

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 1

Show up early;
something good is bound to happen.

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 2

Frame your presentation;

*tell the audience what you'll say, who cares, why it matters,
what it means...*

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 3

Never apologize;

keep yourself from being the primary content (suggestion--try to avoid the 1st person singular case)

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 4

Particular-General-Particular;

*Complex explanations are best broken down to examples
(particular-general-particular)*

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 5

Leave traces;

give the audience something to take away (an outline of the presentation)

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 6

Respect the audience;

they are precious. Do not be tempted to “dumb things down” or to hide your ignorance behind a veil of jargon.

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 7

Avoid excessive bullets and abbreviations

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 8

Use humor sparingly and effectively
to include and open up, not to alienate or deride.

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 9

There is nothing like practice
*practice, practice. Use a video camera: watch it straight,
watch it in fast motion, turn off the monitor and listen to
the audio.*

Tufte's 10 rules of an effective presentation.

Rule 10

End early;

something good is bound to happen.

Avoid Walls of Text

Edward Rolf Tufte was born in 1942 in Kansas City, Missouri, to Virginia Tufte and Edward E. Tufte. He grew up in Beverly Hills, California, and graduated from Beverly Hills High School.[3] He received a BA and MS in statistics from Stanford University and a PhD in political science from Yale. His dissertation, completed in 1968, was entitled *The Civil Rights Movement and Its Opposition*. He was then hired by Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, where he taught courses in political economy and data analysis while publishing three quantitatively inclined political science books.

In 1975, while at Princeton, Tufte was asked to teach a statistics course to a group of journalists who were visiting the school to study economics. He developed a set of readings and lectures on statistical graphics, which he further developed in joint seminars he subsequently taught with renowned statistician John Tukey, a pioneer in the field of information design. These course materials became the foundation for his first book on information design, *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*. [4]

Tufte self-published his *Visual Display* in 1982, working closely with graphic designer Howard Gralla. He financed the work by taking out a second mortgage on his home. The book quickly became a commercial success and secured his transition from political scientist to information expert. [4]

On March 5th, 2010, it was announced that President Barack Obama would appoint Tufte to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Recovery Independent Advisory Panel "to provide transparency in the use of Recovery-related funds." [5]

Tufte has criticized the way Microsoft PowerPoint is typically used. In his essay "The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint", Tufte criticizes many properties and uses of the software:

- * It is used to guide and to reassure a presenter, rather than to enlighten the audience;
- * It has unhelpfully simplistic tables and charts, resulting from the low resolution of early computer displays;
- * The outliner causes ideas to be arranged in an unnecessarily deep hierarchy, itself subverted by the need to restate the hierarchy on each slide;
- * Enforcement of the audience's linear progression through that hierarchy (whereas with handouts, readers could browse and relate items at their leisure);
- * Poor typography and chart layout, from presenters who are poor designers and who use poorly designed templates and default settings (in particular, the use of the same font for all text);
- * Simplistic thinking, from ideas being squashed into bulleted lists, and stories with beginning, middle, and end being turned into a collection of disjointed facts.

Make the text legible

Edward Rolf Tufte was born in 1942 in Kansas City, Missouri, to Virginia Tufte and Edward E. Tufte. He grew up in Beverly Hills, California, and graduated from Beverly Hills High School.[3] He received a BA and MS in statistics from Stanford University and a PhD in political science from Yale. His dissertation, completed in 1968, was entitled *The Civil Rights Movement and Its Opposition*. He was then hired by Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, where he taught courses in political economy and data analysis while publishing three quantitatively inclined political science books.

In 1975, while at Princeton, Tufte was asked to teach a statistics course to a group of journalists who were visiting the school to study economics. He developed a set of readings and lectures on statistical graphics, which he further developed in joint seminars he subsequently taught with renowned statistician John Tukey, a pioneer in the field of information design. These course materials became the foundation for his first book on information design, *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*. [4]

Tufte self-published his *Visual Display* in 1982, working closely with graphic designer Howard Gralla. He financed the work by taking out a second mortgage on his home. The book quickly became a commercial success and secured his transition from political scientist to information expert. [4]

On March 5th, 2010, it was announced that President Barack Obama would appoint Tufte to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Recovery Independent Advisory Panel "to provide transparency in the use of Recovery-related funds." [5]

Tufte has criticized the way Microsoft PowerPoint is typically used. In his essay "The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint", Tufte criticizes many properties and uses of the software:

- * It is used to guide and to reassure a presenter, rather than to enlighten the audience;
- * It has unhelpfully simplistic tables and charts, resulting from the low resolution of early computer displays;
- * The outliner causes ideas to be arranged in an unnecessarily deep hierarchy, itself subverted by the need to restate the hierarchy on each slide;
- * Enforcement of the audience's linear progression through that hierarchy (whereas with handouts, readers could browse and relate items at their leisure);
- * Poor typography and chart layout, from presenters who are poor designers and who use poorly designed templates and default settings (in particular, the use of the default 'bullet' character);
- * Simplistic thinking, from ideas being squashed into bulleted lists, and stories with beginning, middle, and end being turned into a collection of disjointed points.

Avoid special effects

Edward Rolf Tufte was born in 1942 in Kansas City, Missouri, to Virginia Tufte and Edward E. Tufte. He grew up in Beverly Hills, California, and graduated from Beverly Hills High School.[3] He received a BA and MS in statistics from Stanford University and a PhD in political science from Yale. His dissertation, completed in 1968, was entitled *The Civil Rights Movement and Its Opposition*. He was then hired by Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, where he taught courses in political economy and data analysis while publishing three quantitatively inclined political science books.

In 1975, while at Princeton, Tufte was asked to teach a statistics course to a group of journalists who were visiting the school to study economics. He developed a set of readings and lectures on statistical graphics, which he further developed in joint seminars he subsequently taught with renowned statistician John Tukey, a pioneer in the field of information design. These course materials became the foundation for his first book on information design, *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*. [4]

Tufte self-published his *Visual Display* in 1982, working closely with graphic designer Howard Gralla. He financed the work by taking out a second mortgage on his home. The book quickly became a commercial success and secured his transition from political scientist to information expert. [4]

On March 5th, 2010, it was announced that President Barack Obama would appoint Tufte to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Recovery Independent Advisory Panel "to provide transparency in the use of Recovery-related funds." [5]

Tufte has criticized the way Microsoft PowerPoint is typically used. In his essay "The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint", Tufte criticizes many properties and uses of the software:

- * It is used to guide and to reassure a presenter, rather than to enlighten the audience;
- * It has unhelpfully simplistic tables and charts, resulting from the low resolution of early computer displays;
- * The outliner causes ideas to be arranged in an unnecessarily deep hierarchy, itself subverted by the need to restate the hierarchy on each slide;
- * Enforcement of the audience's linear progression through that hierarchy (whereas with handouts, readers could browse and relate items at their leisure);
- * Poor typography and chart layout, from presenters who are poor designers and who use poorly designed templates and default settings



Avoid irrelevant illustrations or clip art

Edward Rolf Tufte was born in 1942 in Kansas City, Missouri, to Virginia Tufte and Edward E. Tufte. He grew up in Beverly Hills, California, and graduated from Beverly Hills High School.[3] He received a BA and MS in statistics from Stanford University and a PhD in political science from Yale. His dissertation, completed in 1968, was entitled *The Civil Rights Movement and Its Opposition*. He was then hired by Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School, where he taught courses in political economy and data analysis while publishing three quantitatively inclined political science books.

In 1975, while at Princeton, Tufte was asked to teach a statistics course to a group of journalists who were visiting the school to study economics. He developed a set of readings and lectures on statistical graphics, which he further developed in joint seminars he subsequently taught with renowned statistician John Tukey, a pioneer in the field of information design. These course materials became the foundation for his first book on information design, *The Visual Display of Quantitative Information*. [4]

Tufte self-published his *Visual Display* in 1982, working closely with graphic designer Howard Gralla. He financed the work by taking out a second mortgage on his home. The book quickly became a commercial success and secured his transition from political scientist to information expert. [4]

On March 5th, 2010, it was announced that President Barack Obama would appoint Tufte to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Recovery Independent Advisory Panel "to provide transparency in the use of Recovery-related funds." [5]

Tufte has criticized the way Microsoft PowerPoint is typically used. In his essay "The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint", Tufte criticizes many properties and uses of the software:

- * It is used to guide and to reassure a presenter, rather than to enlighten the audience;
- * It has unhelpfully simplistic tables and charts, resulting from the low resolution of early computer displays;
- * The outliner causes ideas to be arranged in an unnecessarily deep hierarchy, itself subverted by the need to restate the hierarchy on each slide;
- * Enforcement of the audience's linear progression through that hierarchy (whereas with handouts, readers could browse and relate items at their leisure);
- * Poor typography and chart layout, from presenters who are poor designers and who use poorly designed templates and default settings