

Make your presentations blossom with Prezi.

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Abstract

Are you tired of using your uninspired, bland, or boring slideshows in an attempt to explain exciting or engaging content? Explore the exciting new world of Prezi. We will first demonstrate the many uses that this versatile tool has. Then we will discuss and show how you can use Prezi in a variety of settings. You are encouraged to bring your laptop/tablet as we will walk you through the basics of creating your own Prezi, and expand on the possibilities relevant to your needs.

Keywords

Prezi, presentation, powerpoint, slideshow, zooming, audio, video, design, create, tutorial, how to, 101.

Introduction:

Prezi is a presentation tool that lets you design a more eye catching and interactive delivery. When you are first learning, it is easiest to think of it like a 3-dimensional Powerpoint, where you can zoom in and out and rotate the screen to see the next slide. As you develop your Prezi skills, you can grow your presentation from a simple slideshow into a beautiful work of art.

This workshop will introduce you to the world of Prezi, showing you its versatility and capabilities, and reveal the tips and tricks to making your presentation blossom. During the last hour, we will guide you all through the step by step process as we each build a Prezi template together from the ground up. While we will start with the basics, by the end, everyone will know how to create their own Prezi that includes text, images, video clips, audio clips, and even learn how to present their masterpiece.

While not affiliated with Prezi, we have come to appreciate this creative 3-Dimensional presentation world that helps share ideas with others, and hope to pass that along to you. Who here has used Microsoft Powerpoint

or a similar type program before? What about Prezi, or another 3-Dimensional Presentation program? Well, today we will be showing you ideas that will hopefully inspire new creative possibilities of your own, whether you are a seasoned Prezi designer, or are just starting out.

Here is a sneak peak at the Prezi that we will be designing today.

Life Cycle of a Plant - <http://bit.ly/NAI9PL>

Grow your presentation from a simple slideshow into an exciting interactive Prezi.

1. Some wind dispersed seeds begin life floating through the air. Your Prezi begins life in the cloud.
 - a. The free version, which we will all be using today, only needs a connection to the internet. The presentation that you build is stored online, so you can access, edit, and present it anywhere. You can also share the presentation with other people, and have up to 10 people working on the same presentation at the same time. If you want you can pay a small monthly/yearly fee to be able to download the software to your computer and are no longer as limited by cloud storage space.
 - b. Both Mac and Windows computers, laptops, and even some tablets can create Prezis. Also, most browsers work with Prezi, including IE9+, Firefox 3+, Chrome, Safari, and others. Just be sure you have an updated version of your browser and Flash Player.
 - c. You can also download your finalized Prezi so you can present it and share it with other people while offline. We will show you how to do this at the end of this workshop with the Prezi that you create.

2. Just as plants serve many different purposes in our environment, Prezi is versatile and can be used in a variety of situations.
 - a. From board meetings, to staff training, and even workshop presentations, Prezi can have a dramatic impact on your audience. It can look professional, while at the same time grab the audiences attention and help your delivery have more of a theme and flow.
 - b. Here you can see a Prezi that the MRCA created to present at a board meeting. It is designed to show the impact a Junior Ranger program can have on underserved youth.
 - 1) Hawkins Natural Park - <http://bit.ly/NAI9AH>
 - c. It can also have a fun and kid friendly approach, as you saw in the Prezi that we will all be designing today.

3. The vast capabilities of Prezi can sometimes get you lost in the shadows. Keep your leaves in the sun with these simple tips and tricks.
 - a. When you're starting, keep it simple. Too much twisting, turning, and zooming can make your audience dizzy.
 - b. Build around a theme. This helps the audience make connections from one slide to the next.
 - c. Limit your text. We all know what it is like to sit in front of a Powerpoint slideshow full of text, especially if the presenter decides to read it all to you. Prezi is a tool to help guide and accent your presentation, not a presentation in itself. Although, we should mention that with its audio and video embedding capabilities, you could record yourself and insert your presentation speech into the Prezi.

4. Now, let's dive into Prezi and get your roots wet!
 - a. If you have not already, download the Prezi Building Materials we have provided. These will be used as we put images, audio, and even video clips into our presentation.
 - 1) Prezi Building Materials - <http://bit.ly/NAI9CA>
 - b. Today we will help you create a new Prezi from the ground up. You will be building the Prezi that

we showed you earlier, so you don't have to worry about coming up with your own ideas and images. We will go step by step, making sure you are all on-board. If your neighbor gets stuck and you are able to help, please feel free to assist them.

- c. We will be going through a step-by-step tutorial that we have designed to help you quickly learn the majority of what Prezi has to offer. If you would like to download the slideshow and the accompanying slide-by-slide tutorial, they can be downloaded here:
 - 1) The slideshow pictures can be downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/NAI9SS>
 - 2) The tutorial notes for each step can be found here: <http://bit.ly/NAI9TS>
- d. After building this Prezi, we hope you feel comfortable with the basics and are confident enough to try making a Prezi of your own.
- e. We will leave a few minutes at the end for some questions and open discussion on Prezi capabilities and possibilities.

Conclusion

We hope we have planted the seed of inspiration, and that you leave here full of potential Prezi ideas. Just like any other design tool, you will get more confident and your creativity will grow as you use Prezi more. The possibilities are endless! There are many creative Prezi designers making works of art that inspire and excite. Watching other people's creations will help you fine tune your skills and give you new ideas. Now get out there and make your presentations blossom with Prezi.

Suggested Viewing:

Here are a couple of our favorite Prezis that you may also find helpful and inspiring. All Prezis are open, free, and public, so you are welcome to take anything you see and use it yourself.

Demystify the Cosmos! - Created by MRCA Naturalist Andy Bleckinger
<http://bit.ly/NAI9DC>

The Art of Social Media - Created by Alexis Sohlden
<http://prezi.com/imookj-94w57/the-art-of-social-media/>

Principles of Interpretation - Created by MRCA Naturalist Carolyn Everhart
<http://bit.ly/NAI9PR>

How to make a great Prezi:
http://prezi.com/sto8qf_0vcs/the-how-to-make-a-great-prezi-prezi/

Presentation on Presentations:
http://prezi.com/mkg9y_pl1cxd/presentation-on-presentations/

Free Falling through Prezi:
<http://prezi.com/d3lswto1mebc/free-falling-through-prezi/>