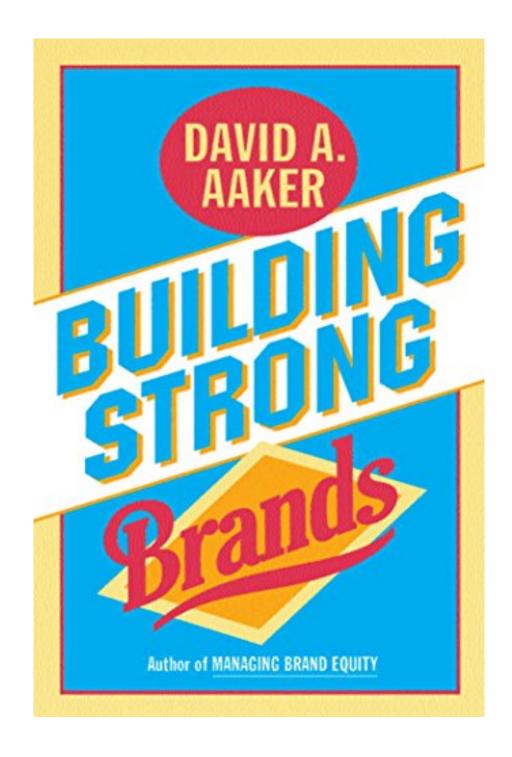


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From Publishers Weekly

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Joel Jones, Kansas Cty. P.L., Mo.

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As industries turn increasingly hostile, it is clear that strong brand-building skills are needed to survive and prosper. In David Aaker's pathbreaking book, Managing Brand Equity, managers discovered the value of a brand as a strategic asset and a company's primary source of competitive advantage. Now, in this compelling new work, Aaker uses real brand-building cases from Saturn, General Electric, Kodak, Healthy Choice, McDonald's, and others to demonstrate how strong brands have been created and managed.

A common pitfall of brand strategists is to focus on brand attributes. Aaker shows how to break out of the box by considering emotional and self-expressive benefits and by introducing the brand-as-person, brand-as-organization, and brand-as-symbol perspectives. The twin concepts of brand identity (the brand image that brand strategists aspire to create or maintain) and brand position (that part of the brand identity that is to be actively communicated) play a key role in managing the "out-of-the-box" brand.

A second pitfall is to ignore the fact that individual brands are part of a larger system consisting of many intertwined and overlapping brands and subbrands. Aaker shows how to manage the "brand system" to achieve clarity and synergy, to adapt to a changing environment, and to leverage brand assets into new markets and products.

Aaker also addresses practical management issues, introducing a set of brand equity measures, termed the brand equity ten, to help those who measure and track brand equity across products and markets. He presents and analyzes brand-nurturing organizational forms that are responsive to the challenges of coordinated brands across markets, products, roles, and contexts. Potentially destructive organizational pressures to change a brand's identity and position are also discussed.

As executives in a wide range of industries seek to prevent their products and services from becoming commodities, they are recommitting themselves to brands as a foundation of business strategy. This new work will be essential reading for the battle-ready.

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Most helpful customer reviews

21 of 22 people found the following review helpful. smart and thorough

By A Customer

The single most useful book I've found on brand development. Aaker presents a thorough, but easy to read

exploration of the many branding complexities. Giving the reader a framework of inter-related concepts, he gels the essence of each point with useful examples. You immediately understand the idea and move comfortably on to the next - quite an accomplishment for such a complex subject.

If I have one frustration, it's that even with his flowcharts and figures, I suspect there is a comprehensive diagram to be had which would tie all the branding issues and dimensions into a single profile. After reading the book I found myself trying to flowchart it all to better see the relationships involved. It would have been helpful if the author had done it for us.

Even so, I value the book highly and it will become a central reference for my entire staff.

39 of 49 people found the following review helpful.

Academic Drivel

By A Customer

I found this book to be poorly organized, over-articulated mush. As someone who has worked on several extremely successful brands including Sony and the "Virginia is for Lovers" campaign, I would be shocked to see that this book had received high marks from anyone who actually worked in advertising, marketing or brand management. Yes, Aaker has some decent insights into brand management in his case studies --hindsight is 20/20. Unfortunately, they're difficult to find, since his writing is extremely repetitive and verbose. One gets the impression he is more interested in communicating how intelligent he is, than actual information on brand equity. There are a few bits of good information buried in the middle of the book, but it is not worth the long, painful journey to get to them. Read it only if you are having trouble falling asleep.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

A Modern Branding Touchstone

By Dan Wallace

Professor David Aaker is a contemporary pioneer in brand management, and this book is a touchstone. The text can be professorial and theoretical, but it provides useful food for thought.

In general, I find his analysis the most interesting. He divides brand assets into: 1) Name Awareness; 2) Loyalty; 3) Perceived Quality; 4) Brand Associations. He further divides brands into corporate brands, endorser brands, ingredient brands, brand extensions, and sub-brands. His Brand Identity Planning model is another useful division of brand concepts.

As a marketing practitioner, the most useful model in the book is this Brand Personality Scale which categorizes five brand personalities: 1) Sincerity; 2) Excitement; 3) Competence; 4) Sophistication; 5) Ruggedness. I heard that this model is the result of a well structured and comprehensive study, and that 95% of all brand personalities fit into this taxonomy. It makes intuitive sense, and I use this model frequently.

The book does not focus on customer experience, innovation, social media, or bottom-up marketing. (Although Aakers' firm, Prophet, does.) Building Strong Brands assumes a traditional top-down, message driven, big corporate approach to branding. This question is: Are brands the result of something corporations does to customers, or are brands the result of something customers do to corporations?

For more recent ideas on brand building, I suggest Clued In, Primal Branding, and Blue Ocean Strategy.

Blue Ocean Strategy: How to Create Uncontested Market Space and Make Competition Irrelevant Primalbranding: Create Zealots for Your Brand, Your Company, and Your Future

Clued In: How to Keep Customers Coming Back Again and Again

See all 30 customer reviews...

Be the first to obtain this book now and also get all reasons why you need to read this Building Strong Brands By David A. Aaker Guide Building Strong Brands By David A. Aaker is not only for your obligations or requirement in your life. E-books will certainly always be a buddy in every time you check out. Now, let the others understand about this web page. You could take the benefits and discuss it also for your friends as well as people around you. By through this, you could actually obtain the definition of this book **Building Strong Brands By David A. Aaker** beneficially. What do you assume regarding our concept right here?

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