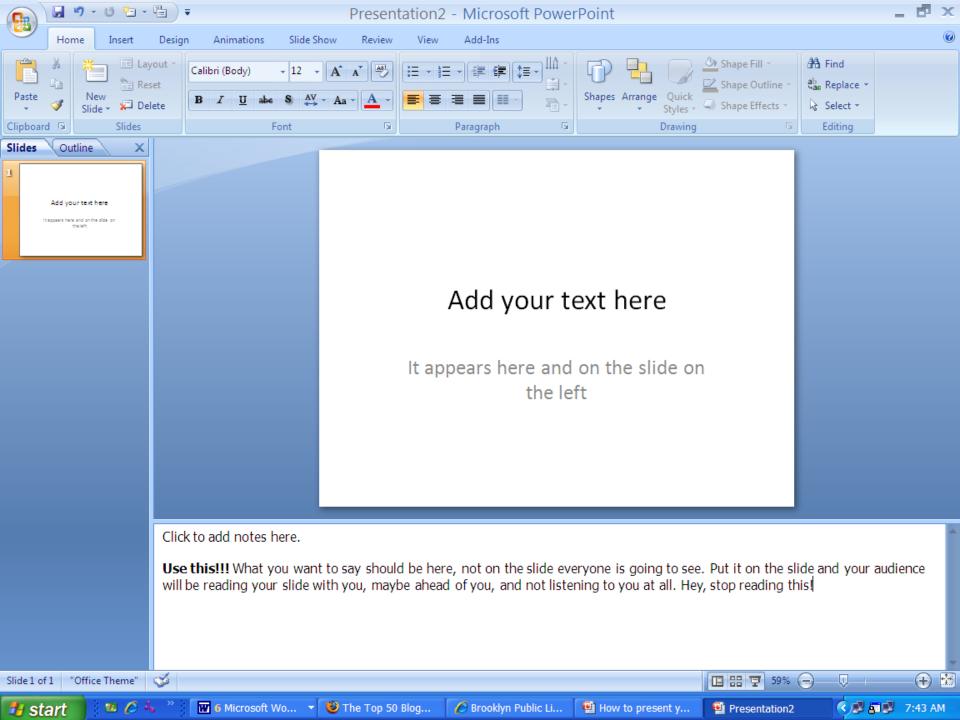


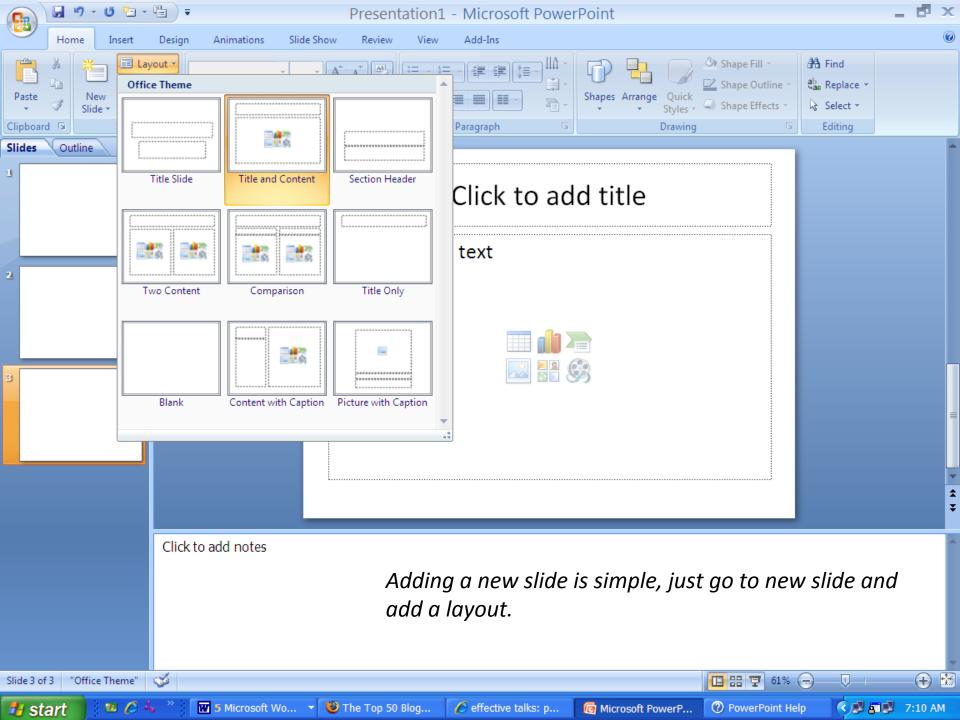
Provided the day of the presentation

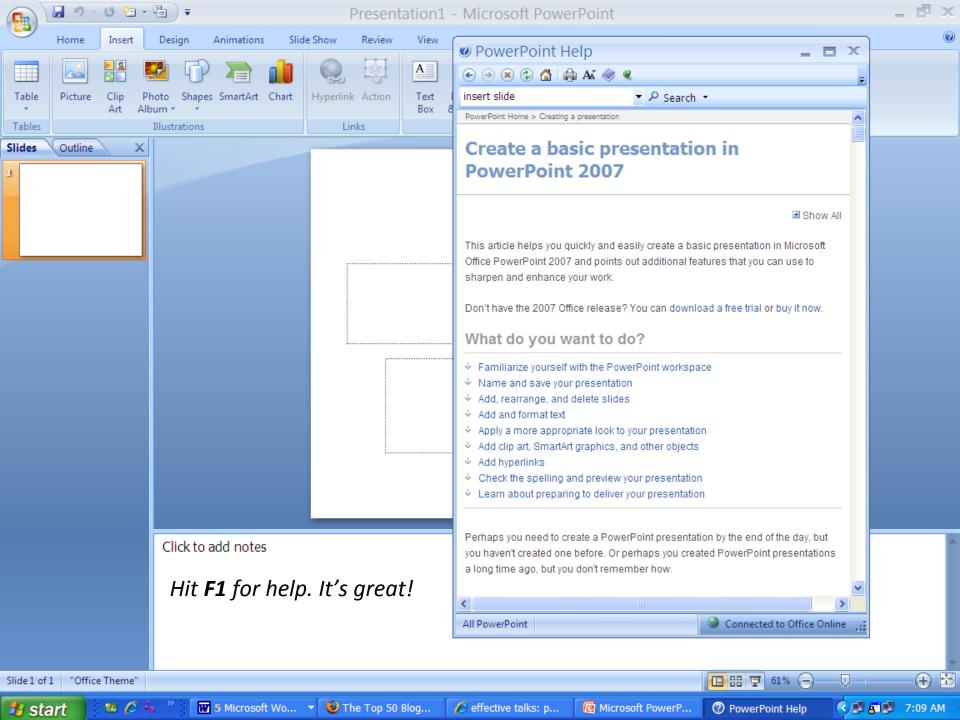
- PC computer with Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 Projector
- Presentation format
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Open Office Impress (save it as a *.ppt file)













Presentation Tips

- Design your slides to use a unifying theme
- Common background
- Contrasting but easy-to-read colors
- Standardized font and font size
- Plan slide transitions



Presentation Tips

PowerPoint slides should be points not essays Assume your audience can read and avoid reading every word of your presentation Use charts, graphs, images where appropriate





Technology does not determine presentation effectiveness

Think how to craft the story which is the most effective, memorable and appropriate for your audience





- Rehearse early
- Rehearse often
- Rehearse in front of your partners, colleagues
- Rehearse in front of others that don't know your business

Be your brand

Arrive early

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Day of Suggestions

Dress professionally

- Bring copies of your presentation
- Bring copies of your business plan
- Bring samples of products
- Bring marketing materials
- Manage your time wisely
- Have fun







Technology

- Google "PowerPoint 2007 Tutorial"
 - "Developing PowerPoint Presentations"
- Open Office Impress http://www.OpenOffice.org
- Slide Share
- http://www.SlideShare.com

Public Speaking

 Toastmasters International http://www.toastmasters.org/





Photos, Clipart, Sounds

www.office.microsoft.com/templates www.office.microsoft.com/clipart www. presentationpro.com www.presentersuniversity.com www.clipart.com www.gettyimages.com www.photos.com/en/ www.animationfactory.com www.soniacoleman.com



Helpful Tips:

- Google: the name of your product/service + filetype:ppt (to specify only PowerPoint)
- Example: Google "dog supplies" filetype:ppt
- Google: "free PowerPoint template" + the name of your product/service
- Example: Google "free PowerPoint template" + "dog supplies"







QUESTIONS

