

Masterbrand Differentiation from MHP Group

Standout campaigns for complex brands

We specialise in creative differentiation campaigns for complex brands.

We tell a single-minded, earned-first story – many times, across many years, on every channel – to multiple audiences that have diverse priorities.

We begin with your audiences' world and take an outside-in approach to your brand challenge.





MHP Group

Differentiation is a big focus for the industry this year

We surveyed 300 marketing and comms leaders in the UK and discovered:

83%

Think masterbrand differentiation is more important now than it's ever been

45%

Don't believe they have a differentiated masterbrand

78%

3

Think earned-first channels are more effective at differentiation than traditional advertising 84%

Are putting more money into earned-first differentiation campaigns

+38%

Average planned increase in spend for earned-first differentiation campaigns this year

4

5

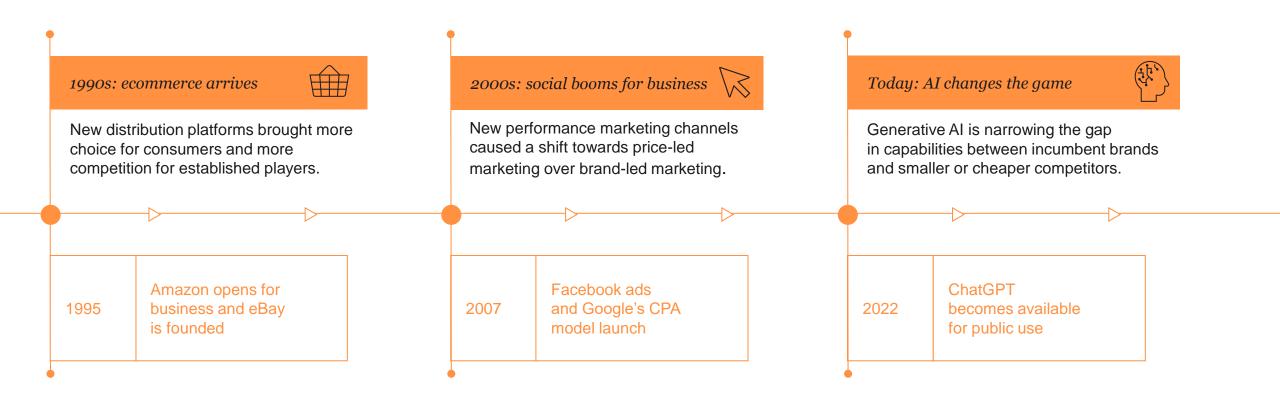
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Source: Censuswide, February 2025

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How we got here

Over the last 30 years, the digital economy has created an explosion of brands swimming in a sea of same-ness.





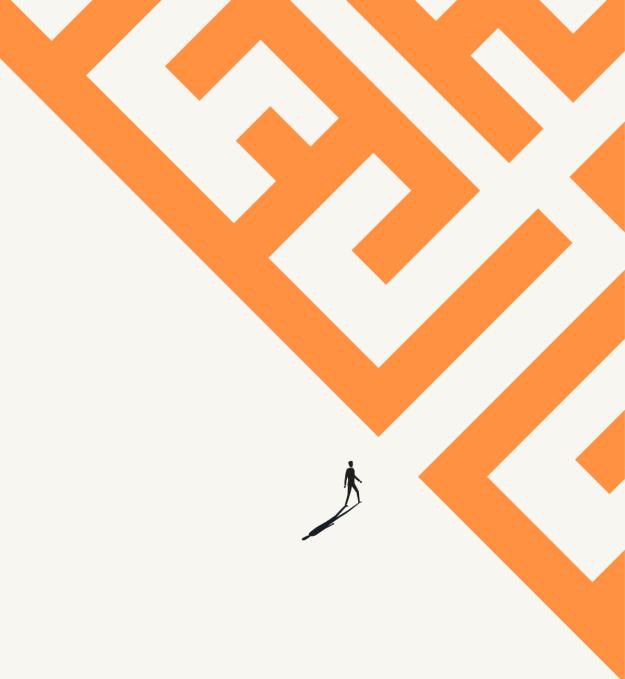
MHP Group mhpgroup.com

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Today's challenge: how can brands stand out when every organisation looks and feels the same?

"When the world invents a zigging machine, the value of a zag goes into the stratosphere."

Mark Ritson, Marketing Week



The differentiation dividend

Differentiation creates wins with every major audience

Customers



Differentiated B2C and B2B brands have 5x the market penetration of those that aren't

(source: Kantar)

Stakeholders



Differentiated values, that stakeholders share, help to build trust

(source: MHP Group / Influence At Work, Trust Analytics)

Investors



Differentiated brands have higher pricing power and maintain higher margins

(source: Kantar)

Talent



Differentiated values, that employees share, increase productivity and satisfaction

(source: PwC)



The formula for achieving differentiation has changed

Traditional advertising is not as effective as it once was

"Advertising is not considered to be shaping popular culture."

(Source: Ipsos)

The digital age has seen brand identities become less distinctive

Tech			Fashion		
Revolut	>>	Revolut	BALENCIAGA	>>	BALENCIAGA
facebook.	>>	FACEBOOK	BURBERRY	>>	BURBERRY LONDON ENGLAND
Google	>>	Google	WesSaint/aurent	>>	SAINT LAURENT
Microsoft	>>	Microsoft	Berluti	»	BERLUTI
addadd	>>	airbnb	BALMAIN	.,	BALMAIN
Sp [®] tilly	>>	Spotify [®]	IDALLIALIA	>>	PARIS
Pinterest	>>	Pinterest	(RIMOWA)	>>	RIMOWA
ep#	>>	ebay	DIANE-senFURSTENBERG	>>	DIANE VON FURSTENBERG velvetshark.com



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The future of differentiation is earned-first

Earned-first spaces are where...







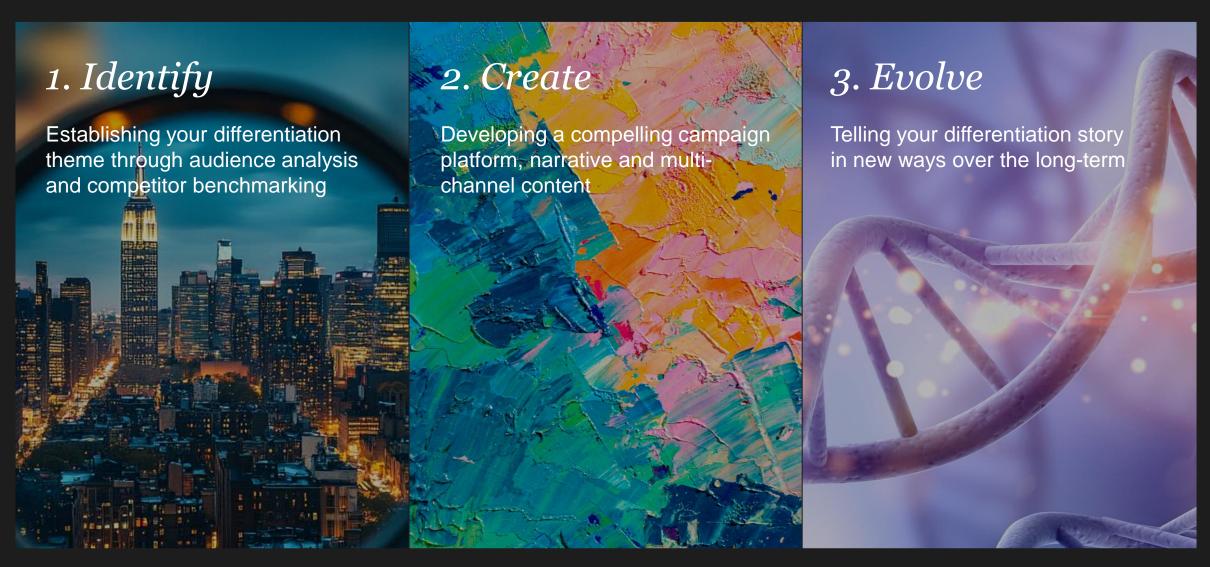
James Timpson: Why my company has a 'happiness index'

The boss of the shoe-repair, key-cutting and dry-cleaning group, sets out why the biggest benchmark for businesses should be staff satisfaction





Our earned-first Masterbrand Differentiation model







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