Space Utilization Project Visioning Session

Central Administrative Units

October 27, 2026

Denver

What is your favorite place on campus and why?

Put your response in chat!

Welcome!

Purpose of Vision Session: To engage our community in surfacing creative ideas about our current and future campus spaces and to prime our thinking for future campus engagements.

Outcomes for vision session:

- Provide an overview of the Space Utilization project
- Surface creative ideas and input from across units that will be reviewed by the Space Utilization Working Group (SUWG).
- Opportunity for collaboration and brainstorming across departments

Welcome!

Agenda:

- Welcome and project team introductions
- Space Utilization project overview
- Visioning Exercise
- Wrap-up

Space Utilization Working Group

SUWG Co-Chairs:

- David Rifkind, Dean of College of Architecture and Planning
- Cary Weatherford, AVC of Facilities and Campus Planning

• Wendy Bolyard	Associate Professor, School of Public Affairs, Chair of Faculty Assembly
• Jarrick Brown	Director of Student Life & Campus Community
• Sarah Buller	Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Organizational Effectiveness and Strategic Impact
• Marty Dunn	Dean, College of Engineering, Design and Computing
• Adrian Ingram	Managing Director of Industry and Foundation Relations
• Hansen Millison	Academic Advisor, College of Arts and Media
• Chris Phiel	Chair, Department of Integrative Biology
• Beth Pugliano	Senior Instructor and Associate Chair of Visual Arts, College of Arts and Media
• Jodi Sheperd	University Librarian and Director, Auraria Library
• Madhavi Tandon	Assistant Professor, School of Education and Human Development
• Carla Gutierrez Torres	President, Student Government Association

Project Team

SUWG Co-Chairs:

- David Rifkind, Dean of College of Architecture and Planning
- Cary Weatherford, AVC of Facilities and Campus Planning

Strategy and Organizational Culture support: Sarah Buller, AVC of Organizational Effectiveness and Strategic Impact

Project Management: Chelsea Campbell, Project Manager, Office of Strategic Impact

Consultant Support: In progress

Communication: Kevin Almasy, Director of Executive Communications

The Why: Convergence of Events

- Master Plan - Filling in the Missing Pieces
- 2030 Strategic Plan Refresh
- Changing Work Patterns- What Do We Need Now Versus 10 years ago?
- Independence Plaza- What Opportunities Does the Building Unlock?

The What: Space Utilization Project Overview

What is it?

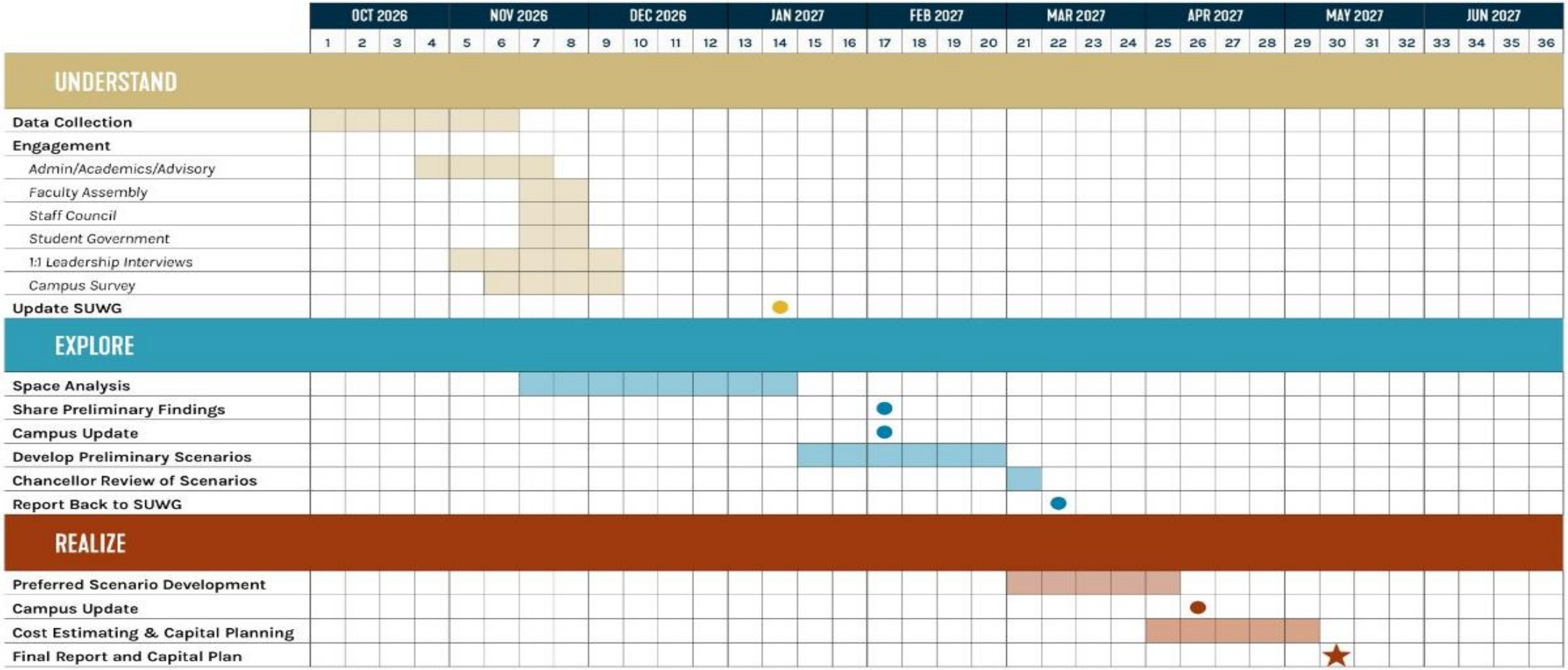
A comprehensive review of its physical footprint—**inclusive of spaces spanning the Auraria campus and downtown Denver**- and how those spaces can be re-aligned and re-visioned to better support the goals of the strategic plan.

Resulting in:

- Occupancy scenarios for our CU Denver owned and occupied spaces, including Independence Plaza
- Space Use Guidelines and a Pilot Project reflecting the guidelines
- A ten-year capital plan
- Asset management recommendations

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The How: DRAFT Workplan



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Visioning Exercise

How might we reimagine and improve our CU Denver spaces–across the Auraria campus and downtown–to enhance our learner and employee experience, cultivate belonging, advance discovery and teaching, and deepen our connection to the communities we serve?

Visioning Exercise Guidelines

- Anchor the conversations in the strategic plan
- Describe what's possible by *prioritizing capabilities* and outcomes over inventory
- Emphasize *flexibility and shared assets* over ownership
- Anticipate strategic growth
- Embrace our urban location as an asset
- Include all stakeholder voices

Visioning Exercise Discussion Prompts

- When you think about how spaces at CU Denver support our mission, what works well and what doesn't?

- How could new, renovated, or repurposed spaces improve the way we serve our campus community and the general public?

- What are some of your initial ideas for how we can optimize our spaces to support our strategy?

Visioning Discussion Breakouts

- *Cross-departmental groups of 4-6*

- *Group Roles:*
  - Scribe: Document the conversation
  - Facilitator: Ensure airspace is shared equitably between all members

  - *Optional Warm-up: What your favorite space on campus is and why?*

Next Steps

- *Email discussion notes to: Chelsea.Campbell@ucdenver.edu*
- *Reach out to anyone on the SUWG or project team with questions*
- *SUWG will be reviewing initial visioning inputs through November*
- *Upcoming webpage with updates*



THANK YOU FOR ENGAGING

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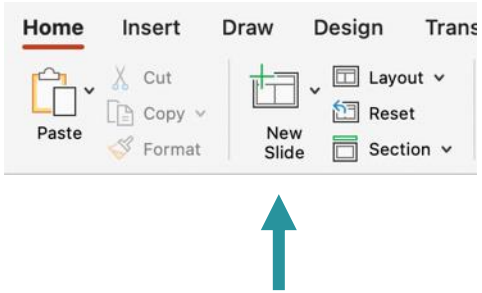
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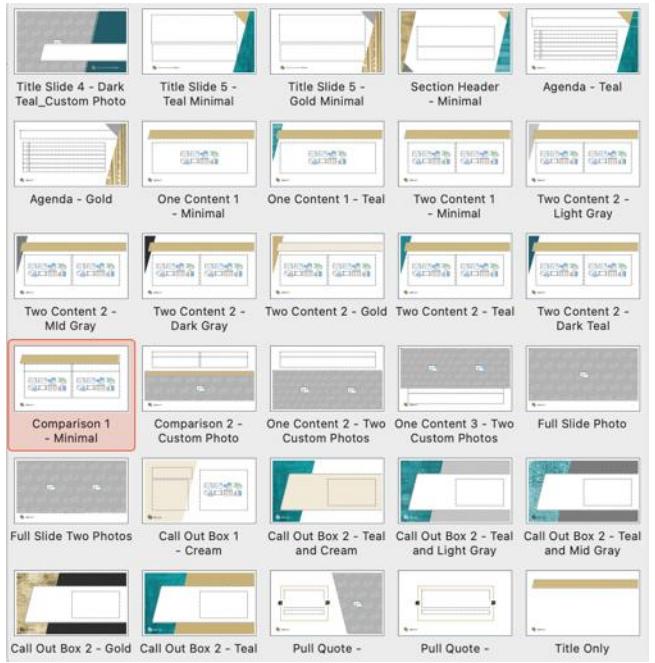
Visioning

INSERTING A SLIDE LAYOUT

You have many options including titles, sections, agenda, content, content comparisons, call outs, and pull quotes.

1. In the home tab, click the arrow of the “New Slide” button and then choose a layout from the gallery.



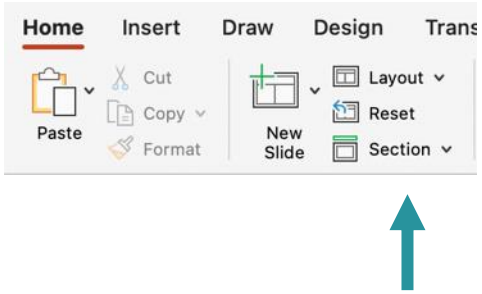


SLIDE LAYOUTS

CHANGE A SLIDE LAYOUT

If you wish to change the layout on an existing slide, there is no need to insert a new one.

1. With the side selected, click on the “Layout” button and choose a new layout from the gallery.





NOTE: If you choose a layout that doesn’t have all the same elements, you may lose some content when you make the switch.

For example, when changing from two columns of text to one, the content from the second column may not transfer since it no longer has a home.

IMAGES

INSERTING AN IMAGE FROM FILE

1. Click on the image icon and navigate to the saved image. The image should automatically size to fill the space.

CHANGING AN INSERTED IMAGE

It is best practice to delete the current image rather than use the “change image” option because if the two images are not the same size, they will not scale properly.

1. Select the current image and hit delete to revert back to the template.
2. Click on the image icon and navigate to the new image.

Click Icon



Place



Select



Delete



Replace



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IMAGES

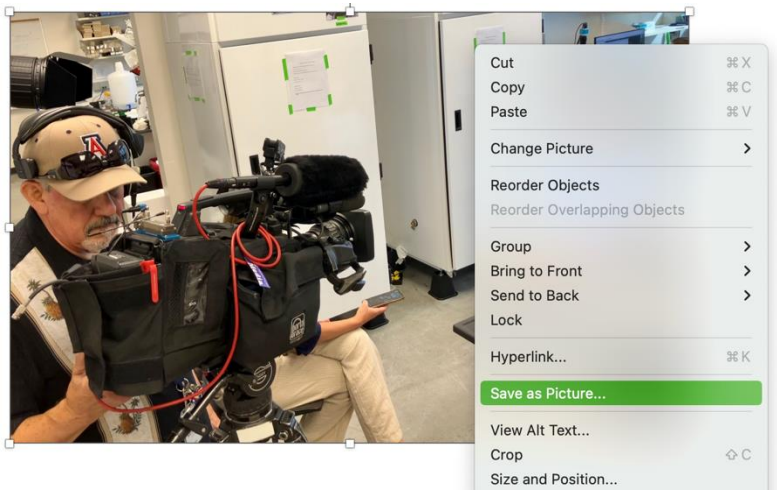
FLIPPING OR STRETCHING IMAGES?

Images and videos taken with an iPhone embed information on if it was taken in portrait or landscape and will automatically try to re-orienting so that it appears correct to the viewer when working in PPT on a Mac. That same image may look flipped or stretched to someone opening the PPT on a PC.

To avoid this issue:

1. Insert the desired iPhone image onto a blank slide.
2. Flip and/or stretch the image to correct the proportions.
3. Right-click and save the image as a JPEG.
4. Insert the newly saved JPEG into desired template.

Save as Picture

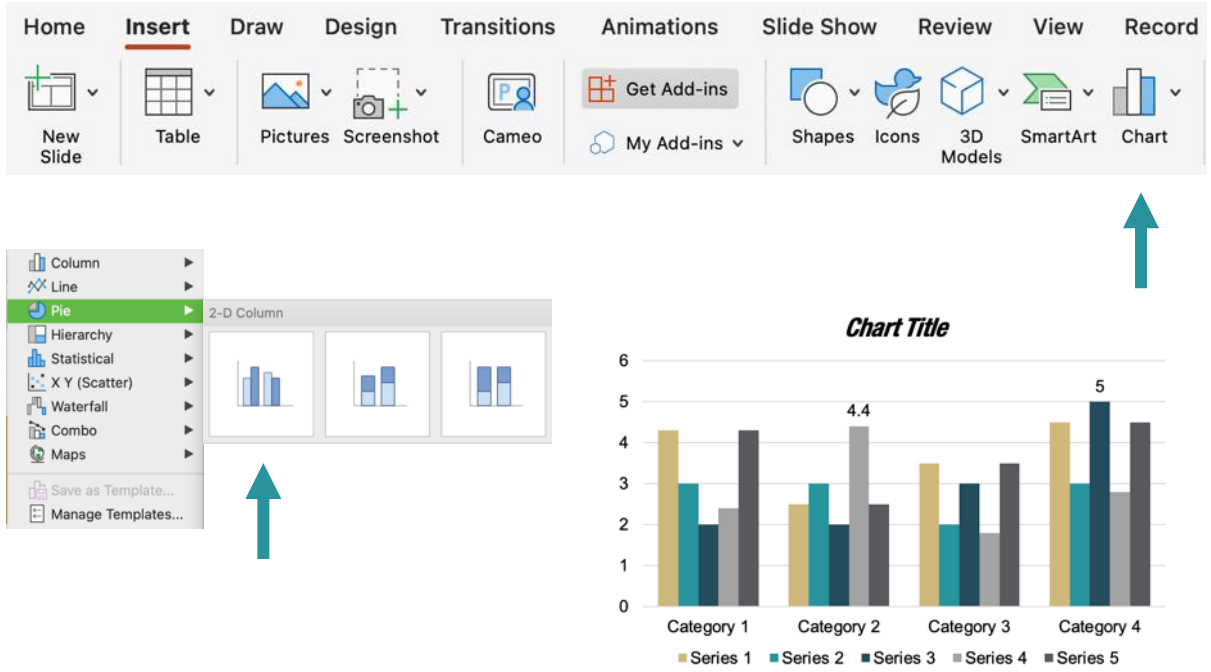


CHARTS

INSERT A NEW CHART

1. Copy and paste from another document, click on the chart icon on the slide, or go to the Insert tab and click Chart, select a regular chart type, and hit OK.
2. Edit or add your data to the chart and then format the chart using the built-in color palette and fonts.

NOTE: Please use 2D chart options, and avoid color gradients, shadows, and bevels as they do not fit our clean and bold brand.



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BRAND FONTS

FONT GUIDELINES

Helvetica Neue is CU Denver's official font family.

- **Title:** Helvetica Neue Bold Condensed Italic in all-caps
- **Title Highlight:** Helvetica New Bold Condensed Italic in all-caps gold
- **Subhead:** Helvetica Neue Bold with loose tracking in all-caps
- **Body Copy:** Helvetica Neue Light
- **Pull Quote:** Helvetica Neue Light Italic

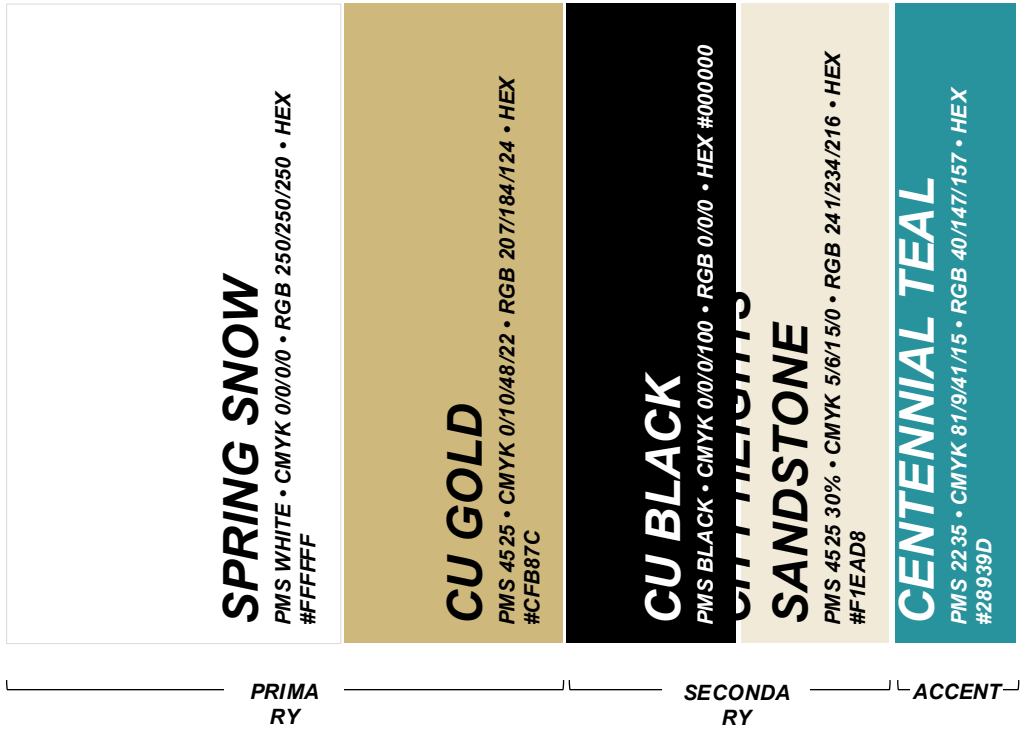
NOTES:

- *If you do not have Helvetica Neue, please use Arial.*
- *Turn on caps lock when typing titles and subheads to ensure they are all-caps.*
- *For accessibility, black text is always preferred. Gold text on white should only be considered for an accent in a title and white text on gold should not be used.*



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COLOR PALETTE



COLOR GUIDELINES

The CU system's iconic black and gold colors remain the base of our visual identity. In addition—and using our campus as inspiration—we are utilizing a larger palette of colors to supplement our visual materials.

To ensure consistency, this template automatically applies the brand colors.

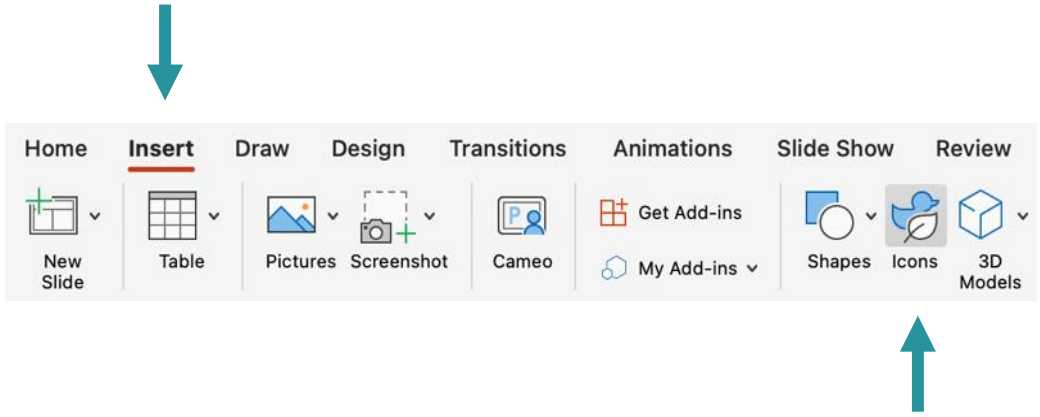
- White is the dominate color used for backgrounds
- Black and gold are the dominate accent colors.
- Teal text should only be used in extremely rare cases.
- For accessibility, black text is always preferred and white text on gold should not be used.

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ICONS

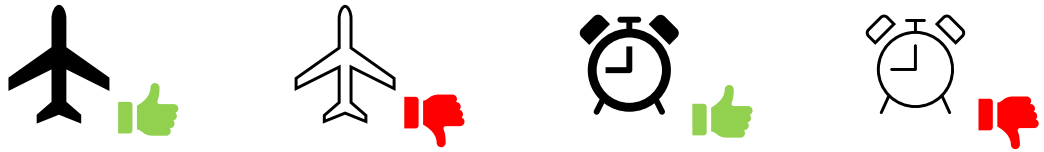
WHERE TO FIND ICONS

There are several icons directly available through PowerPoint. You can find them by selecting the Insert menu and the clicking on Icons.



STYLE AND COLOR OF ICONS

- Use icons filled in with color rather than outlines to ensure accessibility.



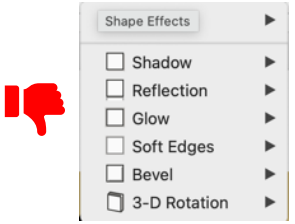
- Please only use the black, gold or white from the CU Denver color palette for icons.

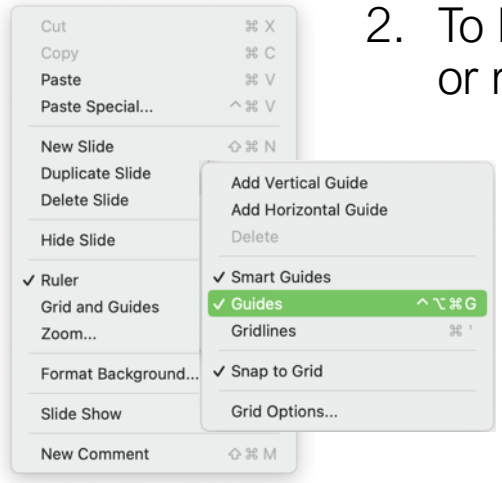


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PRESENTATION & DESIGN TIPS

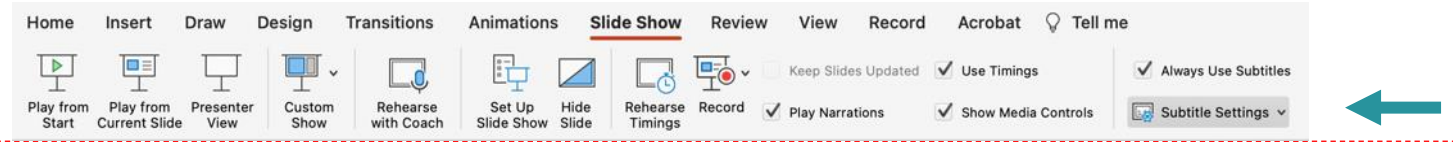
1. Our brand is very clean and bold.
   Please avoid using shape and type effects like shadows, bevels, and outlines.





2. To keep things aligned, turn on the guides by holding Alt and hitting F9, or right-click to select “Grids and Guides” and then select “Guides.”

3. To increase the ADA accessibility of your presentation, it is recommended you turn on live subtitles when presenting and avoid putting content on the slide lower than the guideline indicated below.



DON'T FORGET AN AGENDA FOR YOUR MEETING

Item 1

Item 2

Item 3

Item 4

Item 5

Item 6

Item 7

EXAMPLE TITLE SLIDE WITH TEXTURES

YOU CAN CHOOSE BETWEEN TEAL AND GOLD OPTIONS

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EXAMPLE TITLE SLIDE WITH AN IMAGE YOU INSERT

YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF ACCENT COLORS INCLUDING GRAY, GOLD, AND TEAL

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THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO CALL OUT SOMETHING IMPORTANT

There are a variety of accent color options to choose from on this slide style, including:

- A number of grays
- Gold
- And teal

Or you can replace the color accent on the righthand side with a photo.

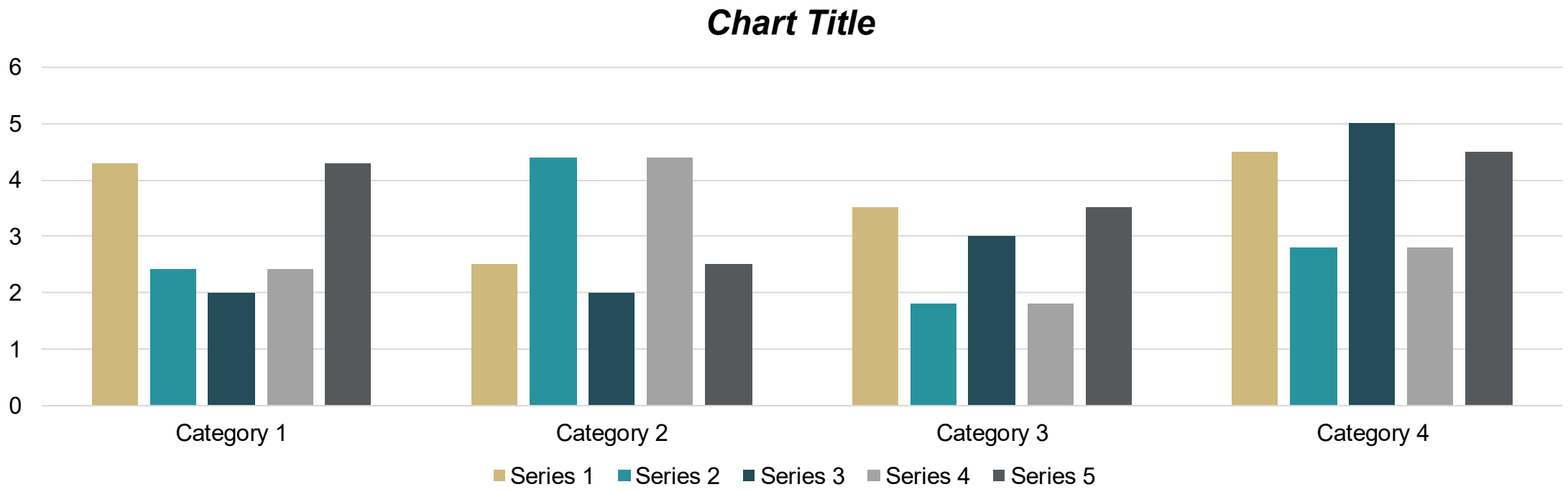
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EXAMPLE TABLE STYLE

Example Table	***Category 1***	***Category 2***	***Category 3***	***Category 4***
Item 1				
Item 2				
Item 3				
Item 4				
Item 5				

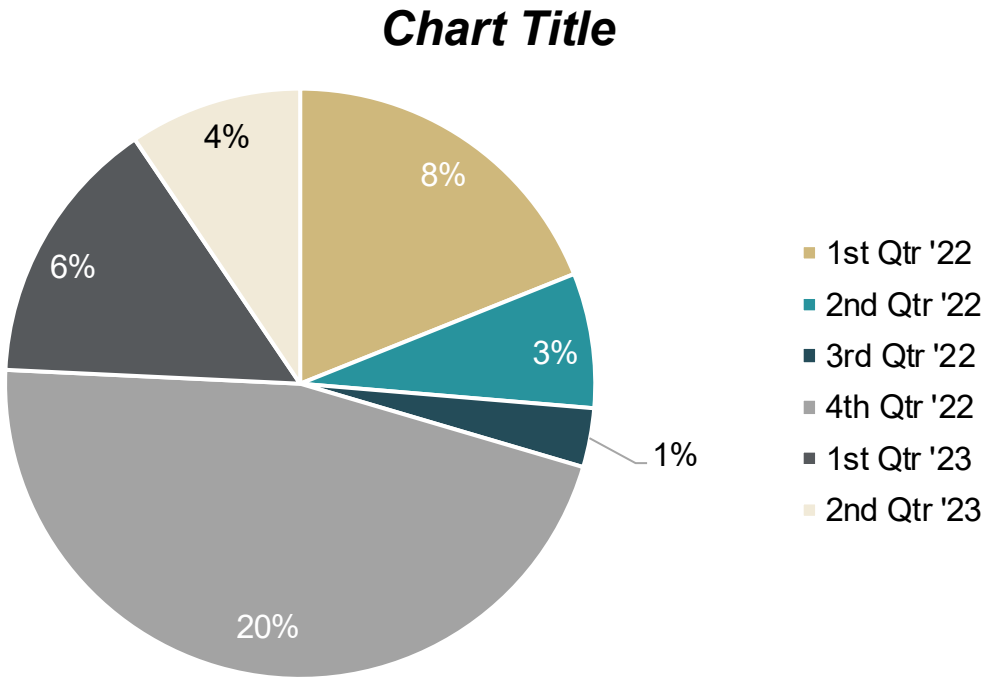
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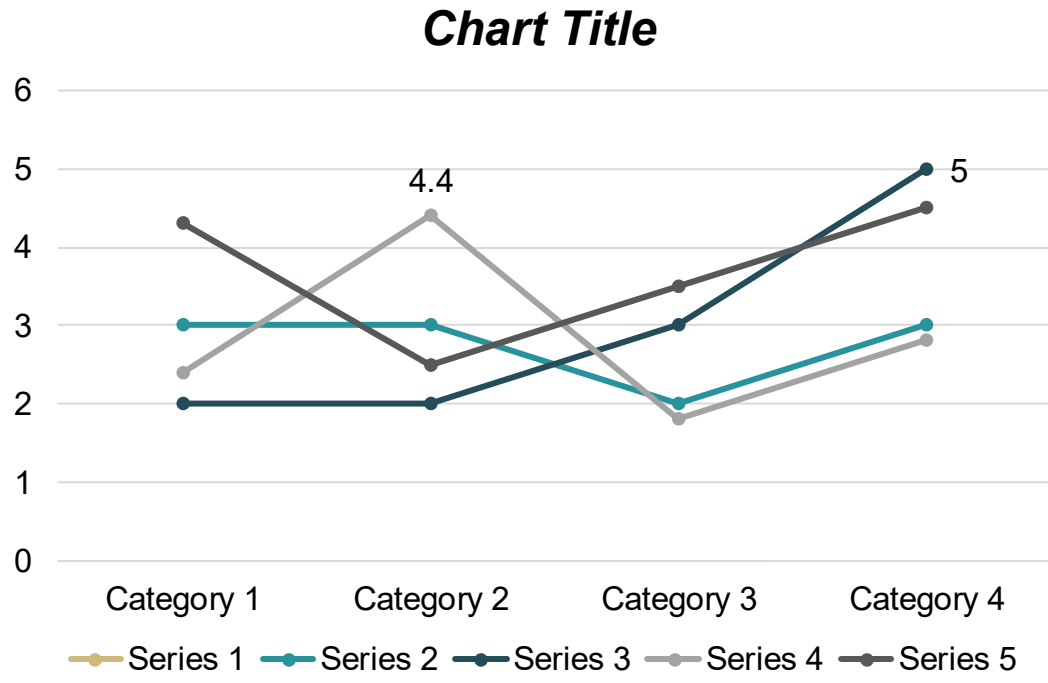
EXAMPLE BAR CHART STYLE



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EXAMPLE PIE CHART AND LINE CHART





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A TWO-COLUMN SLIDE WITH AN ACCENT COLOR IN THE TOP LEFT

You can choose accents from:

- A variety of grays
- Gold
- And teal

A BASIC TWO-COLUMN SLIDE WITHOUT AN ACCENT COLOR IF YOU PREFER

Here you can insert:

- Text
- Images
- Charts
- Tables
- Videos





YOU CAN HIGHLIGHT GREAT IMAGERY WITH THIS LAYOUT

- And provide a little context
- With bullet points
- If that is helpful

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THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO CALL OUT SOMETHING IMPORTANT

WITH A LITTLE BIT HERE AND THEN…

You can put in a paragraph of text if that is more appropriate for the message or…

- You can fill this side with bullets
- That have details
- You want people to know
- Like this
- And this
- And this

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This layout gives you a way to include a quote with a picture.

—Name and Title Go Here



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You also have the ability to quote someone without a picture so readers can really focus on the words.

—Name and Title Go Here

CONTACT INFORMATION

FIRST AND LAST NAME

Title

School/College

Address

Email

Website

Social Handles

Feel free to include or remove information to meet your needs.

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