

# Brand Guidelines

Specifications for CPA.com, RIVIO and OnPoint PCR July 10, 2019

## Guidelines directory

#### **Brand System Introduction**

- 3 Welcome
- 4 Brand Attributes
- 5 Empowering CPAs
- 6 The CPA.com Logo
- 9 Iconography
- 10 Typography
- 11 Imagery
- 13 Copy Direction

#### 14 Products and Services Branding

- 15 OnPoint PCR Brand Elements
- 19 RIVIO Brand Elements



#### Welcome to the creative team

Your work will contribute to our effort to build the CPA.com brand. We're glad you're on board and look forward to seeing how your talent will expand our brand awareness in a multitude of channels.

The purpose of this document is to provide overall creative direction and strategic positioning for the CPA.com creative assignments that you're about to participate in.

It's designed to help you maintain continuity as you contribute to our series of external and internal communications. You'll be applying this thinking to every communication touch point from web to print, video to 3-D displays.

Our goal is to provide you with the tools you'll need to design and message a seamless and consistent brand experience anywhere – on any platform. This guide will help get you there. Have fun, explore these pages and put your energy into smart ideas.

The CPA.com Brand Guidelines has the basics covered.



#### Brand attributes

It's worth repeating that CPA.com's mission of empowering CPAs and businesses in the digital age is at the core of the CPA.com brand.

#### Key offerings and attributes include:

- Trusted advisor technology, strategy and vision
- First point of access for professional advice
- eCommerce and SAAS solutions
- Thought leadership
- Value added distributor of third party solutions
- CPA.com private label offerings
- Leaders in security
- · Curator and strategic partner
- Go-to-market strategies
- Experts at cloud based workflow
- Professional services to assist with software adoption
- Digital curriculum with live classes
- Bundled pricing on partner programs
- Account managers that know the profession
- The Annual Digital CPA Conference (DCPA)

In addition, CPA.com brings a high level of added value to the accounting community with practice development resources such as:

- Firm Marketing Resources
- Blog
- Infographics
- Podcasts
- Success Stories
- Testimonials
- Whitepapers
- Webinars
- Videos

Although there are many competitors in the marketplace, it's CPA.com's clear understanding of both technology and accounting that truly sets the brand apart.

**CPA.com:** The accounting authority teamed with leading edge technology

**Strategic:** Concepts, resources and access to help manage and grow business

**Visionary:** Anticipating change and knowing what's next

**Best of Breed:** Teaming up with leading providers of the best accounting solutions

4



## Empowering the accounting profession for the digital age

The CPA.com brand celebrates the change agent that exists within every firm – the modern accounting professional who wants to move their business forward.

Our brand persona is represented by three core elements:

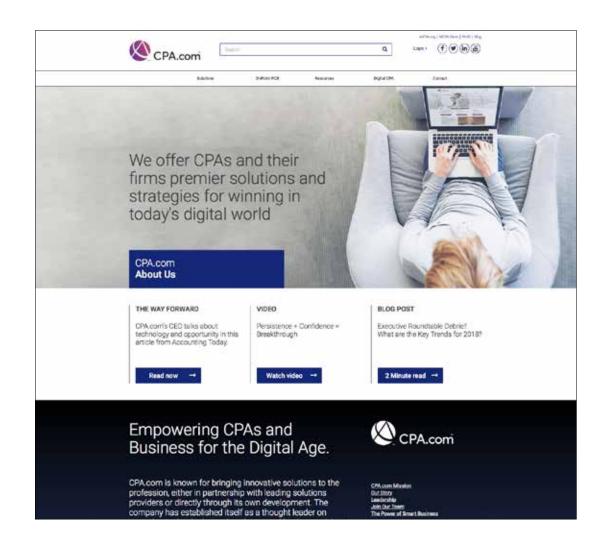
- Engaging photographs of individuals who are smart, self-assured and contributing to their firm's success.
- Headlines and body copy are benefit oriented, immediate and written in a voice that's conversational – not impersonal business jargon.
- A full graphics system developed by the AICPA Brand Team

The CPA.com brand embraces the look and feel of the AICPA's Brand Style Guide while standing out as its own unique entity.

It's a persona that conveys confidence, wit and positions CPA.com as the authority when it comes to the needs of CPAs, their firms and their clients

#### "Empowering the accounting profession for the digital age"

This is the CPA.com mantra for guiding the accounting profession into the 21st century.



#### The CPA.com logo

Our logo is an integrated part of the AICPA Brand Family. Its structure and make-up fully align with the symbol and wordmark developed by the Association.

Only use the approved logo artwork as shown in this document and the AICPA's Brand Standards. Do not create it or the globe artwork yourself.

Our logo is made up of two elements: the globe symbol and the CPA.com name (wordmark). In rare cases, the symbol may be used alone (e.g., on business cards, multimedia, confined spaces and small print areas).

The structure shown at right is the only configuration for our mark. Stacking or repositioning the elements in any other form as well as modifying the font or typography is prohibited.

The logo can appear two ways:

- In positive form as shown against a white or light-colored background. Remember in positive form the logo should be in full color
- In negative form the logo is all white. Use this mark when it's placed over a dark color







· Logo in positive form



• Logo in negative form

## Logo incorrect usage

Shown here are some (but not all) examples of what not to do with our logo. To avoid making these or similar off-brand mistakes, simply use one of the two logo options provided on the previous page – in its complete form.



## The CPA.com service logos

In addition to our core logo, there are two service logos that accompany specific communications that play a key roll in the overall brand ecosystem. These logos are used when sharing brand space with another brand.

CPA.com has developed specific products and services either independently or in conjunction with another organization which fall under CPA. com Products and Services. These offerings are supported by the service logo. The brands that carry "a service of" mark are:

- Digital CPA Conference
- OnPoint PCR
- RIVIO
- Mail@CPA.com

A service of





#### Iconography

We've adopted the iconography style of the AICPA. By doing so we're able to share these graphic elements as well as create a single, integrated look for all of our communications.

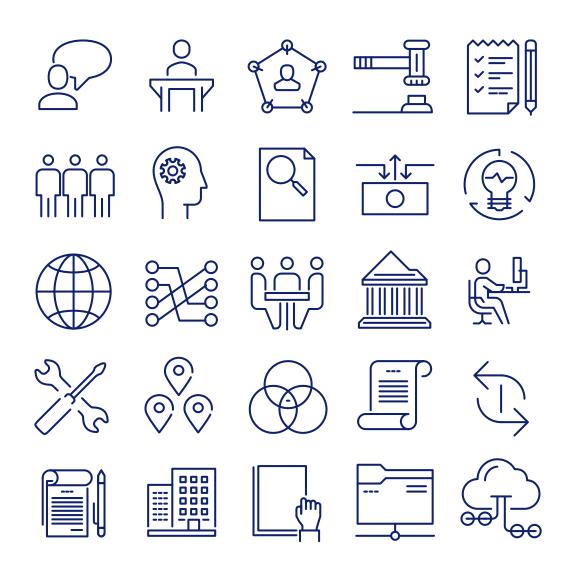
The approach is simple. We utilize a linear style that's one color, created with a single line. You'll note on the examples at right, that each image tells or supports a bigger story.

Use this design option when:

- You're communicating features in a small space
- Your overall concept requires additional support
- You want to add visual interest to the page

When using iconography make certain:

- The design element has a role in the communication
- It's simple, clear and uncomplicated
- It integrates with the overall look through color scheme and execution style
- Line weights and colors are consistent



## Typography

CPA.com's typographic direction has been sourced from the AICPA Guidelines. Roboto is an open source font that comes in many styles and weights.

We utilize three different weights from a core font to maintain simplicity and to add impact when needed.

Our primary font is Roboto Light. This should be considered the default choice simply because it works well in different mediums and a full range of sizes.

A key support font is Roboto Medium. This weight adds impact to a call to action and clarity to a banner ad. Keep in mind that this contrasting font works best when it's utilized at a minimum.

Roboto Thin is considered our display font. It's best when used large as a tasteful design element. Think of it as a solution to a unique communication or a special event.

As mentioned earlier, Roboto is an open source font designed by Christian Robertson. It's available free of charge at: <a href="https://fonts.google.com/specimen/Roboto">https://fonts.google.com/specimen/Roboto</a>

!@#\$%^&\*()\_=
QWERTYUIOP[\
ASDFGHJKL;'
ZXCVBNM,./
1234567890-=
qwertyuiop[\\
asdfghjkl;'
zxcvbnm,./

Roboto Light Primary Font

!@#\$%^&\*()\_=
QWERTYUIOP[\
ASDFGHJKL;'
ZXCVBNM,./
1234567890-=
qwertyuiop[\
asdfghjkl;'
zxcvbnm,./

!@#\$%^&\*()\_=
QWERTYUIOP[]\
ASDFGHJKL;'
ZXCVBNM,./
1234567890-=
qwertyuiop[]\
asdfghjkl;'
zxcvbnm,./

Roboto Medium Secondary Font

#### Imagery

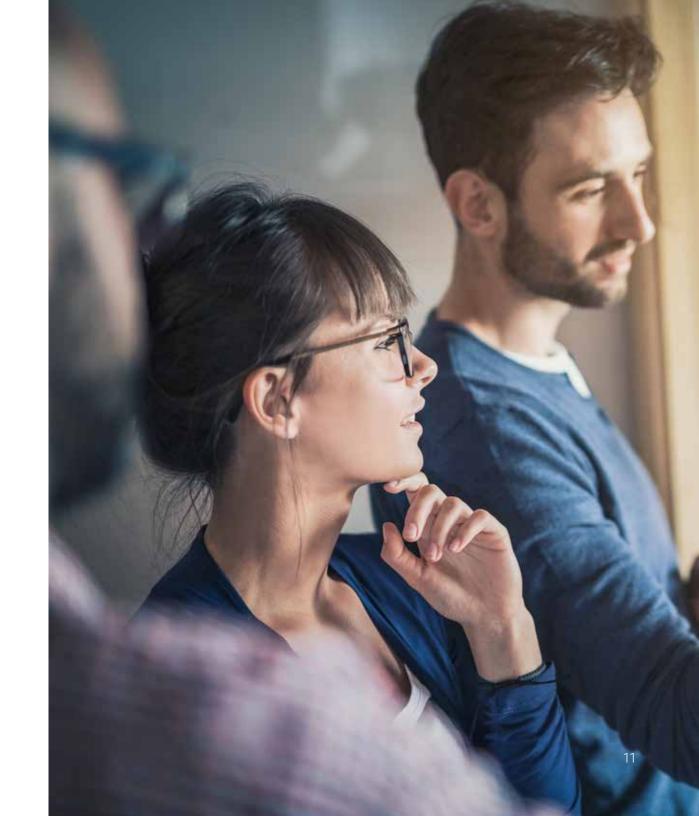
It's important that our imagery represents what today's firms and accounting professionals really look like. That's why it's essential that we portray the profession as a modern and tech-savvy.

Typical photos of posed and overly-happy professionals staring into the camera comes across as unauthentic.

As the category leader, we must change this trend and offer a clear point of view. Using the correct imagery allows CPA.com to do just that – lead the profession in a contemporary way.

Our photography shows the empowered CPA. Their body language and facial expressions need to define confidence and "in charge". These individuals generally appear alone for partner communications and in groups for corporate initiatives.

The setting and execution should look and feel realistic. They should appear in and around professional environments. The lighting should feel natural.



## Imagery examples

Our accounting professionals are well-dressed, attractive and modern. They should range in age, gender and ethnicity.

Their overall stance, pose and gesture relates to both the headline and the brand solution or service they're representing.

Avoid toothy smiles or anything that looks overly posed. Keep in mind that the CPA.com client should never be represented in a way that suggests humor or irony.

The CPA.com empowered CPA photo should always portray a persona that conveys confidence, success and supports CPA.com's overall mission.

It's worth noting that CPA.com's partners have identified specific individuals that best represent their brand in our marketing environment. The follow pages will help define how each is represented.













## Copy direction

When writing headlines and body copy for CPA.com it's key that the language get to the heart of the real benefit to the CPA or the firm. Instead explaining what the product or service does, you'll need to grab your audience with an emotional trigger that will pull them in.

For example, this is an ad about the Sage Intacct Accountants Program. This program offers firms with high value engagements such as virtual CFO-level outsourced accounting services for their clients.

Instead of going into detail about of industry leading resources, tools, education and support, this headline pinpoints the true benefit to the CPA firm and their clients:

## Achieve extraordinary growth in outsourced accounting

This tweet-sized headline efficiently gets to the heart of the offering and delivers it in the form of a true benefit. Keep this language smart and simple while saying it as efficiently as possible. Keep your solution positive, upbeat and free of jargon.

Headlines should appear in sentence case. Avoid punctuation at the end of single sentence headlines.



#### Products and services communications elements



CPA.com partner branding

# OnPoint PCR brand elements

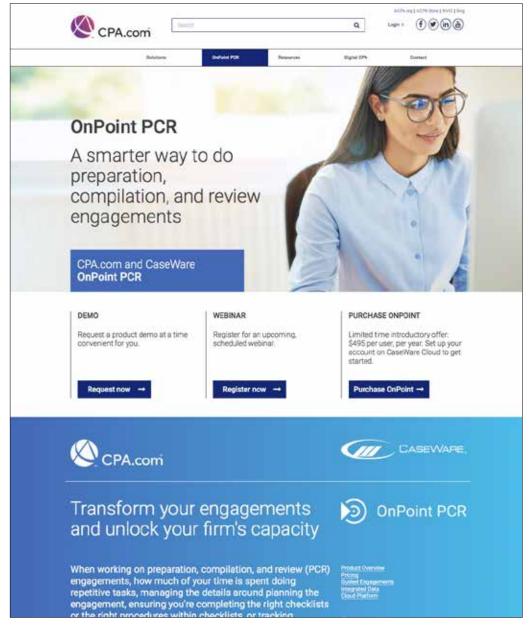




OnPoint PCR Firms Hero Images



OnPoint PCR Logo



OnPoint PCR Web Site

CPA.com products and services branding

# OnPoint PCR brand elements

CPA.com Blue

Pantone 2756C CMYK: 100/96/27/20 RGB: 15/32/108 HEX: #0F206C

OnPoint PCR Color

Location: 60%

Location: 0%

Location: 100%

CMYK: 90/66/0/0

RGB: 58/93/174

HEX: #3A5DAE

Location: 100%

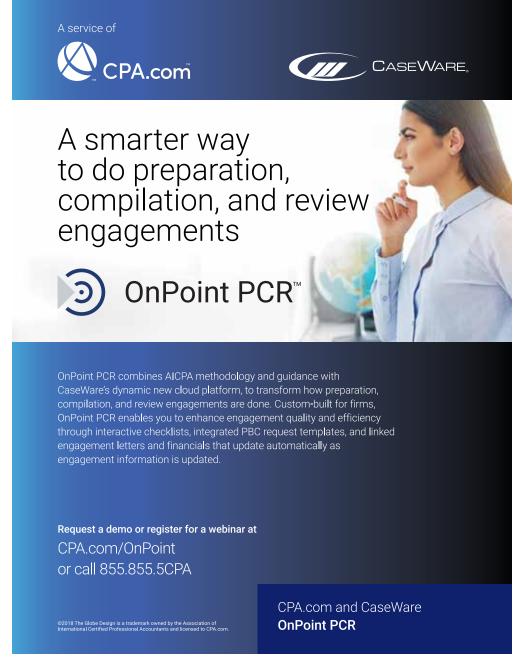
Location: 100%

HEX: #41B6E6

OnPoint PCR Blend

CPA.com and CaseWare
OnPoint PCR

OnPoint PCR Tab



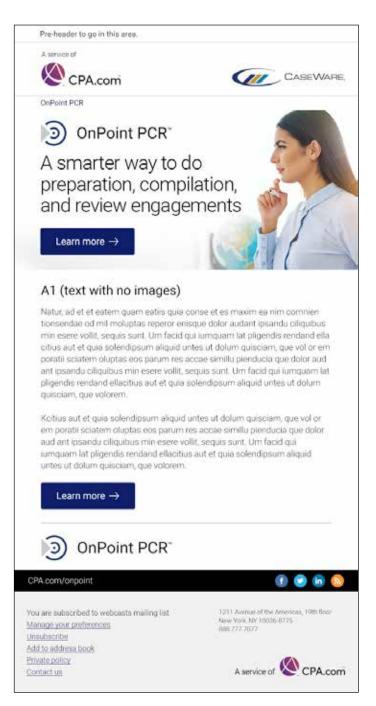
OnPoint PCR Ad

CPA.com partner branding

# OnPoint PCR brand elements



Display Pod

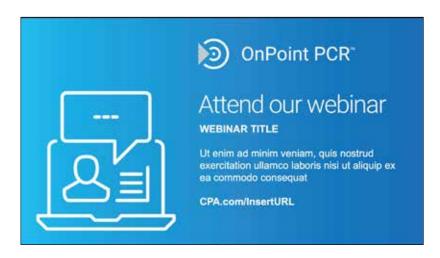


Email Template 17

# OnPoint PCR brand elements



Digital Poster Brand 1



Digital Poster Webinar



Digital Poster Brand 2



Digital Poster Published Content

CPA.com products and services branding

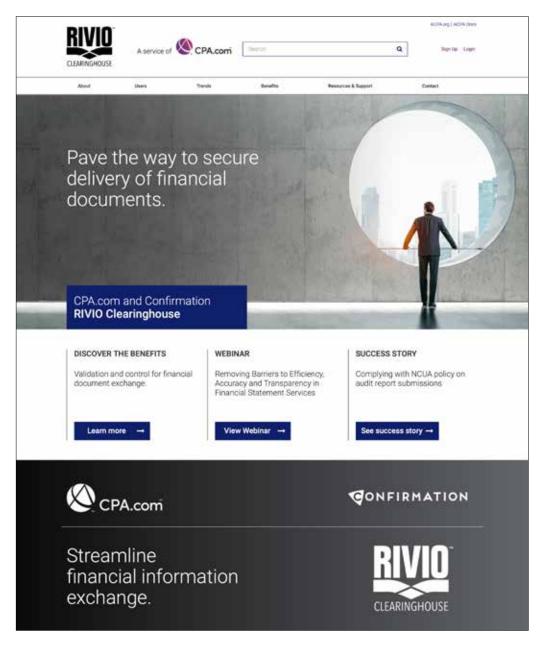
# RIVIO brand elements





RIVIO Hero Images





OnPoint PCR Web Site

CPA.com products and services branding

## RIVIO brand elements

CPA.com Blue

Pantone 2756C

CMYK: 100/96/27/20

RGB: 15/32/108

HEX: #0F206C

**RIVIO Color** 

Location: 60%

Location: 0%

Location: 0%

CMYK: 0/0/0/100

CMYK: 0/0/0/100

RGB: 00/101/107

HEX: #000000

HEX: #636568

RIVIO Blend

CPA.com and Confirmation.com **RIVIO Clearinghouse** 

**RIVIO Tab** 



OnPoint PCR Ad

# RIVIO brand elements

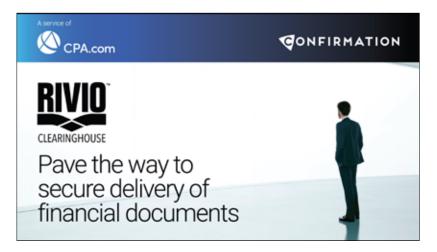


Display Pod



Email Template 21

# RIVIO brand elements



Digital Poster Brand 1



Digital Poster Webinar



Digital Poster Brand 2



Digital Poster Published Content