



Building BLUE irresistible brands

Emotion lies at the heart of every irresistible brand, giving it unique meaning and purpose.

Building an irresistible brand starts with understanding the emotive needs driving your category and their link to social and functional needs. Only then can you identify a powerful emotive positioning and chart a course for irresistibility.

The NeedScope framework can guide this as it is based on universal emotive needs. While their expressions vary by category and culture, the core of each emotive needstate is stable.

This magazine explores the BLUE needstate.



BLUE in context



Sitting at the bottom of the model, BLUE has an energy that is not overtly visible but rather more inward focused.

BLUE's position on the right of the model gives it a sense of assertion but this too is restrained and understated.

BLUE

on the inside

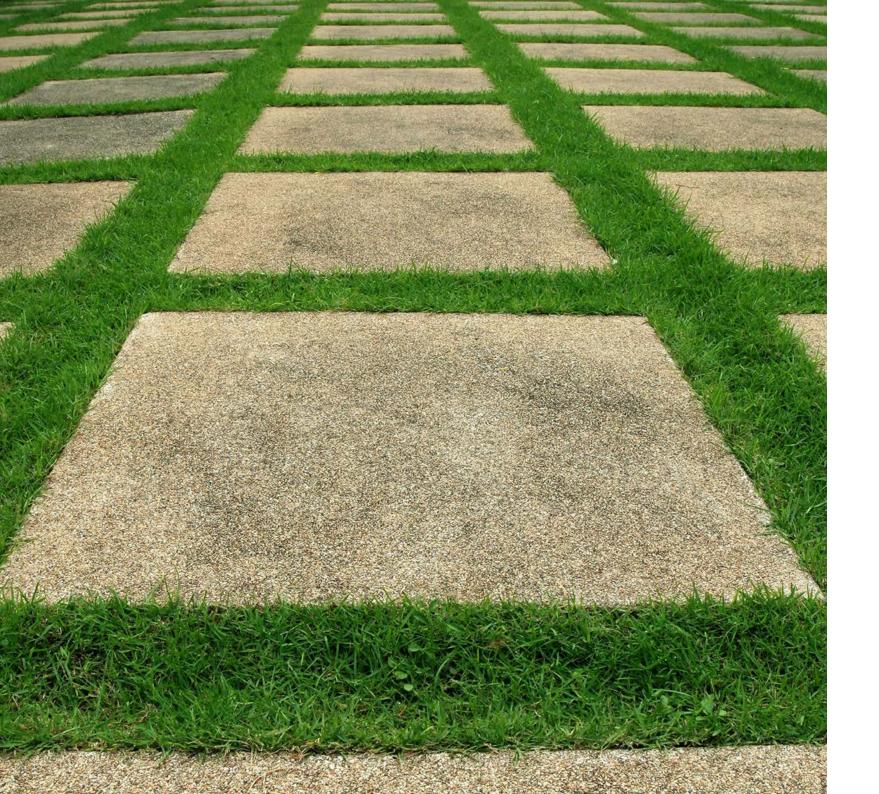
BLUE has a discerning appreciation for the finer things in life. Elegant and refined, BLUE has a subtle sense of style – minimalist, never flashy.

BLUE respects intelligence and values being well informed. Logic and reason are paramount, as is intellectual stimulation. There is often a sharp, clever wit at work.

Cool, calm and collected defines BLUE. There is an inherent sense of clarity, order and efficiency.

BLUE is mature – no room for childish pranks here. Whether classic, or ultramodern, BLUE brings a timeless sense of quality.





BLUE

is restrained with a sense of order

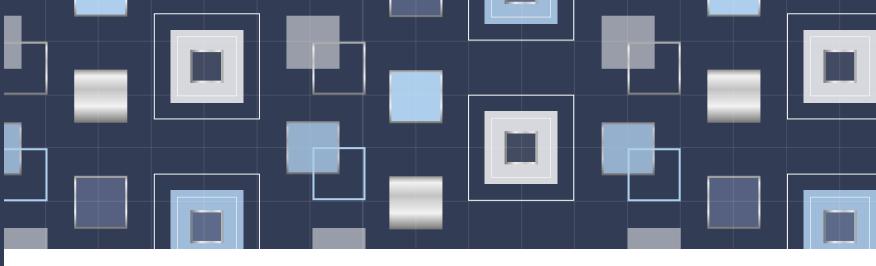
DISCIPLINED
THINKING
COOL AND CALM
EFFICIENT
UNDER CONTROL
FOCUSED

The personality of BLUE is quietly confident

PRECISE
LEVEL-HEADED
ELEGANT
LOGICAL
HIGHLY EFFECTIVE
GENTEEL



Different shades of BLUE



Within a needstate there are different dimensions of the underlying emotion. Understanding and tapping into one of these helps differentiate your brand from nearby competitors.

These sub-dimensions express themselves differently by category and there can be more or less than three. The three explained here give a taste of how the BLUE emotion changes as you move around the model.

Discerning BLUE

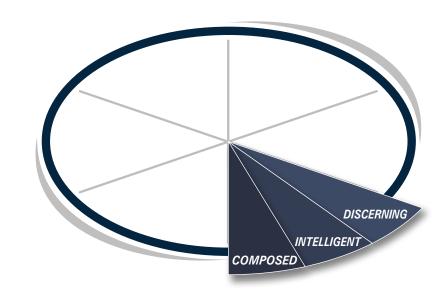
Elegant and refined, appreciates the finer things in life

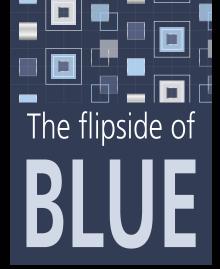
Intelligent BLUE

Sharp and focused, valuing knowledge and thought

Composed BLUE

Discreet and understated with a sense of clarity and order

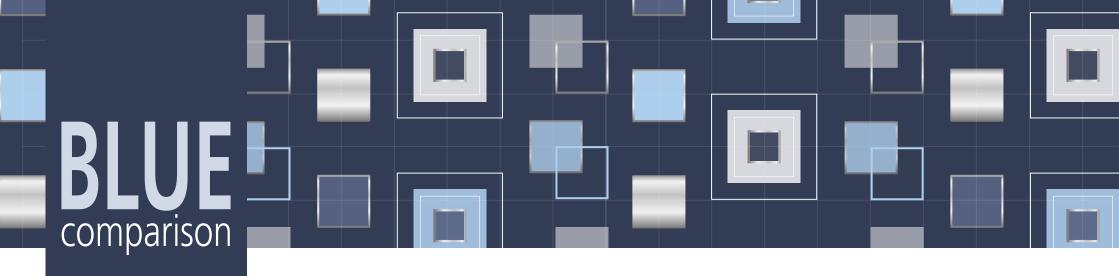




BLUE, like every NeedScope needstate, can be viewed positively or negatively. Someone whose needs are elsewhere on the NeedScope model would see nothing positive in BLUE:

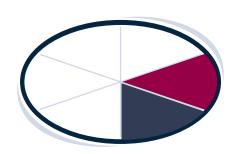
INFLEXIBLE COLD RUTHLESS PEDANTIC INHIBITED





BLUE VERSUS PURPLE

Both have the self-assurance we find on the right of the NeedScope model but BLUE's position at the bottom gives it a quieter energy.



CONTROLLED ENERGY
LIKES THE BACKGROUND
UNDERSTATED
QUIETLY CONFIDENT

FORCEFUL ENERGY
LIKES THE FOREFRONT
GLAMOROUS
OVERTLY CONFIDENT

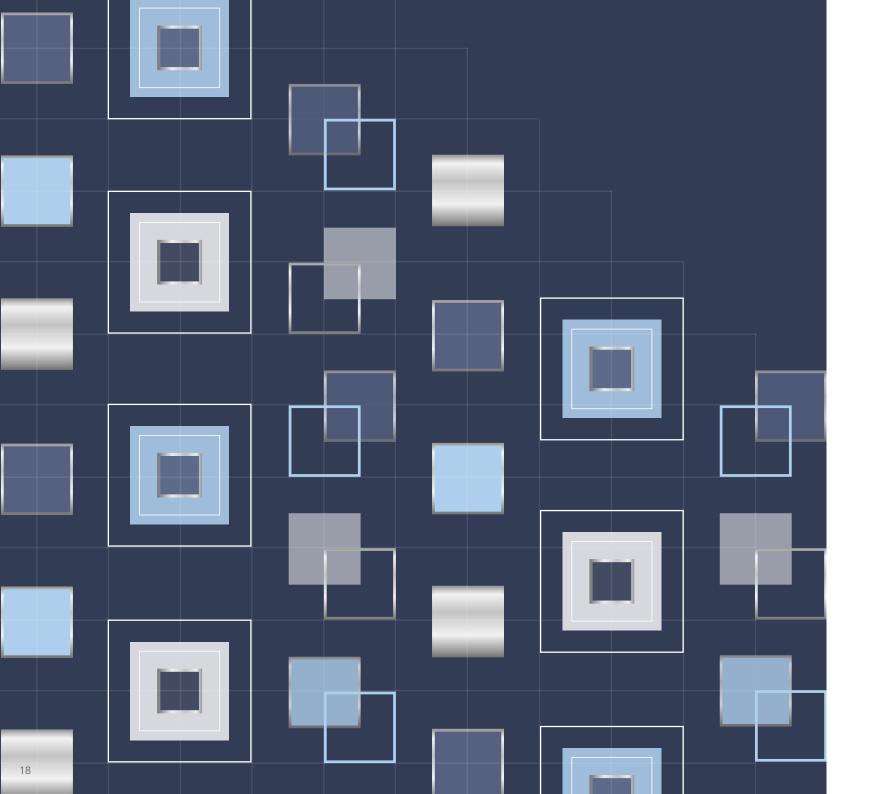
BLUE VERSUS BROWN

BLUE and Brown both have a quiet energy, focused more inward than outward. But BLUE, being on the right, has an edge.



UNDER CONTROL VALUES QUALITY APPRECIATES CLASSIC WANTS KNOWLEDGE

LAID BACK
WANTS FAMILIARITY
LIKES TRIED AND TRUE
WANTS REASSURANCE



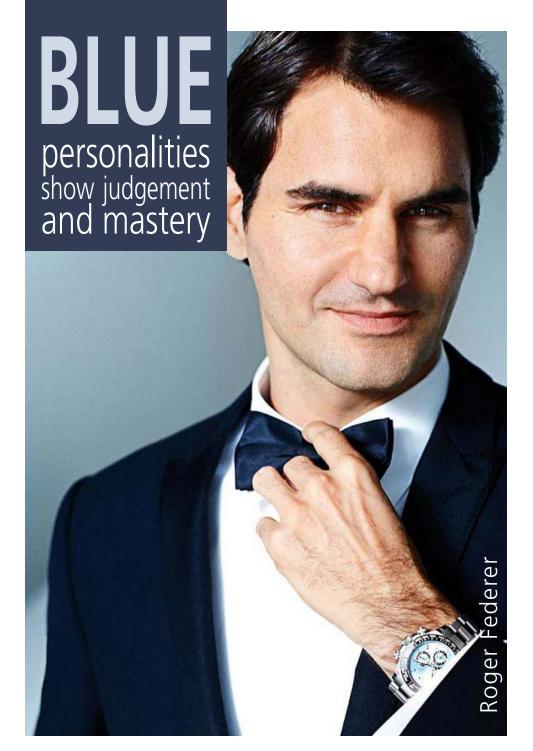
BLUE is all around us



We don't have to look far to see BLUE expressed in different ways around us.

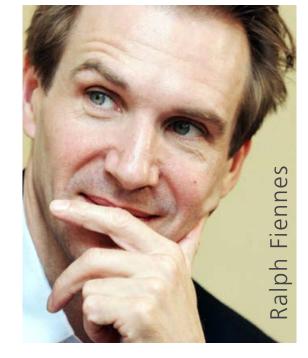
From celebrities on the red carpet, to movies and musicians, we can identify the understated assertion that typifies BLUE. Even art and architecture find a way to express refinement, intelligence and subtle sophistication.

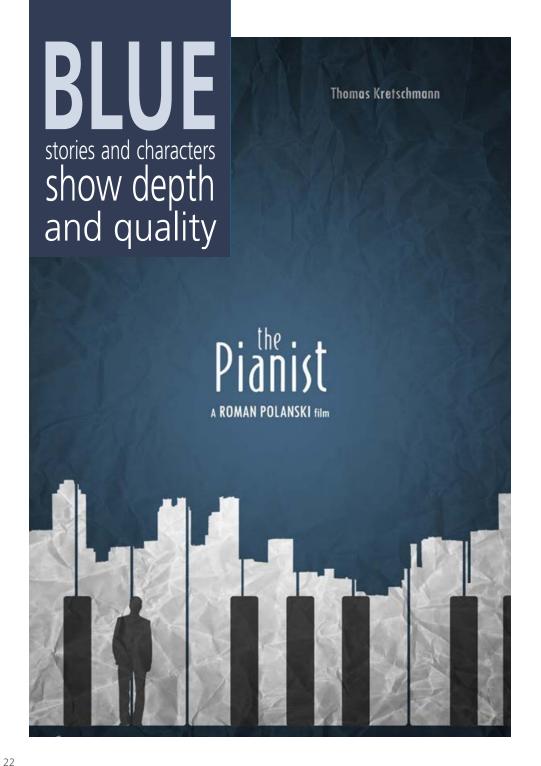
The following examples show BLUE in action.



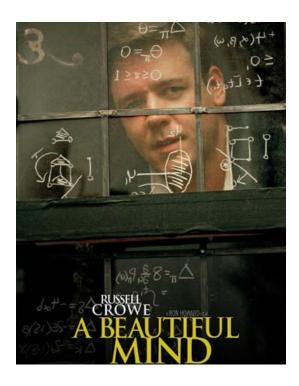


DESIGNER
PHILOSOPHER
CRAFTSMAN
THOUGHT LEADER
GENIUS

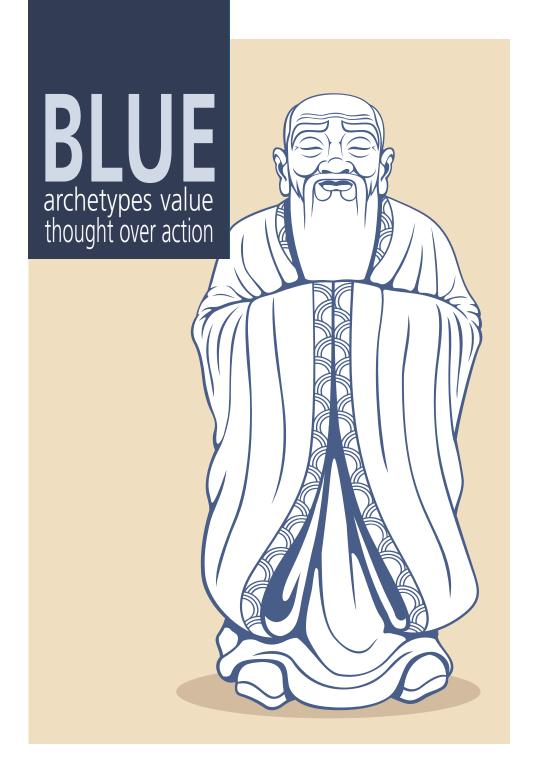




MYSTERY SERIOUS STORIES INTRIGUE WELL-CRAFTED THOUGHT PROVOKING



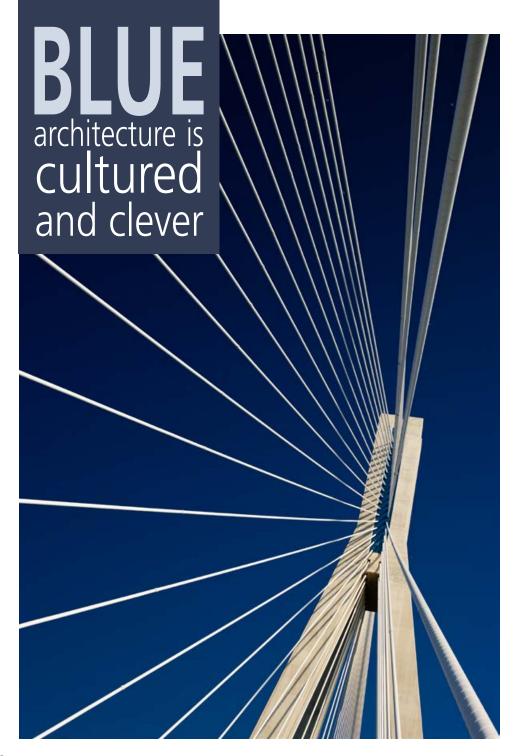








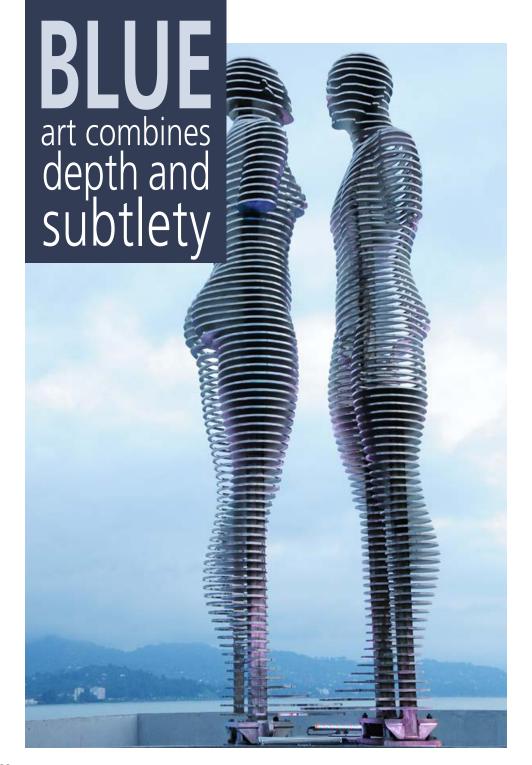


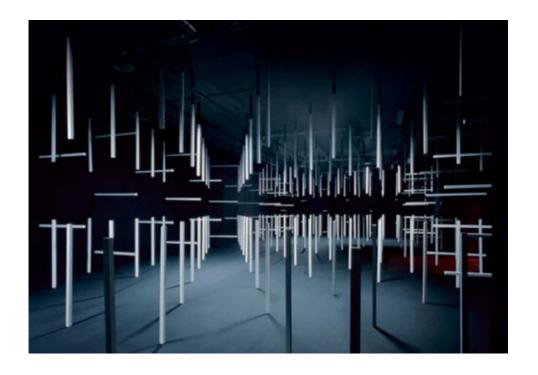


SCULPTURAL MINIMALIST UNADORNED ANGULAR CLEAN LINES



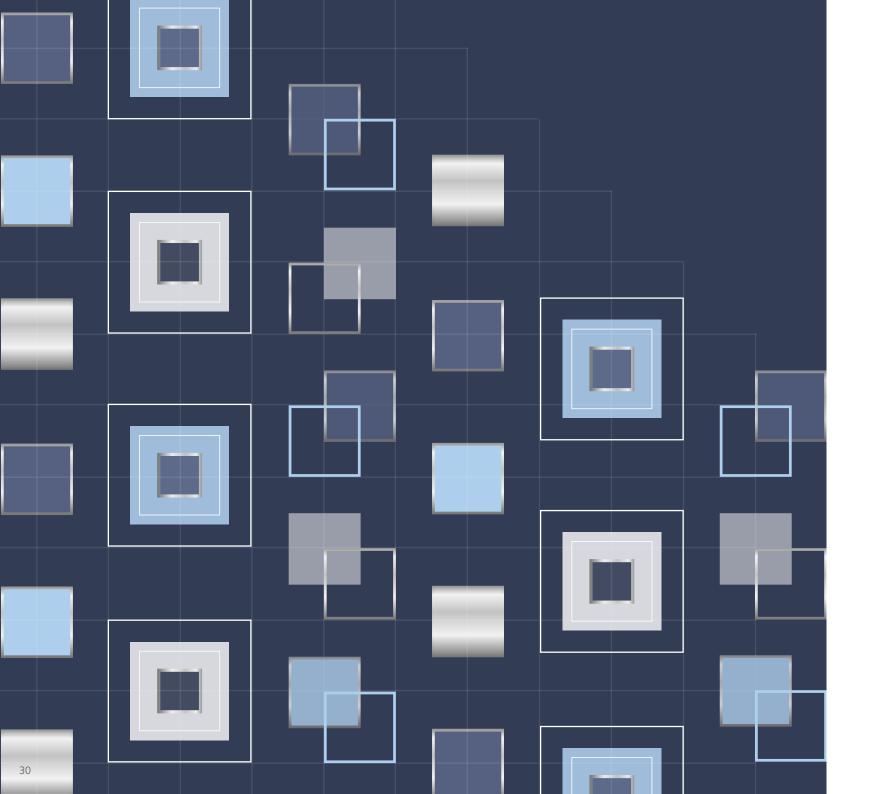






PARED BACK SYMMETRICAL DISTINCT INTRIGUING MINIMAL COLOUR





Creating irresistible BLUE

brands

There is more to building an irresistible BLUE brand than understanding the essence of the BLUE needstate. Success requires alignment of purpose within your organisation, built around:

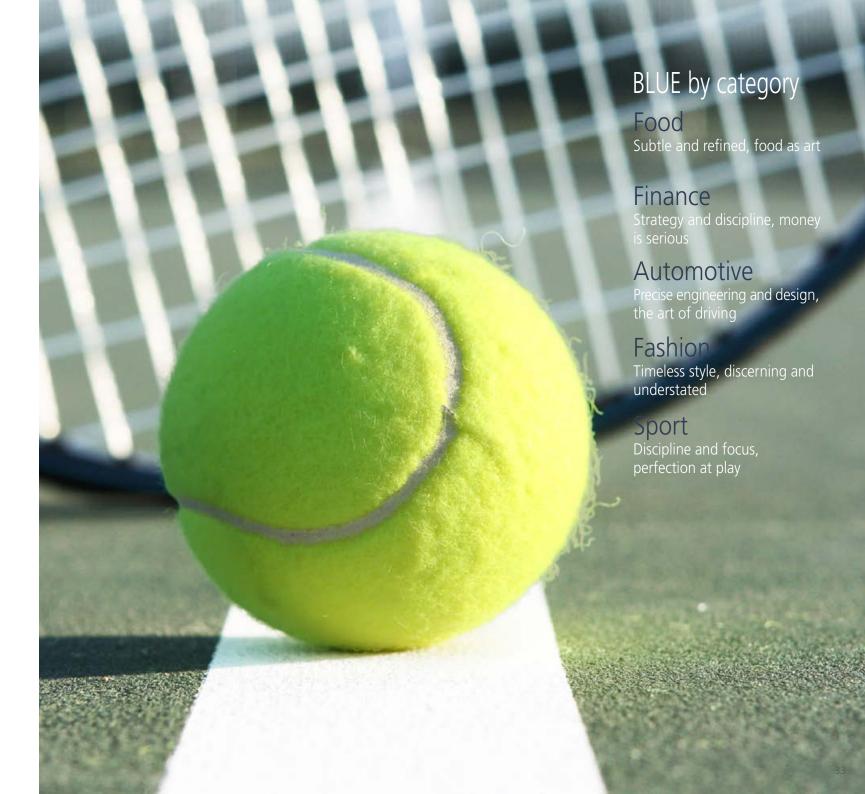
- A deep understanding of how BLUE is expressed in your category
- An appreciation of how BLUE varies by culture and other contextual factors
- Recognition of the style and tone of voice that resonates with BLUE
- Acceptance of some of the myths and misperceptions about BLUE

Only then are you ready to activate BLUE across the brand touchpoints.



While the fundamentals of BLUE are constant, they are expressed very differently in different categories.

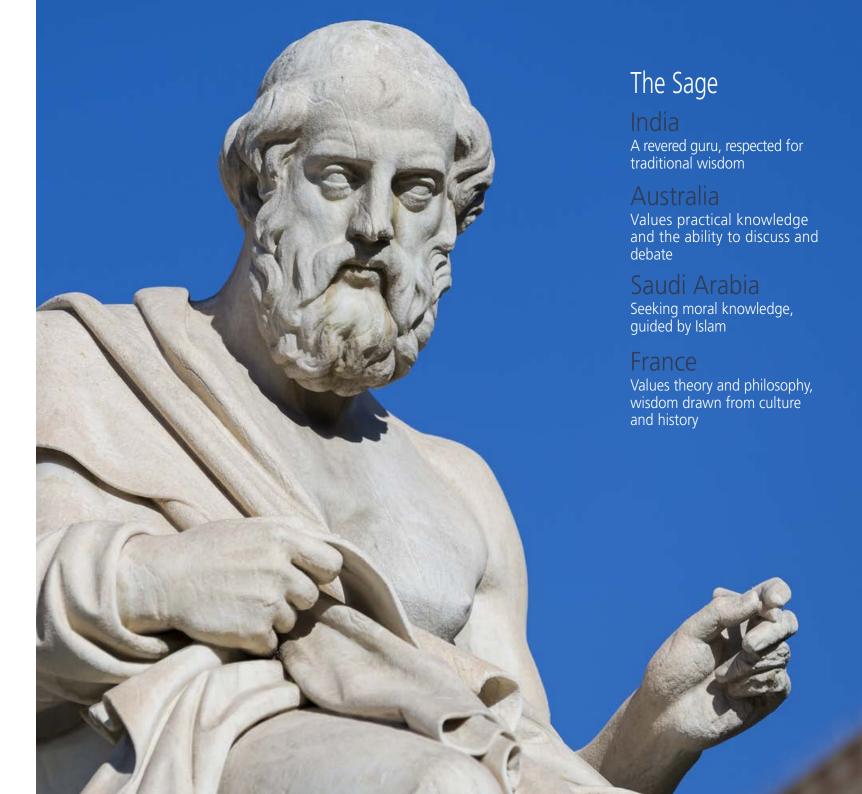
A NeedScope consumer study will reveal what BLUE and the other needstates want in your category. Tapping into customised category expressions of BLUE will make your brand truly irresistible.



BLUE changes across cultures

Exploring BLUE through the lens of culture is important to ensure sensitive global marketing activity.

For example, universally the BLUE Sage archetype pursues knowledge and wisdom, using critical thinking to discover truth. However, how wisdom is defined does change by culture.







Each needstate has its own style and tone of voice. Ensuring everyone involved with the brand understands and complies with this will help make your brand irresistible.

Refined

Set your brand apart with a hint of sophistication – appropriate to your category of course.

Expert

Show professionalism and mastery of detail.

Clever

Show you're a thinking brand, behave like an adult.

Understated

Subtlety is key, there's no room for excess here.



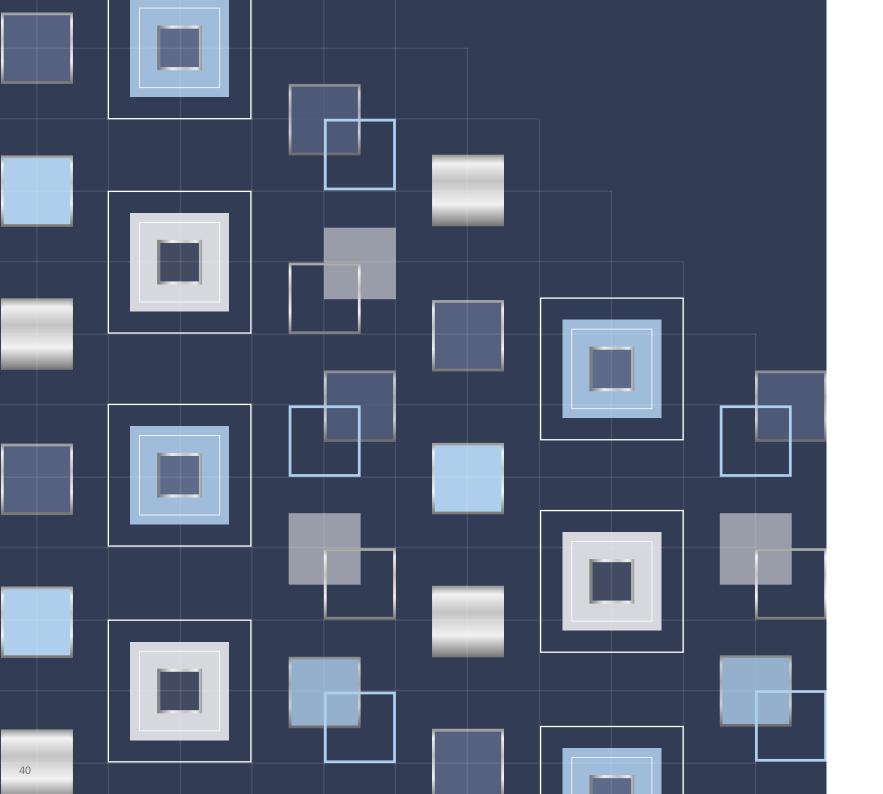
Dull and boring
NO - BLUE brands understand

NO – BLUE brands understand that subtle is not boring. They have hidden depths but are masters of understatement.

Traditional

NO – BLUE can be contemporary or classic, though never slavishly follows fashion trends.



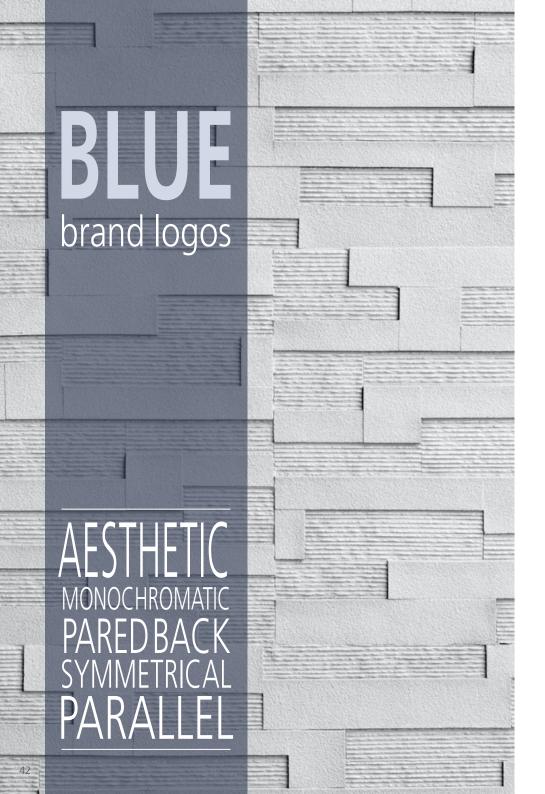


BLUE emotion at every touchpoint



The ultimate challenge is emotive alignment across every brand touchpoint. Irresistible brands do this using symbolism, which is the language of emotion.

The NeedScope framework helps decode the language of emotion. The following pages look at BLUE symbolism operating across different touchpoints in many categories.

















level.vodka

















BLUE packaging

STREAMLINED ARTFULLY CRAFTED COOL COLOURS SLEEK RESTRAINED



MINIMALIST BALANCED CLEAN SIMPLE LINES CHROME MODERN CLASSICS







BLUE retail cues

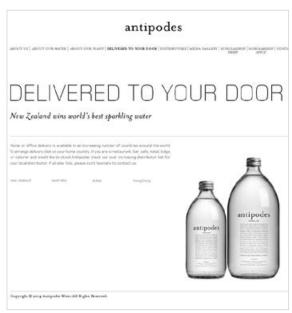


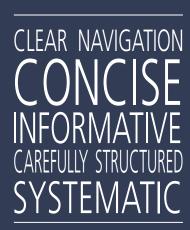


LOGICALLY ORGANISED ELEGANT UNCLUTTERED REFINED STYLISH

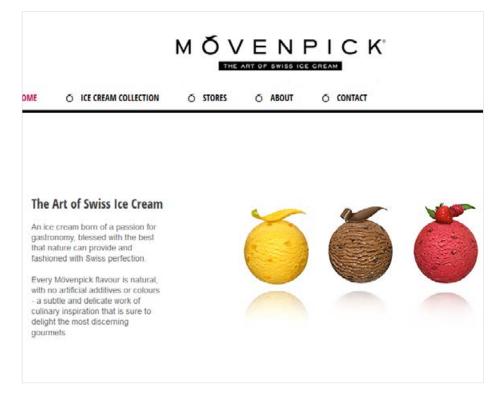
BLUE digital cues

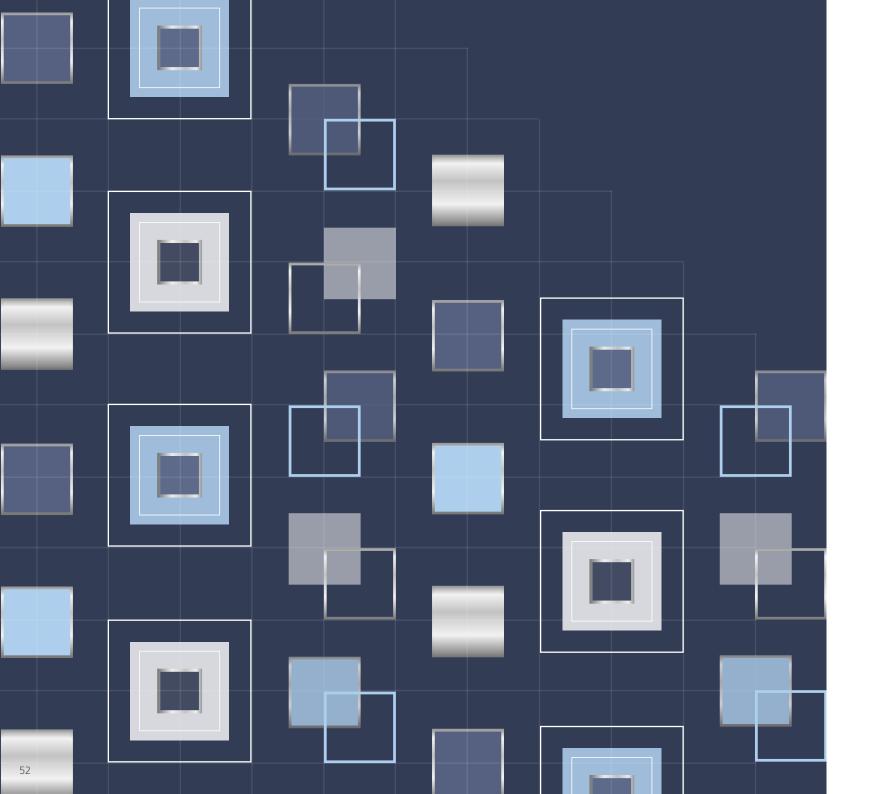










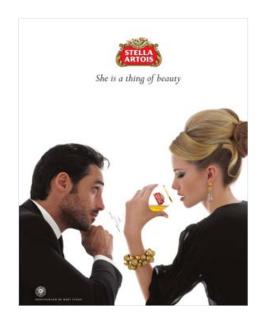


BLUE communications

Print and TV communications are critical brand touchpoints and an important vehicle to give your brand emotion. For strong brand positioning your communications must differentiate clearly.

Understanding the different dimensions of BLUE helps do this. While they vary by category there are common principles for each, demonstrated by the following print examples.







ARRANGED
BLACK AND
WHITE IMAGES
ARTFUL
SOPHISTICATED
CLASSIC























NEUTRAL PALETTE
STATIC
MOTIONLESS
MODEST MESSAGE
POISED
SINGLE IMAGE





BLUE brands

EXPERTISE AND PRECISION

B&O sets the gold standard, taking sound design and engineering to an extraordinary level.



MÓVENPICK

THE ART OF SWISS ICE CREAM

ART AND SCIENCE

Mövenpick combines passion for gastronomy and a quest for nature's best with Swiss standards of perfection. The art and science of ice cream.

B B C

INTELLIGENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

Universally synonymous with knowledge and intelligence, BBC is the quintessential thinking brand.

Here we have chosen brands that are well aligned to the BLUE needstate.

Each one has found an aspect of BLUE that resonates with consumers and is relevant to their category.

They clearly understand the emotion of BLUE and how to express that through symbolism across the full range of brand touchpoints.



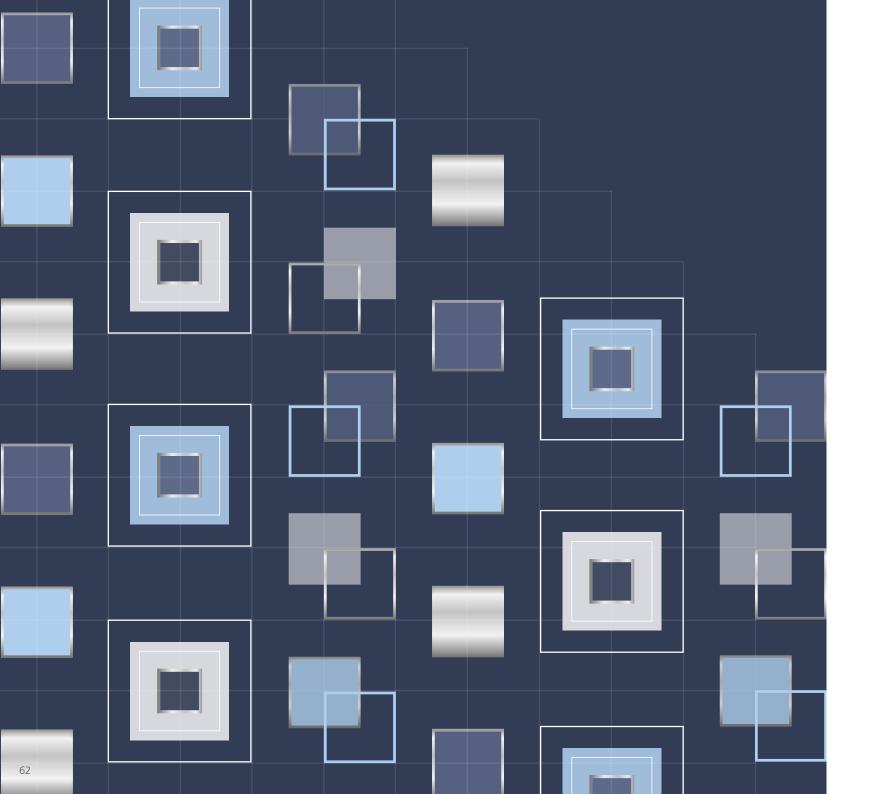
MASTERS OF AUTO TECHNOLOGY

Audi brings leading edge technology, meticulous execution and superior craftsmanship to the world of luxury cars.

QUALITY AND CRAFT

Grey Goose promises history, quality and craft to make "the world's best tasting vodka".





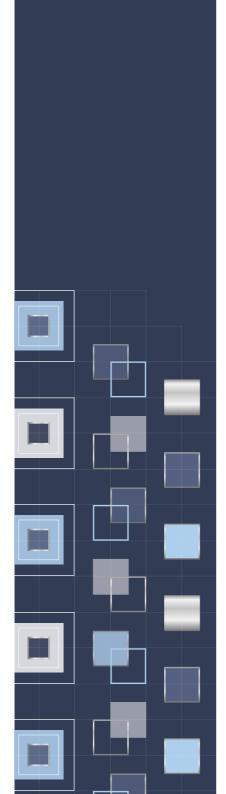
BLUE in action



We have brought BLUE to life with images, words and brand examples.

To build and maintain an irresistible BLUE brand, your challenge is to:

- Understand BLUE in your category
- Identify the right shade of BLUE
- Account for the cultural nuances of BLUE
- Unite everyone behind your BLUE strategy
- Learn the symbolic language of BLUE
- Apply BLUE symbolism across every touchpoint



KANTAR TNS.