

# THE IMPACT OF LOGO DESIGN TOWARDS CUSTOMER'S BRAND IMAGE PERCEPTION: A RESEARCH OF LOGO SHAPES AND COLORS IN THE HOTEL INDUSTRY

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## **Abstract**

*Brand image is how a brand perceived by the customer. The brand image perception shaped by certain attributes of the company that has been delivered through Corporate Visual Identity (CVI). CVI is a visible elements of a brand, often regarded as one aspect that creates company's image through logo or symbol. The purpose of this research was to determine the significant impact between shapes and colors used in logo design and customers' brand perception in hotel industry. This research was done with quantitative method where the data was primarily collected through distributing the questionnaires. The data collecting process involves 100 respondents who reside in the Greater Jakarta Area. Multiple regression analysis in SPSS version 21.0 was used to analyze the data. The result of this research showed that both shapes and colors used in the logo have strong impact on how brand image perceived by the customers. Shapes of the logo influence the brand image perception with a percentage of 92.5%, while colors affect the brand image perception with a percentage of 92.4%. Based on the result, it can be concluded that applying certain shapes and colors in the logo design can help hotel industry to enhance the desired brand image and create a strong brand positioning in the market.*

*Keywords: Logo Design, Brand Image, Shapes, Colors, Hotel Industry*

## **Introduction**

Corporate Identity is described as the communications, impressions, and personality projected by an organization (Mullins & Orville C Walker, 2010). Corporate Identity aids the company to shape the right image for the customer to perceive. One of the essential parts that shape corporate identity is the logo, which is also known as Corporate Visual Identity (CVI). An effective logo must be able to portray the company's values and present clear messages and images of the company.

This research aim to identify the influence of corporate identity in terms of logos toward brand image perception by the customer. Study needed in order to identify how the selection of shapes in a hotel's logo can lead to a certain perception of the brand image by the customer, and how the selection of colors in a hotel's logo can lead to a certain perception of the brand image by the customer.

The objective of this research is to understand the correlation between shapes and colors in logo design towards how customers perceive the brand. Hence, the hypotheses can be presented as follows:

H<sub>01</sub>: The shapes of the logo will not build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

H<sub>02</sub>: The colors of the logo will not build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

## **Literature Review**

**Logo :** As one of the marketing tool, logo has specific purpose for the company. The functions of logo based on Rustan (2010):

1. Corporate Identity, to show the specific characteristic a company has.
2. Ownership, to differentiate one company to another.
3. Quality assurance
4. Avoiding piracy

Brand: is a unique design, sign, words, or a combination of these, employed in creating an image that identifies a product or company (Business Dictionary, 2014). A distinctive brand of a company will help the company to stand out among competitors, and thus creates images for customer to perceive. The images will further be associated with the corporate identity, including its quality, standard, and value. The branding process through visual identity when undertaken properly, will outcome a significant impact. According to Brand Cookbook (Holland & Surya, 2012), a brand is the result of combining all elements, characteristic and emotional experience, from which customers gain a unique offering in terms of reputation, consumer experience, implicit promises, price, attitude, and many more.

Brand Image : Companies look for ways to connect emotionally with customers, become irreplaceable, and create lifelong relationships. Hence, having a strong brand will outcome great number of advantages in the competitive market. A strong brand will makes people feel attached to it, trust the brand and believe in the brand's excellence. How a brand is perceived affects its success. (Wheeler,2012).To deliver the image of the brand, the company must first form the awareness of their brand in the customers. Creating brand awareness by increasing the familiarity of the brand through repeated exposure (for brand recognition) and forging strong associations with the appropriate product category or other relevant purchase or consumption cues (for brand recall) is an important first step in building brand equity (Keller, 2013). After the brand awareness is gained, companies can then emphasis on creating the brand image. Creating a positive brand image must be supported by the presence of good marketing program. Marketing program is essential to connect the brand into a certain association in customers' memory, or simply called brand association. Brand associations reflect consumers' perceptions of the brand (Andersen, 2011). The two types of brand association are brand attributes and brand benefits. The set of descriptive features that portray the brand is called brand attributes, while brand









benefits defined as the personal value and meaning that consumers attach to the product or service attributes (Keller, 2013).

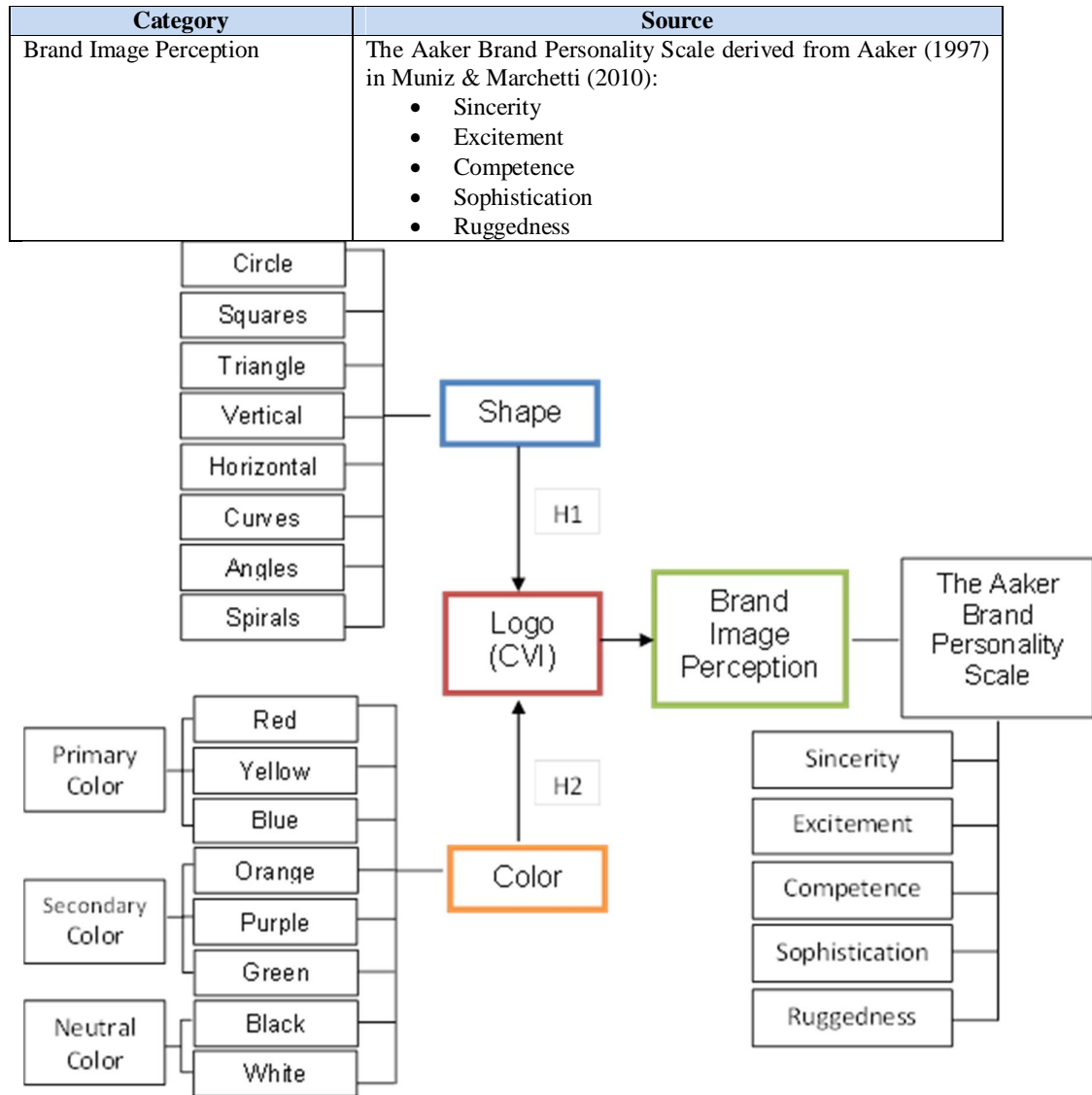
**Aaker Brand Personality Scale :** Brand personality is defined as the set of human characteristics associated with a brand. Five dimensions of brand personality are sincerity, excitement, competence, sophistication, and ruggedness. Each dimension then consists of several traits that belong to the group. (in Munir and Marchetti 2011 ).

### Methodology

This research follows a descriptive and causal study method as was conducted to gain knowledge by analyzing the variables and to measure the impact of logo design towards brand perception. The primary research data was gathered from the questionnaire that distributed to the citizen in Greater Jakarta Area. The research emphasizes on citizen’s basic knowledge about hotel brand and how a logo design of the hotel affected the hotel brand’s personality. The questionnaire consisted of 21 close ended questions with 4 general questions regarding respondents’ demographic profile, 1 colorblind test question to ensure that respondent participated in the questionnaire do not suffer from color blindness. There are also 8 questions with shapes as stimulus and another 8 questions with colors as stimulus, and the respondents would choose the answer based on the Aaker Brand Personality Scale characteristics.

**Table 1  
Questionnaire Outline**

Category	Source
Demographic	General Questions
Color Blindness Test	Dr. Shinobu Ishihara Color Blindness Test derived from Colblindor (2010)
Logo Shapes	8 shapes with specific meaning in logo design derived from Bradley(2010) and Wilde (2013): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circle</li> <li>• Rectangles and Squares</li> <li>• Triangles</li> <li>• Vertical Lines/ Shapes</li> <li>• Horizontal Lines/ Shapes</li> <li>• Curves</li> <li>• Sharp Angles</li> <li>• Spirals</li> </ul>
Logo Colors	8 colors with specific meaning in logo design derived from Labrecque & Milne (2011) and Cerrato (2012): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Red </li> <li>• Yellow </li> <li>• Blue </li> <li>• Orange </li> <li>• Purple </li> <li>• Green </li> <li>• Black </li> <li>• White </li> </ul>



**Figure 1**  
**Conceptual Framework**

Population are citizens of greater Jakarta Area (Jakarta, Bogor, Depok, Tangerang, and Bekasi), Male and Female, 18 to 50 years old and simple random sampling method used to give equal chance of population to be selected (Cooper&Schindler, 2014). Research object were the logo of the hotels around the greater Jakarta area. There is no specific hotel logo determined as the research object as this research tends to measure the impact of logo to brand image of hotel industry in general. The shapes and colors were then be interpreted according to brand personality scale in order to see how the brand of particular hotel is perceived based on the logo design. Number of sample was taking using PH state calculation .

Data Testing, pre- testing was done in order to validate the questionnaires. The pre-test conducted by distributing 30 questionnaires to the preliminary example online. The result of this 30 questionnaire was analyzed using SPSS. After the questionnaires were distributed to the respondents, the post test was conducted. Post testing provides analysis of validity and reliability by using SPSS as the analytical tool. In post test, stated hypotheses of the research are being analyzed and also checks whether the collected data through the distributed questionnaires goes in accordance to the research purpose.

## Results and Discussion

### Hypothesis Testing 1

The first hypothesis will test whether the shapes of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

#### *Model Summary*

In the model summary table, R Square value will determine how great the independent variable affects the dependent variable.

**Table 1**  
**Model Summary (Shape)**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.962 <sup>a</sup>	.925	.924	12.690

a. Predictors: (Constant), Shape

From the model summary table of shape, it can be seen that the R Square value for shape is 0.925, which means that 92.5% of the dependent variable (brand image perception) affected by the logo shape. The other 7.5% caused by other factors not mentioned in the model.

#### **ANOVA**

ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) table is used to determine whether the independent variable can be used to measure the pre-determined dependent variable. The ANOVA table of the shape variable is shown below:

**Table 2**  
**ANOVA (Shape)**

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1 Regression	194999.118	1	194999.118	1210.970	.000 <sup>b</sup>
1 Residual	15780.672	98	161.027		
Total	210779.790	99			

a. Dependent Variable: BIP

b. Predictors: (Constant), Shape

Hypotheses

H<sub>0</sub>: Regression model can be used to determine the dependent variable

H<sub>1</sub>: Regression model cannot be used to determine the dependent variable

Decision Making

If the Sig. value is  $< \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is not rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is rejected

If the Sig. value is  $> \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is not rejected

Result

The sig. of shape variable in ANOVA table shows the value of 0.000 ( $< \alpha$ ), which means that H<sub>0</sub> is not rejected and H<sub>1</sub> is rejected. Therefore, shapes can be used to determine the brand image perception.

**Coefficients**

The coefficients table is used to determine whether the proposed hypothesis is approved or rejected. The coefficients table of variable X1 (shape) is shown below:

**Table 3**  
**Coefficients (Shape)**

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1 (Constant)	11.846	2.177		5.442	.000
Shape	1.844	.053	.962	34.799	.000

a. Dependent Variable: BIP

Hypotheses

H<sub>01</sub>: The shapes of the logo will not build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

H<sub>1</sub>: The shapes of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

Decision Making

If the Sig. value is  $> \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is not rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is rejected

If the Sig. value is  $< \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is not rejected

Result

The sig. of shape variable in the coefficients table shows the value of 0.000, which is lesser than  $\alpha$  (0.05). This means that H<sub>0</sub> is rejected and H<sub>1</sub> is not rejected. Therefore, it can be concluded that the shapes of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

## Hypothesis Testing 2

The second hypothesis will test whether the colors of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

### *Model Summary*

In the model summary table, R Square value will determine how great the independent variable affects the dependent variable.

**Table 4**  
**Model Summary (Color)**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.961 <sup>a</sup>	.924	.923	12.766

a. Predictors: (Constant), Color

From the table above, R Square value of color is 0.924, which explained that 92.4% of the brand image perception of a company is influenced by the color selection used in a logo. The other 7.6% caused by other factors not mentioned in the model.

### *ANOVA*

ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) table is used to determine whether the independent variable can be used to measure the pre-determined dependent variable. The ANOVA table of the color variable is shown below:

**Table 5**  
**ANOVA (Color)**

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	194808.748	1	194808.748	1195.367	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	15971.042	98	162.970		
	Total	210779.790	99			

a. Dependent Variable: BIP

b. Predictors: (Constant), Color

### Hypotheses

H<sub>0</sub>: Regression model can be used to determine the dependent variable

H<sub>1</sub>: Regression model cannot be used to determine the dependent variable

### Decision Making

If the Sig. value is  $< \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is not rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is rejected

If the Sig. value is  $> \alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), H<sub>0</sub> is rejected, H<sub>1</sub> is not rejected

### Result

The sig. of color variable in ANOVA table shows the value of 0.000 ( $<\alpha$ ), which means that  $H_0$  is not rejected and  $H_1$  is rejected. Therefore, colors can be used to determine the brand image perception.

### *Coefficients*

The coefficients table is used to determine whether the proposed hypothesis is approved or rejected. The coefficients table of variable X2 (color) is shown below:

**Table 6**  
**Coefficients (Color)**

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-.826	2.497		.742
	Color	1.854	.054	.961	.000

a. Dependent Variable: BIP

### Hypotheses

( $H_{02}$ ): The colors of the logo will not build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

( $H_2$ ): The colors of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

### Decision Making

If the Sig. value is  $>\alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ),  $H_0$  is not rejected,  $H_1$  is rejected

If the Sig. value is  $<\alpha$  ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ),  $H_0$  is rejected,  $H_1$  is not rejected

### Result

The sig. value of color variable in the coefficients table is 0.000. The value is lesser than  $\alpha$  (0.05). Thus,  $H_0$  is rejected and  $H_1$  is not rejected. The test proves that the colors of the logo will build certain perception of a brand which defines the company brand's personality.

## **Conclusion**

The conclusions of this research are as follows:

### 1. Relationship between logo shape and brand image perception

Multiple regression analysis conducted in previous chapter proved that logo shape is significantly influence brand image perception with the percentage of 92.5%. It conclude that the brand image of the hotel company is greatly affected by the



shape of the logo. The brand image perception is generated from the brand personality measured by the Aaker Brand Personality Scale.

## 2. Relationship between logo color and brand image perception

Multiple regression analysis conducted in previous chapter proved that color used in a logo is significantly influence brand image perception with the percentage of 92.4%. It conclude that the brand image of the hotel company is greatly affected by the color of the logo. The brand image perception is generated from the brand personality measured by the Aaker Brand Personality Scale.

Furthermore, practical recommendations are made for the hotel company in greater Jakarta Area in order to gain better understanding about Corporate Visual Identity (CVI) in term of logo and how it best applied to create the desired brand image perception through the utilization of shapes and colors.

1. It has been proven that the shape used in logo will determine how a brand perceived by the customers. Therefore, certain shape should be applied to create the desired personality of the hotel company. The personality will then be categorized into several dimensions in the Aaker Brand Personality Scale to define how the image of the brand is perceived by the customers. Some of the examples of shapes and its application in logo design are as follows:
  - If a hotel company desired to be seen as a sincere establishment, it is recommended for the company to use circle or horizontal lines as their logo shape.
  - For an exciting establishment, it is recommended for the company to use spirals, curves, or sharp angles shape for the logo.
  - Rectangle, if used as a hotel's logo will elaborate the establishment as competitive.
  
2. It was also proved that logo color plays an important role towards brand perception. Different color will be perceived differently since color has personality that can be categorized into several dimensions in the Aaker Brand Personality Scale. The dimensions will further define certain brand image that will be perceived by the customers. The examples of color application in logo design are presented below:
  - If a hotel company desired to be seen as a sincere establishment, it is recommended for the company to use white as the color of their logo.
  - Further, the color yellow, orange, and purple can described a hotel as an exciting establishment.
  - The color red and blue can symbolize a sense of competence if used in a hotel's logo.

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