Columbia. Road

Google Ads & Optimize

27.1.2021



Hi, nice to meet you!



Toni



Eero



Henrik



Esa



Antton







What today?

Theory 1h

- 1 Search engine marketing in a nutshell
- 2 How are search results organized?
- 3 Account structure and management
- 4 Keywords, ad texts and extensions
- 5 Campaign optimization and benchmark numbers
- 6 Practical tips
- 7 Google Optimize





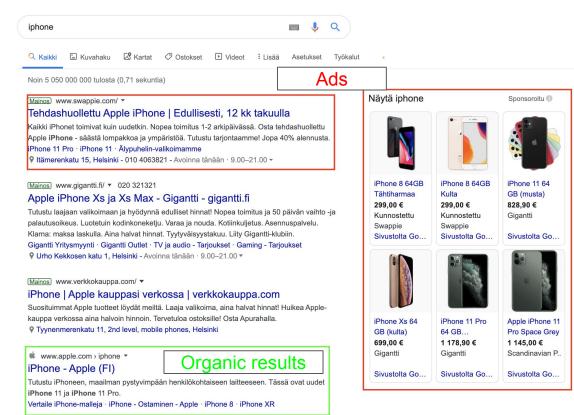
Henrik Gripenberg

Google Ads in a nutshell



The search engine results consist of different things

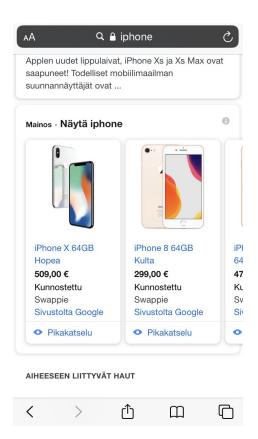
- Search engine ads and organic results make the base for search engine marketing(SEA+SEO=SEM)
- Each vendor can only show one ad per search
- Organic results cannot be bought
- You should think of all this as a whole



The search engine results consist of different things

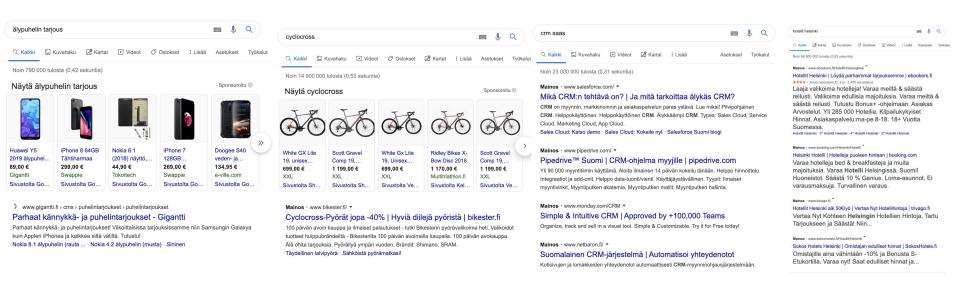
 Mobile and desktop ads look different and might possibly show different results





There are many different ways for google to show ads

Google is also constantly testing new ways of showing ads.



What you need to know to get started?

- Ads are targeting by using keywords
- Ads are priced per click
- The order of ads and the price per click is determined based on the ad rank
- Ads inventory = all searches done in google
- It is very easy to get started with Google Ads, but you have endless optimization possibilities.

Important Google Ads terms

CPC (Cost Per Click) = The price you pay per click.

Max CPC = The maximum click price that you are willing to pay. Determined by you.

CTR (Click-Through Rate) = Percentage that shows how many people that have seen our ad have clicked on it.

QS (Quality Score) = a score given by Google ads that measures the ads relevance for a certain keyword.

Ad auction = Auction made everytime someone makes a search in google

The better the CTR the better the quality score

Ad is shown more if quality score is good

2 How are search results organized?



How to get my ads shown?

Advertisers with a good ad rank shown highest on the page.



What is the quality score?

The quality score is an estimated number by google based on the following:

Click through rate

Ad text relevance

Landing page quality

The relevance of the keyword to the ad group

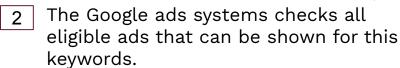
Historical account performance

Score 1-10 (1 = Bad, 10 = Excellent)

Ads chosen to the search engine page

1



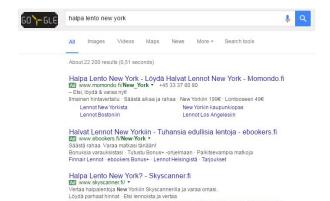




The order of ads is based on the following (Ad Rank = Quality Score * Max CPC)

Ad	Quality Score	Max CPC	Ad Rank	Order
Х	7	0.5	3.5	3
У	4	0.7	2.8	4
Z	2	0.3	0.6	5
b	10	0.6	6	1
С	3	1.3	3.9	2

4 Ads are shown in the following order



A few details

Advertisers are competing everytime someone makes a search

Ad rank = $QS \times Max CPC$

The max cpc that you set is not necessarily the price you pay

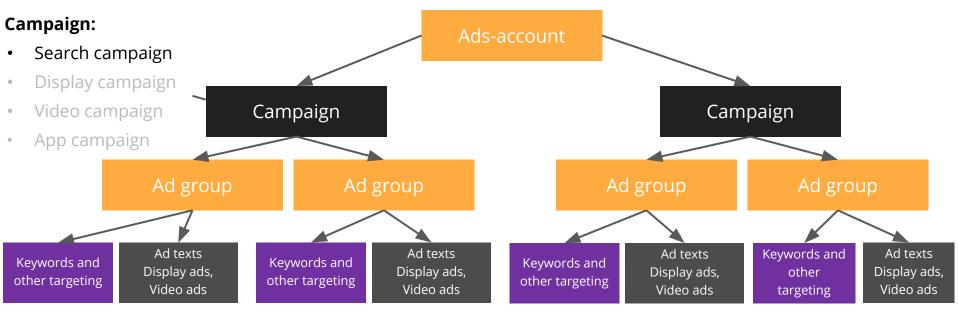
If you QS is low, the more you pay

3

Google Ads account structure and management



Google Ads -account structure

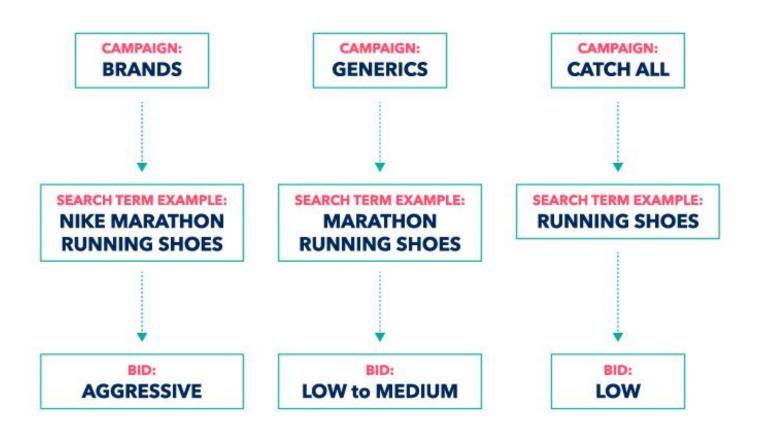


Campaign:

- Consists of at least one ad group
- The budget and for example country targeting is done on the campaign level.

Ad group:

Consists of at least one ad and one targeting type.



Google Ads -account management

Ads-account

Login information, billing information

Campaign

Daily budget

Language targeting

Device targeting and placement

Geographical targeting

Time settings

Start and end date

Ad group

Different bid for different ad groups

Keywords and other targeting

Ad texts Display ads, Video ads

Campaign

Daily budget

Language targeting

Device targeting and placement

Geographical targeting

Time settings

Start and end date

Ad group

Different bid for different ad groups

Keywords and other targeting

Ad texts Display ads, Video ads

Keywords, ad texts & -extensions and bidding



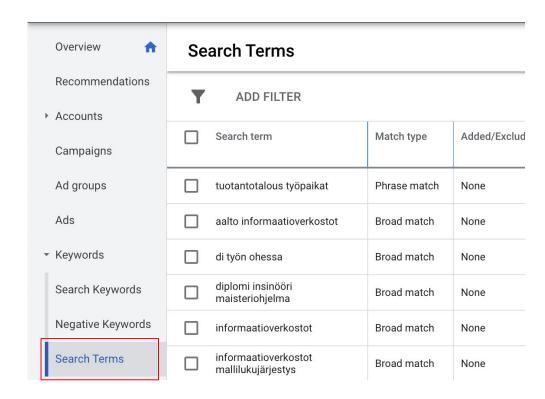
Keywords and match types are the basis of SEM

- Keywords are used to control when your ads are seen.
- You can decide how strict you want to be with keyword match type.
- Different match types usually have different prices
- Negative keywords are used to control campaigns
- Some keywords are not allowed (drugs, medication etc.)

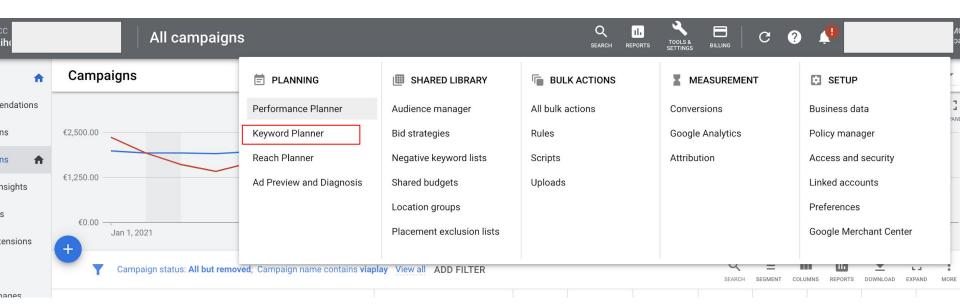
	Match type	Symbol	Example	Can be seen when	Example search	
0	Broad match	Nothing	Womens hats	Typos, synonyms, similar searches with broad scope	Buy womens hats Womens clothing	
ι	Broad match modifier	+keyword	+womens +hats	All terms including plus sign in any order and close matches to it	Womens clothes and hats Womens winter hats	
	Phrase match	"keyword"	eyword" "women Phrase or close match to it in exact order		Blue womens hats	
	Exact match	hats] clos		Exact or very close match to keyword	Womens hats Girls hats	

Search terms report

- Important tool in optimization
- Shows which keywords have triggered your ads.
- Used to find new keywords and add negative keywords.



Keyword planner





Tiimi

Palvelut Law stories



Legal Department as a Service

Palvelupaketit

Riidanratkaisu

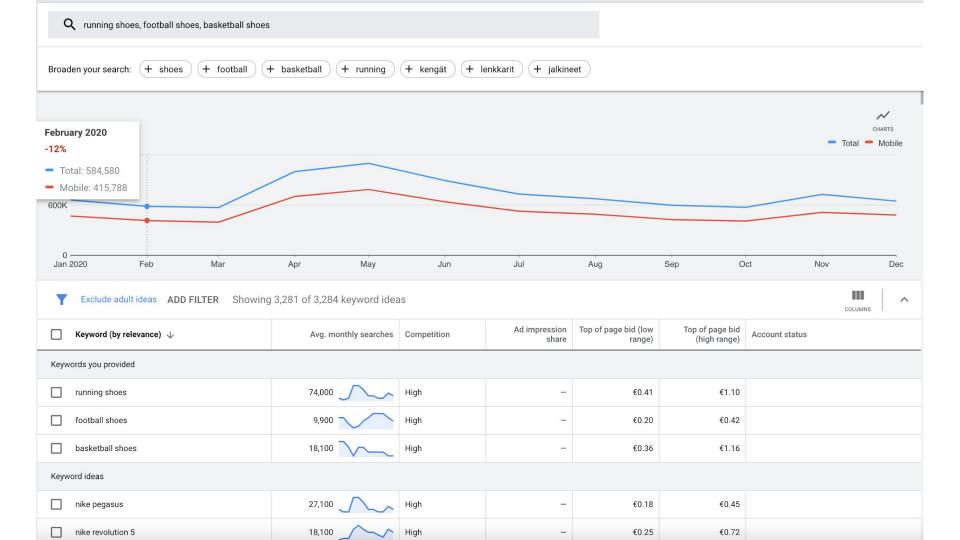
Finanssiala

Verotus

Yritysjärjestelyt ja rahoitus

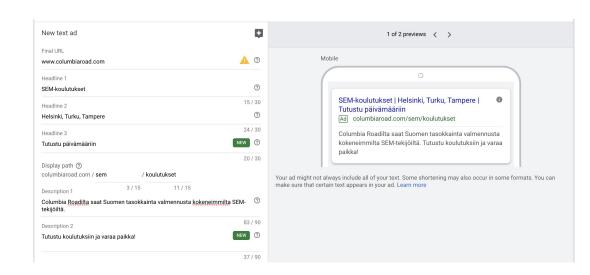
Koulutukset

Tapahtumakalenteri



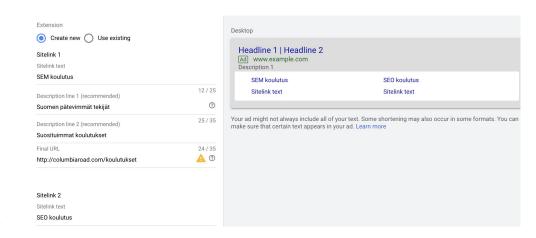
Ads

- Consists of URL, headlines and descriptions.
- Trying to reflect the users search so important to add keyword to ad.
- Some characters/symbols cannot be used
- Advertising on competitors keywords is grey zone.
- You don't have to use all characters.



Ads extensions

- Can be added on account, campaign or ad group level
- Making the ad bigger (CTR increase)
- Possibility to direct to users to the right place immediately
- Google decides if extensions are shown (black box)



Bids

- Bids are used to optimize how keywords enter auctions
- If you increase your bid, your ad rank increases.
- The actual click price is lower than your bid. Good to not have it too big or small
- Google ads tells you if your bid-level is not big enough for first page bid

Status	Max. CPC	Policy details	Final URL	Clicks	↓ Impr.	CTR	Ce
Campaign paused	€1.00 (enhance	Eligible	_	0	0	-	€0.
Campaign paused	€1.00 (enhance	Eligible	-	0	0	-	€0.
Campaign	£1.00 >						

5

Campaign optimization and benchmark numbers



Google Ads search campaign benchmark-numbers



Good CTR?

- Depends on the industry
- Typically 2 % is considered good
- 1% is enough in B2B sector
- E-commerce ads should strive for 5 % CTR
- Expect 30 % CTR for own brand keywords

Google Ads search campaign benchmark-numbers



Good CPC?

- Depends on the industry
- Typically 0,50 0,80 €
- Click prices can be very high on B2B sector
- Expect to pay 0,05-0,15 € for own brand keywords

Google Ads search campaign benchmark-numbers

Good quality score?

- Depends on the industry
- Higher than 6 is usually good
- Quality score usually 3-5 in B2B context



Important to optimize: CTR

→ When CTR gets better, all other numbers get better

What to do with low CTR?

If CTR is under 1 % you should start with:

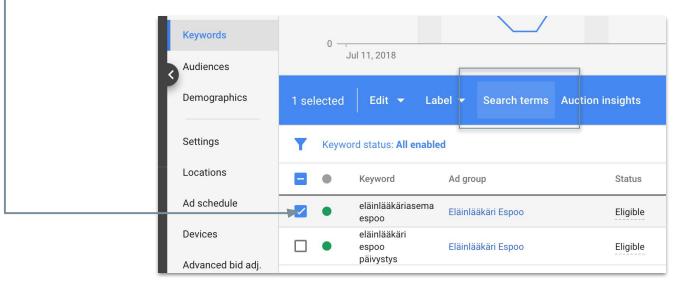
- → Checking keyword level data
- → Write new ads
- Divide keywords into different ad groups
- → Add extensions

Clicks	Impr.	CTR
75	15,925	0.47%
0	165	0.00%
5	616	0.81%
0	2,124	0.00%

What to do if CTR is low?

Case 1: one keyword brings 90 % of impressions

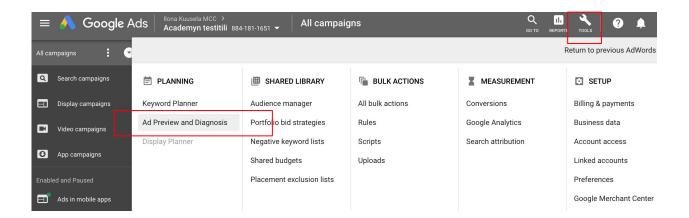
- → The ad group has one keyword that gets the majority of impressions
- → Choose this keyword and look at the search terms report
- → Are there irrelevant keywords? → Exclude from ad group



What to do if CTR is low?

Case 2: Ad text does not attract clicks

- → The ad text is not attractive for the user
- → Ad is possibly shown for irrelevant keywords. Is the ad text relevant for the search?
- → Does the ad include a clear call to action (CTA)?
- → Compare competitors ads (check Ad preview and diagnostics -tool)



What to do if CTR is low?

Case 3: Too many keywords in one ad group

- → Too many different keywords in one ad group
- → This leads to ad text shown for irrelevant terms
- → Check keyword list and identify different themes
- → For example "juomalasit" and "kahvikupit" are different themes
- → Make new ad groups and move keywords to them. Make sure that the new ad group has a more precise theme.



Kahvikupit
Osta kahvikuppeja
Kahviastiasto netistä

Kahvikupit verkkokaupasta | Luotettava toimitus

Ad www.astiastokauppa.com

Suurin valikoima kahvikuppeja. Löydä elämäsi kahviastiasto!

What to do if CTR is low?

Case 4: Add ad extensions

- → Ad extensions make the ad text more attractive and trustworthy
- → Add at least enough site links
- → If possible, also add phone number to ads.

Astiastot Hobby Hall - hobbyhall.fi

Mainos www.hobbyhall.fi/ ▼

Tilaa kodin sisustustuotteet Hobby Hallista. Tilaa heti! Jopa 48kk maksuaikaa. 14 päivän palautusoikeus. Maksuton palautus. Uutta: Kuukausiraha®. Tyypit: Kodinkoneet, Elektroniikka, Työkalut, Vaatteet, Sisustus, Urheilutarvikkeet, Kauneustuotteet.

Matot

Tilaa kodin matot helposti netistä. Nopea ja edullinen toimitus!

Koti ja sisustus

Katso ideat kodin sisustukseen. Tutustu tarjouksiin ja tilaa!

Other optimization

Bounce rate, quality score and click prices

What to do if bounce rate is high?

Bounce rate is high if it differs significantly from other traffic

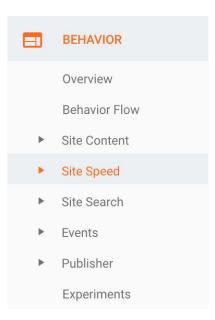
- → **Is the landing page relevant** regarding the search made
- → Is the ad text talking about the same things as the landing page
- → Is the page too slow?
 - Check benchmarks here:
 https://www.machmetrics.com/speed-blog/average-page-load-times-for-2020/

Behavior		
Bounce Rate	Pages / Session	Avg. Session Duration
66.08% Avg for View: 66.08% (0.00%)	2.04 Avg for View: 2.04 (0.00%)	00:01:20 Avg for View: 00:01:20 (0.00%)
67.78%	2.00	00:01:07
78.47%	1.44	00:00:38
53.53%	2.43	00:02:16
50.88%	2.78	00:02:17
86.37%	1.25	00:00:26
44.85%	3.02	00:02:19
88.97%	1.17	00:00:08
64.94%	2.16	00:01:12

What to do if site speed is slow?

If your page is slow if affects all visibility (not just SEM)

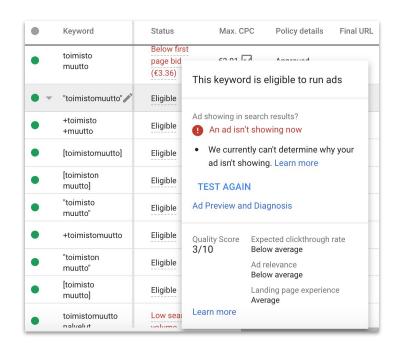
- → Check benchmarks here: https://www.machmetrics.com/speed-blog/average-page-load-times-for-2020/
- → Google's tips on making your site faster https://developers.google.com/speed/pagespeed/insights/
- → Check your site speed for different time periods in Google Analytics. Could be because of an update.



What to do if quality score is bad?

You should start to improve your quality score if it is between 1-5

- → Go back to how to improve CTR
 - ◆ This is the most important thing you can do
- → Check how to decrease bounce rate
- → Make new more relevant landing page



What to do if click prices are too high?

If the click prices are too high and you cannot raise your budget:

- → Increase your quality score
- → Refine your keyword targeting
 - Choose a handful of best working keywords and add them to an ad group with tight targeting
- → Stop using expensive keywords and try to find more "niche" -keywords which are possibly cheaper

Analyze your own campaign

→ Are some of your keywords too broadly chosen?



Check search terms -report

Add important keywords with "exact match"

→ Is the ad text relevant for all keywords in ad group?



Divide ad groups in tighter themes and make new ad group.

→ How do competitors ads look like?



Open Ad preview and diagnostics and use your search terms.

→ Are you using ad extensions?



Check your ad extensions list and thinks what else could be added

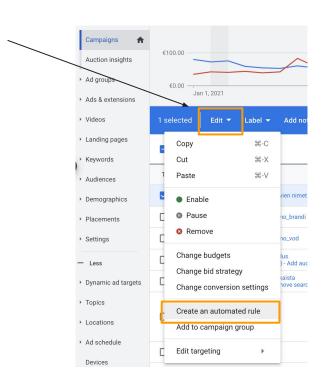
Useful automatic settings

Automated rules

Start and pause campaigns, ad texts, keywords when you want.

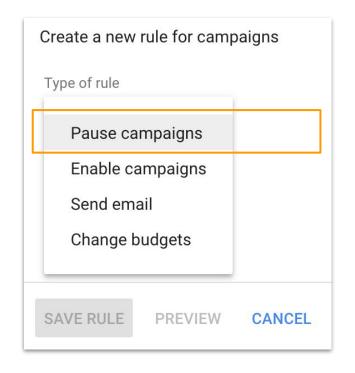
Automated rules

You can find the automated rules here:

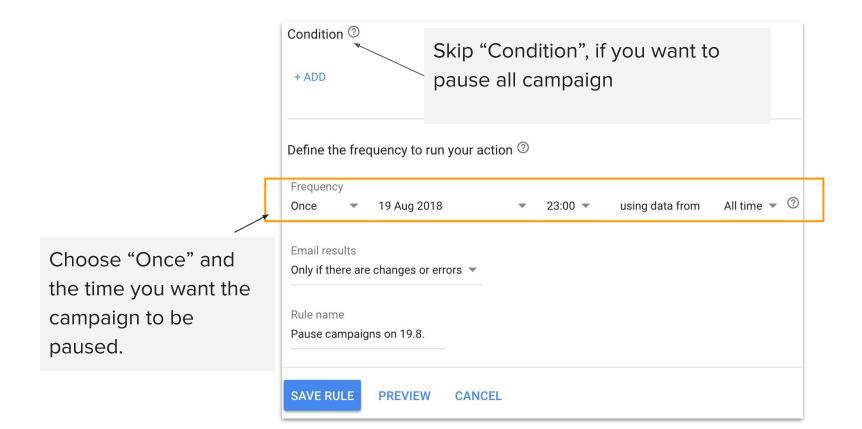


Automated rules - Pause campaigns

- → Typically used to pause campaigns
- → Different ads can be paused on the ads page
- → Different keywords on the keywords page
- → You can also for example lower or increase budget

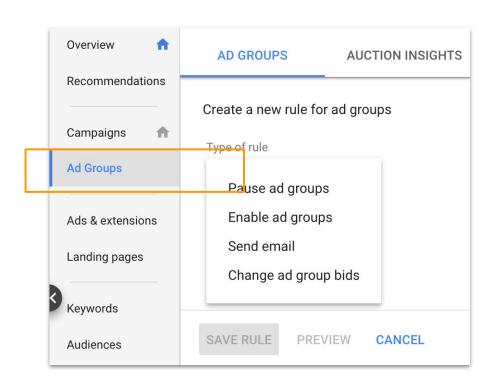


Automated rules - Pause campaigns



Automated rules on different pages

→ Different settings can be found for ad groups, ads, etc.



6 Practical tips



How to start?

- Start with one campaign with a small budget
 - o Broad match helps you to see better what people are searching for
- Google ads gives you data all the time, where to go next
 - What keywords are triggering your ads, what does it cost, who are you competing with
- Ads works as a testing platform
 - You can write x numbers of ads and see what performs best
 - Ad groups tell you what themes work and what does not
- Optimization and campaign management works in the same way despite size of account
 - o If bigger, you need to however rely on automation, scripts and other programs
- Google analytics and conversion tracking needs to be set

Worst mistakes

- Too many zeros in budget
- Using negative keywords in the wrong way
- Ads not approved for some reason = Zero visibility
- Ads triggered for wrong keyword

Google Optimize



Google Optimize

Optimize

- Separate web tool, modifies page after load
 - Independent from CMS
- Tight integration with Google Analytics
 - Detailed reports & insights available
- Personalization (change page based on users buying/browser history)

Advantages

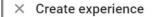
- Easy WYSIWYG editor & code injection possible
- Easy to do simple A/B Tests (Copy changes, button color, reorder & hide elements)
- Huge amount of data available
- Tests can be targeted to narrow user groups
- FREE basic version (limited to 5 tests running simultaneously)

Disadvantages

- Easy to break shopping funnel
- Complex or UX changes often require custom
 JS code
- Customization abilities highly depend on underlying HTML structure
- Never reaches 100% of users (Ad & Cookie blockers)

Testing possibilities

- 4 different tests are possible
- A/B test most common
- Multivariate test needs more traffic
- Redirect if you want to test bigger changes on your site



CREATE



e.g. My experience

0 / 255

What is the URL of the page you'd like to use? This is called your **editor page**. * ② e.g. http://www.example.com or www.example.com

What type of experience would you like to create?



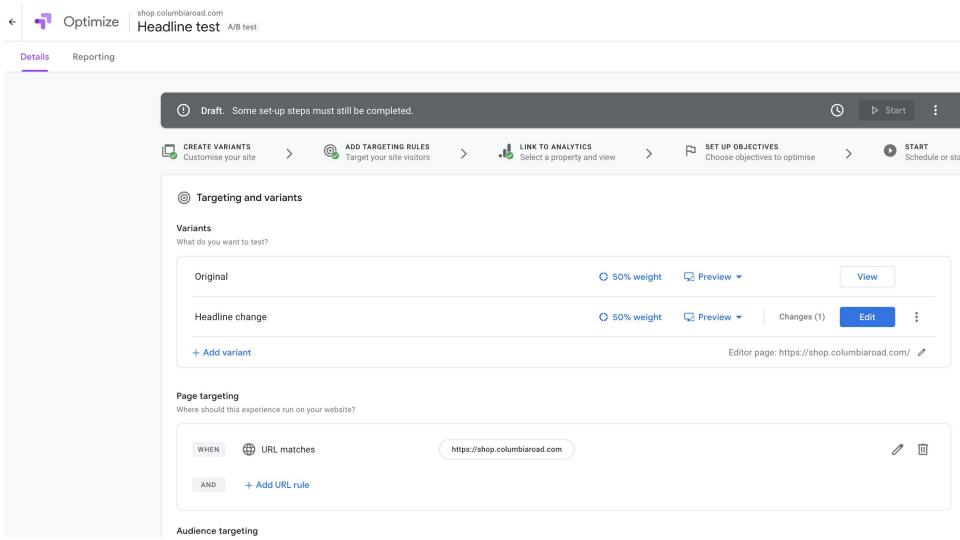




What can you test?

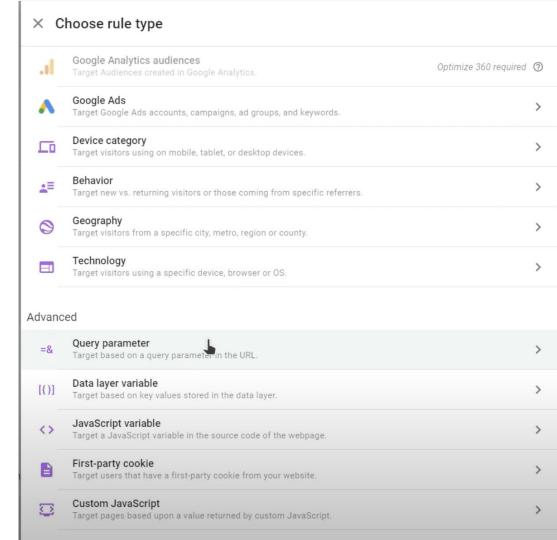
- Button text
- Color
- Delete sections
- Redirect





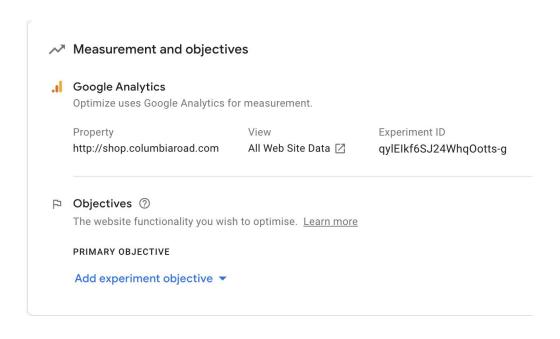
Targeting

- Google Ads
- Devices
- Geography
- Behavior
- Parameters
- Or more advanced



Measurement and objectives

- E.g goals from Google Analytics
- Page views
- Bounces
- Session duration
- Or create custom events



A/B testing example

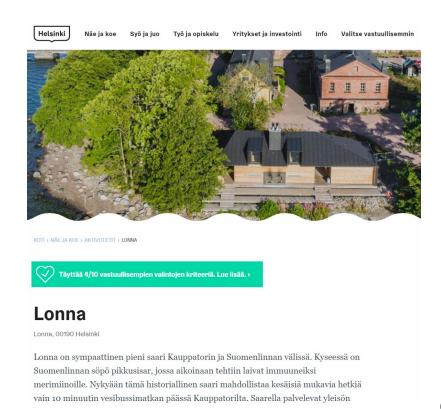


Lonna

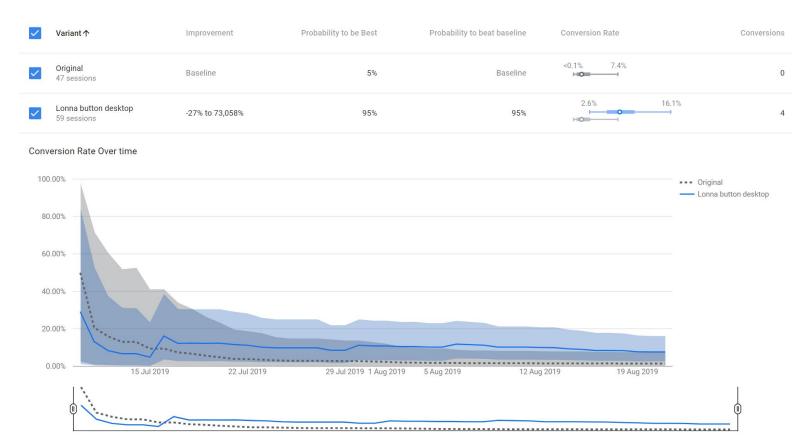
Lonna, 00190 Helsinki

Täyttää 4/10 vastuullisempien valintojen kriteeriä

Lonna on sympaattinen pieni saari Kauppatorin ja Suomenlinnan välissä. Kyseessä on Suomenlinnan söpö pikkusisar, jossa aikoinaan tehtiin laivat immuuneiksi merimiinoille. Nykyään tämä historiallinen saari mahdollistaa kesäisiä mukavia hetkiä vain 10 minuutin vesibussimatkan päässä Kauppatorilta. Saarella palvelevat yleisön suosioon noussut Lonnan Ravintola katettuine terasseineen sekä Kahvila & Baari.



A/B testing example

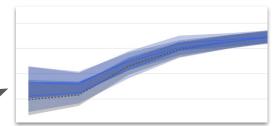


Statistical background for A/B testing

Statistical significance (Call a winner)

Things you need to call a winner

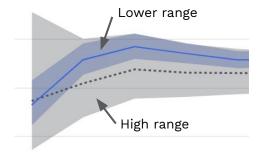
- **Sufficient data** = Representative sample of your audience
 - Minimum sample size depends on total audience size (example: Amazon needs a bigger sample size than Tokmanni)
 - Absolute minimum is 100 conversions (not visitors) per experiment (example: If you have a conversion rate 1%, absolute minimum is 10.000 visitors)
- Consistent data = test needs to keep winning for 5 days
 - If your lines keep crossing it means either:
 - (A) You don't have enough data
 - (B) Your test doesn't produce a statistically measurable difference
 - Bigger sites usually have -1% to +1% fluctuation (smaller sites are often -2% to +2%)
 - The higher the lift, the lower is the sample size you need to have a statistically relevant improvement



Statistical confidence

How high does my statistical confidence need to be to call a winner?

- Find different answers: 90%, 95%, 99% confidence level
- If you make sure that you have previous factors considered (Sufficient data, consistent data), you can go with a lower confidence level (90%),



8 Questions



Columbia Road