

## The 4 Truths About Boomers & Media

Google/Nielsen Online/Sterling U.S., September 2010

## **Study Scope and Methodology**

- Clickstream Approach using Nielsen's Tools
  - @plan
  - NetView Panel
  - Media Research
- Survey Approach Developed by Nielsen and Google
  - Google/Nielsen Boomers Survey fielded August 2010, N=3,878

#### Definitions

Gen Y: 18-30

Gen X: 31-45

- Boomers: 46-65

G.I. Generation: 66-75

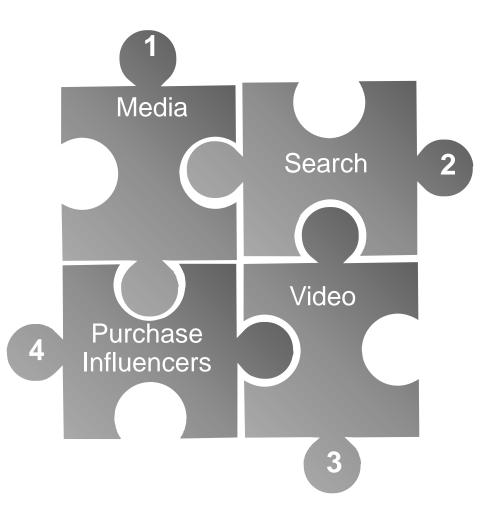
Silent/Lost Generation: 75+

#### Qualitative Research

Sterling Brands: Online focus group of 15 Boomers



## **Objectives of The Four Truths**



- How much media do Boomers consume? Which vehicles reach them the best?
- What motivates Boomers to search and click?
- What kind of videos are Boomers watching?
- What influences a Boomer's purchase?

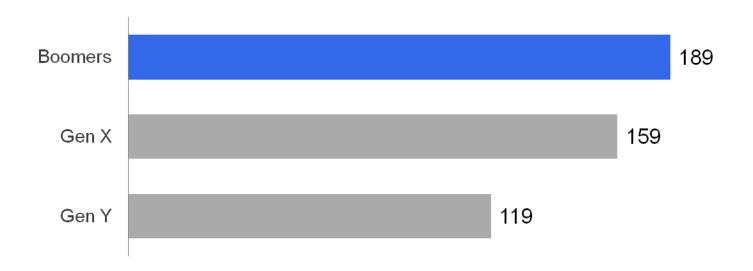
## The Truth about Boomers and Media



### **Boomers Dominate the Screens**

#### **Average Hours Per Month of Viewing Time Across All Screens by Age Cohort Member**

TV + Movie + Online Viewing + Mobile Video



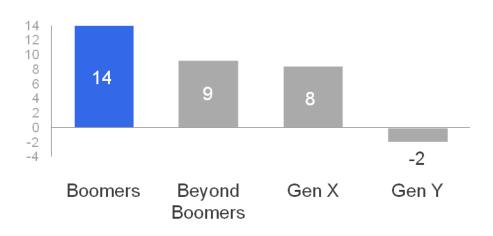
Source: Q1 2010 Three Screen Report, Nielsen Online NPOWER - Live +7 Total Screen Time July 2009 - July 2010nd Nielsen Online NetView Panel aggregated.



## **Boomers Are the Largest TV Watching Group**

32% share of TV viewing up from 23% in 1992

> **Average % Change per Person in Live TV** Minutes Viewed per Week 1992 to 2010



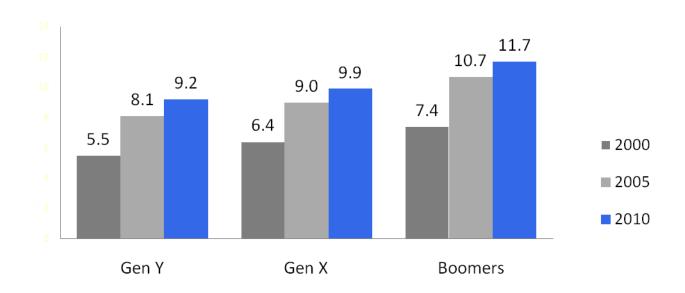


Source: Nielsen Media Research Live US PUT% for 45-64 full year 1992 vs. 2010 thru July



### **More Choices with Cable**

#### % of TV Households average viewership at any moment







## **Boomers Are the Largest Group Online**

#### Minutes spent online per month



Source: Nielsen Online NetView Panel June 2010 Data: Total Unique Audience and Minutes by Age Group



56 M

Estimated number of **Boomers** online June '10

## **Boomers Are More Connected**

Boomers average number of hours online per month

VS.

**22 Gen** Y average

**Gen Y** average number of hours online per month

Source Chart Nielsen Online NetView Panel July 2009 - June 2010: Total Minutes of Online Duration divided by Total Unique Audience engaging in the activity

## Boomers and Gen Y Have Much in Common Online



8 out of 10
Of the top websites are the same as 18-34 year olds

Other Gen Y: Rank - Site

• Fox Interactive Media

Apple

Other Boomers: Rank - Site

- Ask Search Network
- Amazon



## Influences That Prompt Boomers to Go Online



62%

Of Boomers use the **internet** to look up information their friends or family tell me about

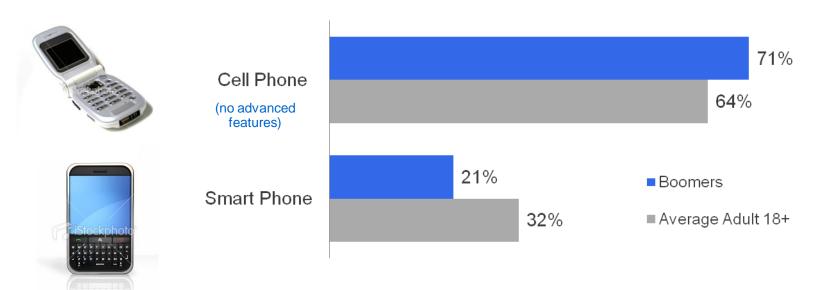
55%

of **Boomers** look up information with others in mind



## **Boomers Get Acquainted with On-The-Go**

#### Type of Mobile Phone Used Regularly



28%

Of Boomers with children in household regularly use smart phones

19%

Of Boomers without children in household regularly use smart phones



## **Families Boost Boomers' Adoption**

We bought the Droid last week for me and both my kids. I don't use a lot of the apps on my phone yet because I just got it, but I'm looking forward to researching those. I'm going to let my kids let me know what to do. It takes so much time and effort to do it all by yourself; they have nothing but time."

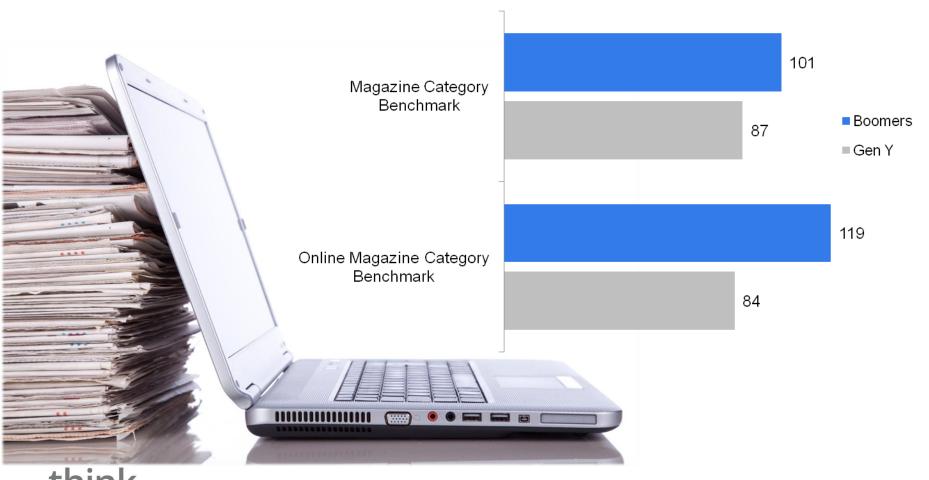
Jerry W., Age 52, Phoenix, Arizona

My son and I both got a Kindle One when they came out. Then we both upgraded to the Kindle Twos when they came out. My mother has my Kindle One and my daughter has the other Kindle.



## **Boomers Straddle Between Traditional and New Age**

**Boomers Are Surprisingly Overindexing on the Magazine Online Sites** 

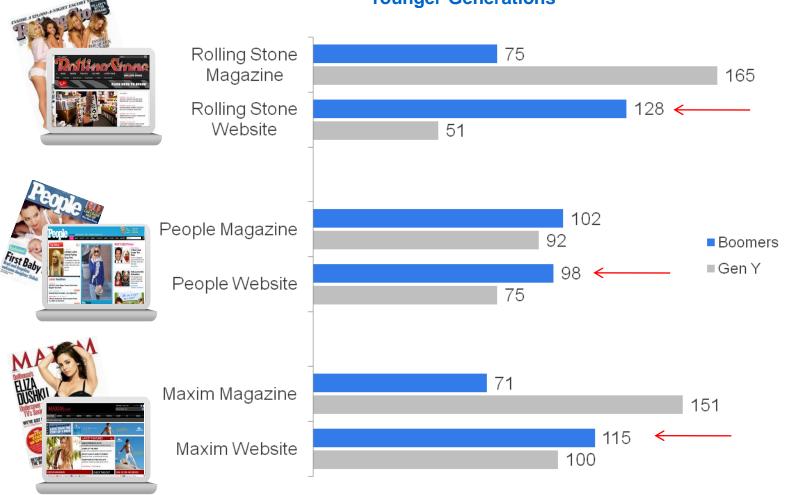




with Google

### **Familiar Brand Names Resonate With Boomers**

Boomers Have More Interest in the Same Content Online vs. Offline Than the Younger Generations





with Google

## The Truth about Boomers and Search



## **Boomers Are Data Seekers**



## The Internet Harnesses Family Time

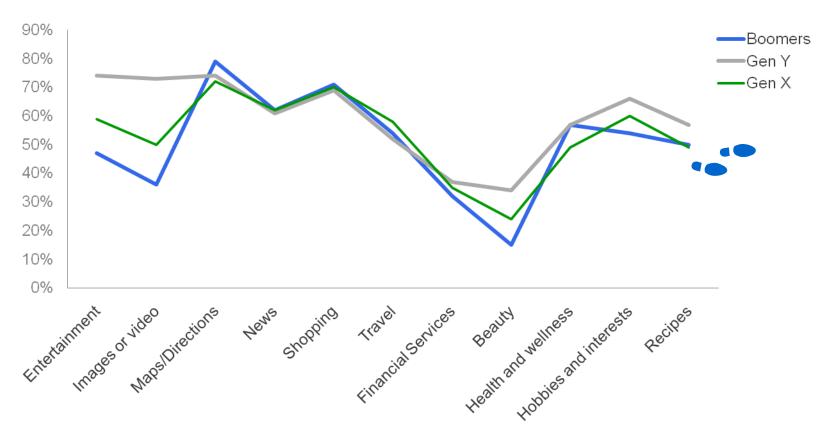
"I research everything [online] from new recipes and cooking, if I want creative table decorations, if I want to do some crafts with the grandkids, different types of medications... It is very easy for me to get that information. I am doing some sort of search 2 or 3 times a day, I get my answers quick and easy"

-Shirley S, 58, Dallas, Texas



## A Comparable Online Search Footprint

#### Type of information searched for on search engine

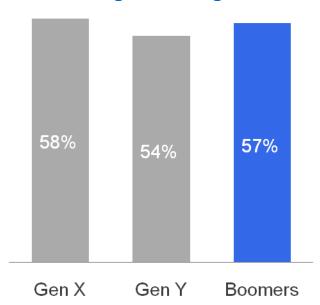




## TV is an Effective Trigger to Search

57% of Boomers have searched after seeing something on TV

#### % Who have used a search engine after seeing something on TV







Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q17: Have you ever used a search engine to find more information on something that you saw featured on TV?" Percentage

Gen Y N=265, Gen X N= 639, Boomers N= 2175.

## **Sponsored Links Speak to Boomers**

69%

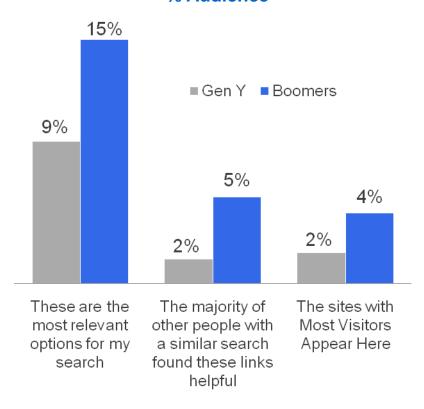
Boomers click on sponsored links

58%
Gen Y click on sponsored links

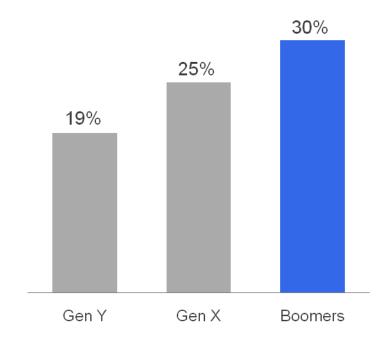


## **Boomers Find Sponsored Links Relevant and** Useful

#### **Perceived Purpose of Sponsored Links** % Audience



#### % Finding Sponsored Links Useful



Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010:

Q19: What one reason best explains why these listings appear prominently at the top of the page or to the right of the other

Q20: Thinking about a typical internet search results page like this one, how useful do you typically find results in the highlighted section? Top 2 box (out of 5):

Gen Y N = 265; Gen X N = 639; Boomers N = 2175

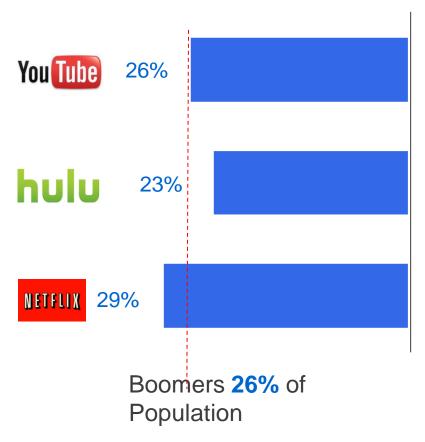


## The Truth About Boomers and Video



### **Boomers Embrace Their Fair Share of Video**

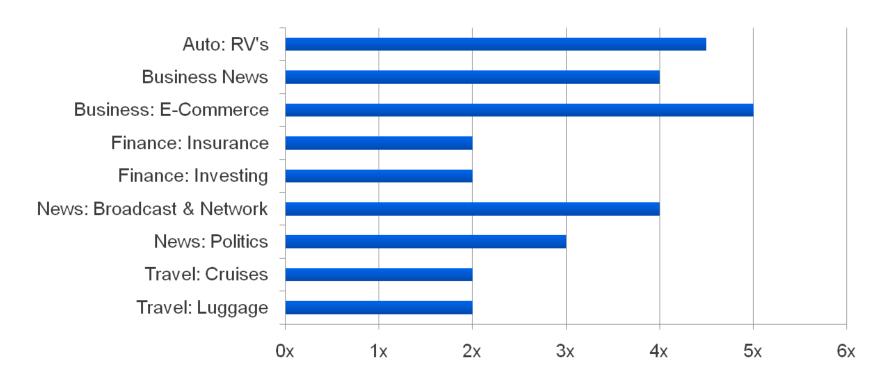
#### **% Unique Audience Composition**





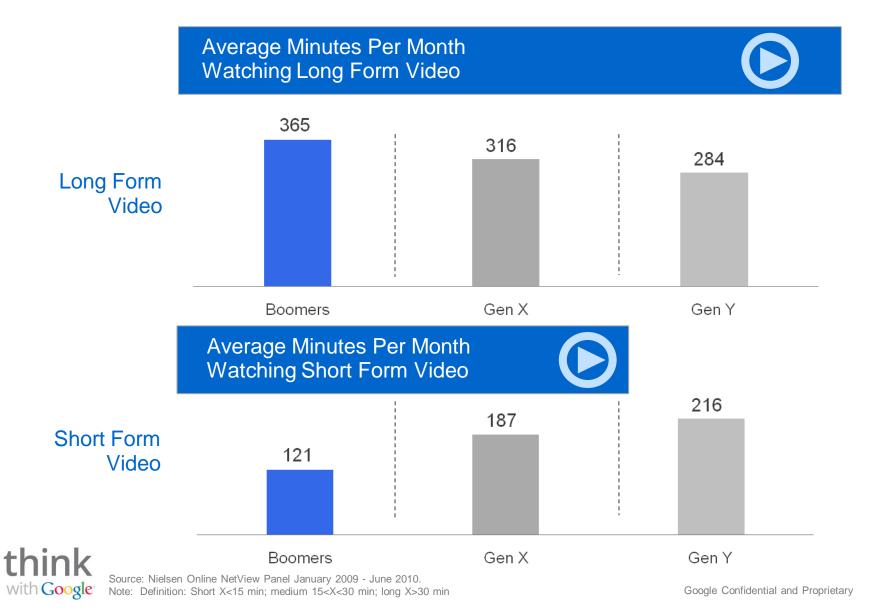
### **Boomers' Video Interests on YouTube**

#### Males and Females ages 45-64 YouTube Viewing Index





## **Boomers Prefer to Stay Engaged Longer**

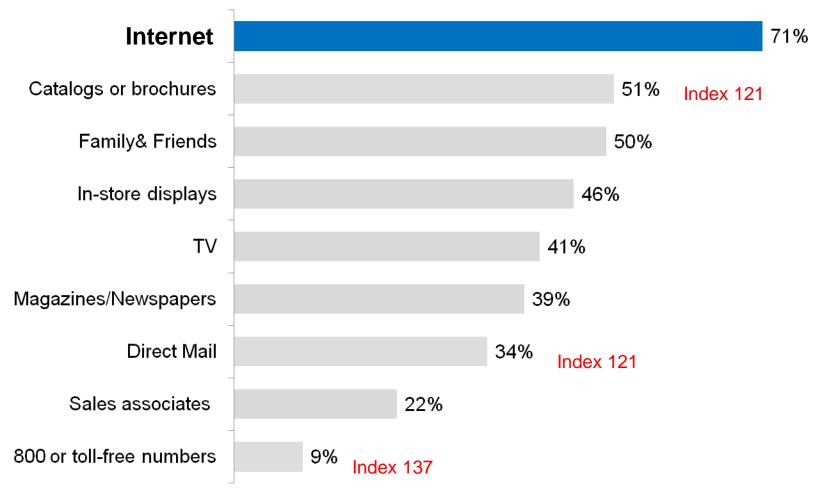


## The Truth About How Boomers Buy



## Traditional Tactics Still Work on Boomers...

#### **Sources Used to Make Purchase Decisions**





## ...But Boomers Are Empowered To Follow Up the Old with the New

44%

Of Boomers used a search engine to find out more about something they read about from mail sent to the house





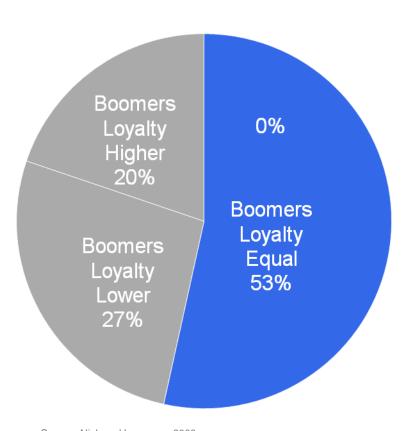
Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q17: Have you ever used a search engine to find more information.

Q17: Have you ever used a search engine to find more information on something that you: read about from mail sent to your house Asked among respondents that use search engines. N = 2175



## **Boomers Are Open to Change**





80%

Of Boomers are equal or less loyal than other age groups



Source: Nielsen Homescan 2008
Percentages compared Boomers to younger and older Heads of Households (Younger than 44 age of Head of Household AND Older than 62 age of Head of Household)

## Online Deals are Nice, But Not Necessary





Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q39B: Regardless of whether you have ever made an online purchase, please indicate how motivating each of the following would be in impacting you to purchase something online? Average Adults 18+ N= 3878 Boomers N=2204

## **Quality Time is High On The List With Boomers**

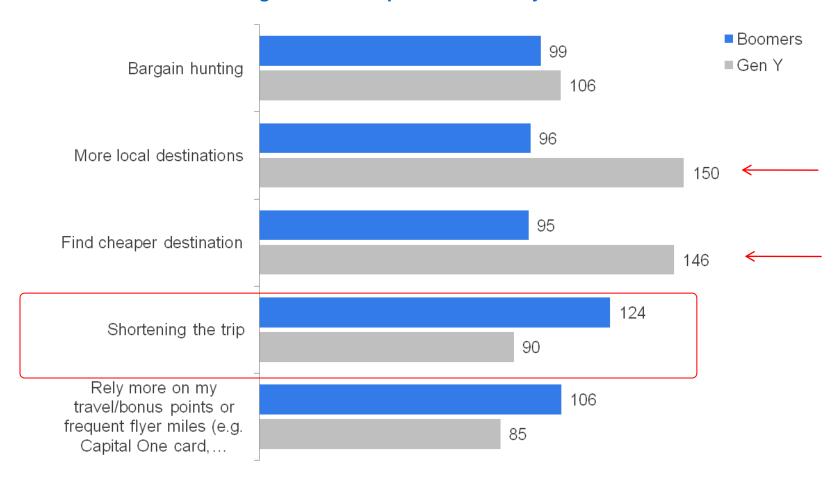




Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q56: Thinking about the trips that you or you and your spouse will be taking with your extended family, who will be paying for these trips? Among respondents planning to travel with extended family.

## **Quality Beats Price For Boomers**

#### **Strategies Used to Spend Less Money on Travel in 2010**





Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q54C: You mentioned that you feel that you have less money to travel with in 2010. Based on this, which of the below strategies would you say that you are applying to address your situation, if any? Gen Y N= 28, Boomers N = 307

## **Boomers Spend Online**

50% of Boomers spend over \$500 online a year

Source: Google/Nielsen Boomer Survey August 2010: Q40: Question Number 40: Approximately how much have you spent online in the past year? \*\*asked only of those that purchase online about once a year or more . N = 2094

## **Boomers Spend on Enjoyment**

**Categories where Boomers Spend Most** 

**Index vs. Average** online adult 18+

## Travel, business, entertainment

categories over-index with heavy Boomer online spenders

	Collectibles	138
	Gourmet Food	132
	Auctions	118
	Hotels Index	118
H H	Airline Ticket	115
	Car Rentals	116
	Computers & Printers	114
6	Entertainment	108



## **Boomers Are Changing Online Commerce**

#### Unique Audience Composition percent for each website listed

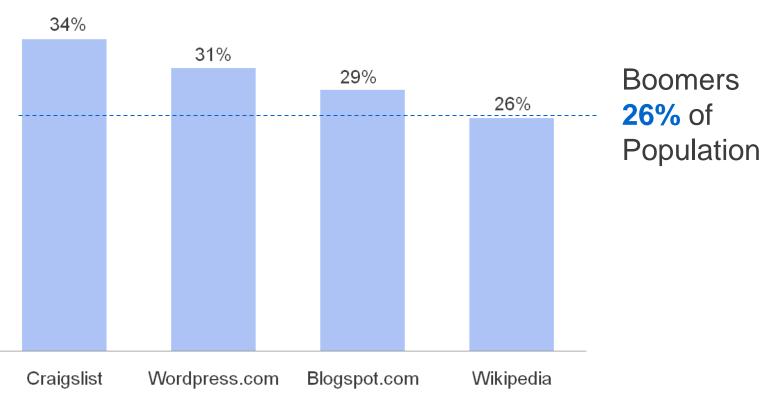




Source: Nielsen Online NetView Panel June 2010 Data: Unique Audience Composition percent for each website listed Population Percentage: US Census June 2010

## **Boomers Value High Utility**

#### Percent share of online minutes for each website listed





## **The Four Truths about Boomers**

## Marketing Underpinnings

Boomers are sponges for content and media.

Boomers are an easy target for advertisers. Saturate them with relevant content.

2 Boomers sit on an aided adoption curve with technology.

Show, don't tell and market to those that give them a boost on the curve.

Boomers are most comfortable straddling the familiar and the new.

Marketers can experiment but within the comfort zone.

- 4 Boomers are a curious and thoughtful demographic that value quality and family time.
- Market not only to Boomers but the people they care about.

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