

## **BRAND GUIDE**

Expressing who we are

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## **OUR LOGOS**

#### **PRIMARY LOGO**

This is the primary version of the logo. It should be used in all cases possible unless shape or length create an issue. The logo and tagline "growing people and practices" invites our viewers to experience the Association for Accounting Marketing (AAM) and spend time with us. The tagline should not be removed or modified from the logo.

The bullseye person in the vibrant blue and green is the face of our brand. Its image and our strong wordmark are our most recognizable brand assets.

The primary logo uses the font Myriad Pro. When designing new sub-brand logos, Myriad Pro is recommended.

#### Request AAM Branded Collateral

Anyone wishing to request AAM branded collateral, please complete this form.

Unacceptable uses of our logo



**STRETCHED** 





WRONG COLOR PALETTE



#### **LOCK-UP POSITION**



#### **SECONDARY LOGOS**

While the primary logo should be used whenever possible, we understand that scenarios will arise when the legibility of the logo will be compromised or are just not compatible with it

Stacked Black & White Reverse

We offer this stacked version of our logo as a second option. There are other times when an all black or reverse logo is needed to compliment other design elements.

#### STACKED WITH LOCK-UP



#### **BLACK & WHITE**





#### **REVERSE**





## **SUB-BRANDS**

#### **SUB-BRANDS**

AAM has several sub-brands:

**AAM Circles AAM Connect** AAM Minute AAMplify! CPA Growth Trends

**Growth Strategies** 

Emerge

AAM Learning Management System

Summit









## **Growth Strategies**







#### **SUB-BRANDS: AWARDS**

The AAM-MAAs are awarded to firms finding the best, most innovative ways to connect with their clients and prospects. To recognize the accomplishments of our members and to advance the accounting marketing profession, AAM hands out a number of awards on an annual basis including: Marketer of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Rookie of the Year and Hall of Fame. The year is added using the same font and position as shown below.

AAM-MAAs Marketer of the Year Volunteer of the Year Rookie of the Year Hall of Fame



















#### SUB-BRANDED EVENT: SUMMIT

AAM has built in some flexibility for our two corporate events: Emerge and Summit. You will also notice the tagline "POWERED BY AAM" is included in the logo design. In most cases, the reverse or black and white AAM logo will complement the design.



**Pantone 7545c** C:81 M:61 Y:49 K:35 R:52 G:73 B:85 HEX#: 344955 **Pantone 319c** C:65 M:0 Y:24 K:0 R:66 G:192 B:200 HEX#: 42c0c8

**Pantone 7752c** C:11 M:25 Y:98 K:0 R:228 G:186 B:39 HEX#: e4ba27 **Pantone 7577c** C:1 M:58 Y:80 K:0 R:244 G:133 B:70 HEX#: f48546

**Pantone 7416c** C:7 M:75 Y:77 K:0 R:225 G:100 B:70 HEX#: e16448 **Pantone 5415c** C:67 M:40 Y:36 K:5 R:94 G:129 B:142 HEX#: 5e818e

#### SUB-BRANDED EVENT: EMERGE

AAM has built in some flexibility for our two corporate events: Emerge and Summit. Emerge is an annual virtual event. You will also notice the tagline "POWERED BY AAM" is included in the logo design. In most cases, the reverse or black and white AAM logo will complement the design.



#### **Black 100%** C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:100 R:35 G:31 B:32 HEX#: 231f20

#### Black 85% C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:85 R:77 G:77 B:79 HEX#: 4d4d4f

#### **Pantone 7401c** C:0 M:62 Y:100 K:0 R:243 G:127 B:32 HEX#: f37f20

#### **Pantone 5415c** C:60 M:12 Y:19 K:0 R:97 G:178 B:198 HEX#: 61b2c6

### **Pantone 365c** C:53 M:6 Y:18 K:0 R:116 G:193 B:206 HEX#: 73c1ce

#### **Black 50%** C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:50 R:147 G:149 B:152 HEX#: 939598

#### **Black 10%** C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:10

C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:10 R:230 G:231 B:232 HEX#: e6e7e8

#### **SUB-BRANDED EVENT: EMERGE**

Here are examples of the Emerge sub-brand elements.



























## **COLORS**

#### **PRIMARY COLORS**

AAM colors have been selected for their engaging quality and visually striking characteristics. The primary color palette represents our identity colors.

**Pantone 285c** C:84 M:44 Y:0 K:0 R:0 G:125 B:195 HEX#: 007DC3

Pantone 376c C:20 M:0 Y:99 K:0 R:141 G:198 B:63 HEX#: 8DC63F

**Pantone 1375cp** C:1 M:46 Y:94 K:0 R:247 G:154 B:42 HEX#: f79a2a

Pantone color bridge coated

**Grey**C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:90
R:65 G:64 B:66
HEX#: 414042

JPEGs are ideal for RGB files because they're a nice middle-ground between file size and quality, and they're readable almost anywhere.

Eps images are the highest resolution of line art and recommended for printing. You can export RBG or CMYK from an Adobe Illustrator eps file.

PNGs support transparency and are better for graphics that need to be superimposed over others.

#### WHEN TO USE RGB VS. CMYK

RGB color space includes more vibrant colors. It is because you are working with light; whereas with CMYK you are working with ink. If you are creating graphics for digital platforms, then RGB is the ideal choice. The resolution for screen viewing is 72ppi. Use CMYK for any project design that will be physically printed, not viewed on a screen.

#### **SECONDARY COLORS**

The secondary color palette is intended to complement and enhance other elements of the brand identity system.

## Pantone 7416c R:248 G:98 B:104

HEX#: f8694d

#### Pantone 298c

#### Pantone 5473c

C:89 M:46 Y:51 K:22 R:19 G:98 B:104 HEX#: 136268

#### Pantone 7662c

R:135 G:80 B:138 HEX#: 87508a

#### Pantone 5415c

C:60 M:12 Y:19 K:0 R:97 G:178 B:198 HEX#: 61b2c6

#### Pantone 7466c

C:75 M:7 Y:30 K:0 R:0 G:176 B:185

#### **TERTIARY COLORS**

Our tertiary colors are intended to compliment and enhance other elements of the brand identity system.

#### Black 10%

C:0 M:0 Y:0 K:10 R:230 G:231 B:232 HEX#: e6e7e8

#### Pantone 1215c

C:0 M:16 Y:59 K:0 R:255 G:214 B:126 HEX#: ffd67e

#### Pantone 7401c

C:0 M:12 Y:42 K:0 R:255 G:223 B:160 HEX#: ffdfa0

#### Pantone 365c

C:27 M:0 Y:64 K:0 R:192 G:219 B:130 HEX#: c0db82

#### Pantone 578c

C:23 M:0 Y:46 K:0 R:200 G:225 B:163 HEX#: c8e1a3

#### Pantone 5415c

C:67 M:40 Y:36 K:5 R:94 G:129 B:142 HEX#: 5e818e

## Pantone 298c at 20%

## **TYPOGRAPHY**

#### **FONTS**

We're using three fonts with endless possibilities: Montserrat, Memphis and Calibri. AAM's corporate typefaces are businesslike, yet friendly and approachable. Calibri will be used for PowerPoint presentations and e-mail marketing. Some of our sub-brands use their own font system. If you are using CANVA, use the Montserrat family of fonts.

Montserrat Memphis Calibri

## **Montserrat Bold 18 pt**

Montserrat regular 10 pt with 13 pt leading Montserrat regular 10 pt with 13 pt leading ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ123490567890 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz;;"',?

## Montserrat Bold 14 pt

Montserrat regular 9 pt with 12 pt leading Montserrat regular 9 pt with 12 pt leading ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ123490567890 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz;;"',?

## Memphis LT Pro Bold 18 pt

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

### **CALIBRI BOLD 14 pt**

Calibri regular 12 pt with 14 pt leading ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

#### CANVA

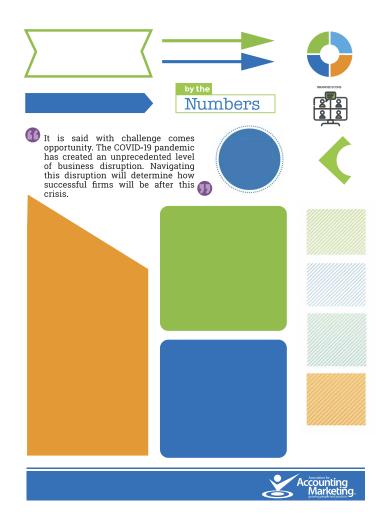
## **Montserrat Bold 14 pt**

Montserrat regular 9 pt with 12 pt leading Montserrat regular 9 pt with 12 pt leading ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ123490567890 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz;;"',.?

## **SUPPORTING ELEMENTS**

#### **COMMON GRAPHICS**

To fully support the AAM identity, the brand uses these simple graphics to support the design principles already estabilished with the logo, colors, typography and brand voice.



#### **COMMON GRAPHICS: GROWTH STRATEGIES**

To fully support the AAM identity, the sub-brand *Growth Strategies* uses these simple graphics to support the design principles already estabilished with the logo, colors, typography and brand voice.

# **Growth Strategies**













## **BRAND VOICE**

#### **BRAND VOICE**

AAM's voice is evolving to unite our brand and meet our audience's needs. The shorter, simpler and more direct you can make your communication, the more likely your audience will read it and act on it. Always avoid passive voice. For example, write "We have found that," not "It has been found that." Use active verbs that inject energy. Every 3-4 paragraphs, use descriptive subheads to spark the reader's interest. The following voice attributes should be a part of all AAM communications.

#### **Approachable**

We have a reputation for being open, friendly and responsive to our members. We are collaborators, solution-oriented, full of vitality, committed to learning and believe in a team approach. We cut to the chase and use plain language to get our advice across to all audiences.

### **Progressive**

People are authentic and relatable. We have an entrepreneurial spirit, always seeking and sharing innovative ideas. We will create and distribute top-level thought leadership to our members.

#### **Committed to Excellence**

We are committed to promoting excellence and elevating the professional stature of marketing, business development and other practice growth professionals at all career levels, directly impacting members' professional development and careers through education, networking and thought leadership to grow both people and accounting practices. Our voice is positive, inclusive and informational.

#### Collaboration

AAM is a volunteer-run organization. In a service business, people are the brand. The contributions and success of our members build and create value for the AAM brand.

When using our corporate name in an article for the first time, use the full name "Association  $\circ$ f Accounting Marketing" followed (AAM) parenthesis. AAM should be used in later references. AAM can be used in longer headlines, such as in this "Gantz example, Named AAM's 2018 Marketer of the Year."

## **EXAMPLES OF BRAND TONE**

Type of Writing	Intended Audience	Tone	Example
Press release	Public, external stakeholders, media, members	Direct, impartial	Association for Accounting Marketing (AAM), the leading trade association committed to providing educational opportunities and professional support for marketing and business development professionals in the accounting industry, announces the appointment of four new members to its Board of Directors.
Facebook post	Current and prospective members	Warm, friendly, enthusiastic, engaging	Awww! The Emerge team is ready to energize you today!
Instagram post	Current and prospective members	Warm, engaging, enthusiastic	Who's heading out for dinner tonight? (Summit)

## **GRAMMATICAL STYLE, CAPITALIZATION AND PUNCTUATION**

To ensure writing consistency, follow the guidelines below. When in doubt, default to Associated Press (AP) style. AP guidelines are largely available on the web.

Topic	Guidance	Examples
Association references	The Association's name should be capitalized, and you may add (AAM) afterward. After first mention, you may simply use Association or AAM; however, Association should be capitalized.	The Association for Accounting Marketing (AAM)
Board of Directors	Capitalize the words Board of Directors. Board member's title and company names are bolded. When referring to the Board, capitalize the word Board.	Becca Johns (Davis) President (2020-2021) Director of Practice Growth Rea & Associates, Inc.  The Board of Directors is comprised of 15 members. The Board meets once a month.
Capitalization of publication names	All publications should be italicized Growth Strategies - AAM Minute	The latest issue of <i>Growth</i> Strategies can be found on AAM's website.
Commas	Do not use commas before a conjunction in a simple series. However, a comma should be used before the terminal conjunction in a complex series, if part of that series also contains a conjunction.	Simple series example: In class today, the children learned that red, yellow and blue are primary colors. His sisters are Shelly, Susan and Peggy.  Complex series example: Vanderbilt's English Department offers doctoral majors in Literature, Second Language Studies, English Language and Linguistics, and
Dates	Use Arabic numerals for dates and years instead of writing them out in full as words. Do not use st, nd, rd, or th with dates. Do not abbreviate years.	Correct: Since June 1, 2020, AAM has experienced Incorrect: Since June 1st, 2020, AAM has experienced Correct: We will be hosting a conference in 2021.
En and em dash	The en dash is approximately the length of the letter n, and the em dash the length of the letter m.  The shorter en dash (–) is used to mark ranges (numbers).  The longer em dash (—) is used to separate extra information or mark a break in a sentence.  Add spaces before and after the dashes.	Em dash: Traveling — that is, traveling by public transit — can be a relaxing activity if you bring music and reading material along with you.  En dash: The professor assigned pages 52 - 68 for homework.

## **GRAMMATICAL STYLE, CAPITALIZATION AND PUNCTUATION**

To ensure writing consistency, follow the guidelines below. When in doubt, default to Associated Press (AP) style. AP guidelines are largely available on the web.

Торіс	Guidance	Examples
Phone numbers	Use hyphens in phone numbers. Use a comma to separate the main number from the extension. 305-555-9685.	212-621-1500, ext. 2.
Punctuation and quotation marks	Commas and periods go within quotation marks.	"The weather is lovely today," she said. He said, "AAM is my favorite organization."
Attribution	When attributing quotes to an individual, always use "said" (i.e. rather than " exclaimed" or "stated")	Bill said, "AAM is my favorite organization." "The weather is lovely today," she said.
Spacing	Use a single space after a period.	
Spelling of website and email	Website Email	Incorrect: web site Incorrect: e-mail
Time and time zones	Use lowercase a.m. and p.m., with periods. Always use figures, with a space between the time and the a.m. or p.m. If it's an exact hour, no ":00" is required. Abbreviation of time zones is okay and does not require a parenthesis.	The event was over by 4:30 p.m. EST.  The event starts at 8 a.m. CST.
Titles of articles/blogs	Capitalize four-letter words in a title; leave three-letter prepositions uncapitalized.	Example:  Exploring SOC for Supply Chain:  What Your Business Needs to  Know
Titles of professionals	Generally, capitalize formal titles when they appear before a person's name, but lowercase titles if they are informal, appear without a person's name, follow a person's name or are set off before a name by commas.	Examples:  Managing Partner Bert Mills attended the event.  Bert Mills, managing partner, attended the event.  All marketing managers should attend this event.

## WEBSITE BANNERS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

## RECOMMENDED IMAGE SIZES FOR WEBSITE BANNERS & SOCIAL MEDIA

Please use the following image sizes:

#### **WEBSITE BANNERS**

Email Blast Header Image Width
Banner Homepage of the Website
Banner Homepage on AAM Connect
Banner Homepage of AAM Store
Mobile Banner

650 pixels 1200x300 pixels 750x310 pixels 980x245 pixels 750x188 pixels

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

All social media channel graphics Email blast header width 1200x1200 pixels 650 pixels

## **TEMPLATES**

#### **BRANDED POWERPOINT TEMPLATE**

We have two branded PowerPoint templates. If you would like to use this template below for an AAM presentation, please contact Rhonda Clark at rhonda@accountingmarketing.or org or complete this Request AAM Branded Collateral form.



#### Slide Title

- Bullet point one
- Bullet point two
  - Indented bullet point



#### **BRANDED POWERPOINT TEMPLATE**

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#### **AFTER EMERGE**

#### We want to let you know what to expect

- > We'll plan to send out an email tomorrow with the final files.
- > Thanks for joining us this year!
- > Share ideas you've learned with your team.



## CONTACT

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www.accountingmarketing.org