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Visual identity speaks volumes
Introduction

Just as the University is evolving, the communications world is getting more complicated, with new options seeming to pop up every day. The visual identity standards outlined here were developed by the Office of Communications and External Relations, in conjunction with collaborators across the University, to assist McGill faculty and staff in using the various elements of the University’s visual identity consistently. While this document attempts to be comprehensive, we understand that needs are diverse and ever-changing and encourage you to contact us with any questions or particular requirements you may have.

DEFINING “VISUAL IDENTITY”

What is a visual identity?

It includes, but is not limited to, an organization’s:

- **Name**, when it appears in writing;
- **Official logo** and other visual symbols and iconic images traditionally associated with the organization;
- **Official colours** and secondary palettes;
- **Official Typography**;
- **Recognized templates** for publications, websites and other communications materials;
- **Quality photography and effective graphics and layouts**.
McGill’s visual symbols have historic significance and are well-known, making the University’s visual identity an important tool in communicating not only to the University community and to alumni, but also to the larger public.

The importance of consistency
Research shows that effective communications materials; print, electronic or web-based, send a clear and consistent message both through words – and look and feel. If we always use the McGill visual identity and adhere to mutually accepted standards, we are helping to build and enhance McGill’s reputation worldwide.

Consistent visual identity is important for a number of reasons, including:

- It reinforces identity. When we create a consistent visual identity through use of symbols, colour and design, the material we produce is instantly recognized as coming from McGill University (which is especially important in an age of information overload);
- It enhances visibility for the University. We have great stories to tell and effective use of our visual identity helps ensure people are paying attention and will remember our messages.
- It enhances the impression of a cohesive and focused institution.
- It results in communications that look more professional, without adding to the cost. Indeed, consistency can help control cost by providing a standard starting point.
- It serves as a unifying force for members of our diverse community, be they students, employees or supporters.
A balance between consistency and creativity

While the use of McGill's official logo should adhere to strict standards, there is room for creativity, for example through a choice of typefaces and the pairing of official colours with complementary secondary colour palettes. Also, templates for specific communications materials provide for more than one option and will evolve over time. The logo standards and other design tools have been developed to help you communicate effectively with the wide range of audiences that the University addresses.

Use by third parties

The University's logo and related elements are registered trademarks. Their use by third parties – any person or organization other than those employed by the University or acting as its agent – is thus prohibited, except where written authorization has been obtained from the Office of Communications and External Relations or where the University has entered into a written agreement permitting such use. Faculty and staff shall refrain from encouraging use of the trademarks by third parties unless specific approval has been obtained. Note that McGill students and student organizations are considered third parties and are not permitted to use McGill's trademarks, except where approved in writing.
INTRODUCTION

The McGill Logo

The University logo is a trademark composed of two basic elements – the shield icon and the wordmark. The following pages illustrate the elements associated with the logo, their relationship to each other, proper and improper usage and special applications.
2.1 / Logo Elements and Coat of Arms

2.1.1 Logo elements

The shield’s shape and main elements – in particular the martlets – are a strong and familiar visual. The three red martlets on a silver background (white, for the University’s purposes) are taken from the arms of the family of James McGill, the founder of the University. The open book at the top of the shield is the heraldic symbol of an institution of learning. The book bears the words In Domino Confido (“I trust in the Lord”), which was the motto used by James McGill. Two crowns, one on either side of the book, refer to Montreal’s royal name and are composed of fleur de lys as a reminder of the city’s French origin. Montreal’s three hills are represented by three peaks above the martlets.

The wordmark “McGill” is custom-designed, meaning the six letters – based on the Garamond typeface – have been designed as a single image and cannot be typed as a word. It is not possible to reproduce the wordmark with standard printing typefaces and other typefaces may not be substituted.

2.1.2 Coat of Arms

The McGill Coat of Arms consists of two parts, the shield and the scroll. It is reserved for special circumstances and should not be used as a substitute for the logo. The Coat of Arms is derived from an armorial device assumed by James McGill. The University’s patent of arms was granted by England’s Garter-King-at-Arms in 1922 and registered in 1956 with Lord Lyon King of Arms in Edinburgh and in 1992 with the Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada. In heraldic terms, the Coat of Arms is described as follows: “Argent three Martlets Gules, on a chief dancette of the second, an open book proper garnished or bearing the legend In Domino Confido in letters Sable between two crowns of the first.”

Motto: Grandescunt Aucta Labore (‘By work all things increase and grow’).
2.2 / Space and Size

2.2.1 Proportion and vital space

The McGill logo has been designed with specific proportions, spacing and alignments that enhance its legibility and impact. These are reflected in all official logo files.

The main unit of measurement for spacing used in this manual is based on half the width of the shield (.5x).

The logo and brand extensions should be surrounded by at least .5x vital space to ensure their integrity and clarity and separate them from any other text or graphic elements. Regardless of the logo’s size, the proportions remain the same.

2.2.2 Minimum size

The shield should never be reproduced under .25" in width. In general, the wordmark should not be reproduced under 1" with the exception of certain special applications (see section 2.6.3b). Remember, except in rare circumstances, it is required to use the full logo rather than one or the other of its parts.
2.3 / Application Principles

2.3.1 Black version

The logo can be used in black when it is used in monochrome and duotone projects where the use of red is not possible. Whenever possible, the red version is preferred.

2.3.2 Reverse version

When the logo is printed on McGill red or a dark background, the reverse version of the McGill signature should be used. As seen on the left, the wordmark becomes white but the colours of the shield stay the same with only a white outline added around it. The colours of the shield should not be inverted (i.e. the martlets remain red on white and the crowns and book white on red).
2.3 / Application Principles

2.3.3 General application principles

- The logo should appear on the front of all printed and digital documents.
- The shield, wordmark and/or logo must not be modified in any way.
- The shield may never appear in any colour other than McGill red, or black, or – for special, approved, circumstances – silver or gold.
- The logo should always be clearly legible. Avoid overly busy backgrounds.
- The logo must never be used as a headline or set into text as part of a sentence.
- Always maintain vital space around the logo when it is adjacent to other items or the edge of the page.
- The logo should always be used horizontally. It should not be rotated.
- The McGill logo or the individual elements that compose it (shield, martlet, wordmark, etc) cannot be included within another logo (see section 2.5 – page 17).
2.4 / Logo Extensions

2.4.1 a) One-tier extensions (bilingual)

All font and line sizes shown here are relation to the logo at minimum size (i.e. the shield is 0.25” wide) and should be resized proportionally to the logo. The whole logo can appear in either red, “reversed” or black versions. In the English extension, each word is capitalised. In the French, only the first word and proper nouns are.

The horizontal option uses a black divider line of 0.5 pt thickness and 0.36” height (equivalent to 3 lines of text – see 2.4.1c). The extension text block is centred vertically along the height of the M in McGill.

For the vertical version, there is no divider line and the extension text block is aligned with left stem of the M.

Although both horizontal and vertical options are available, the horizontal one is preferred.

2.4.1 b) One-tier extensions (with prepositions)

Both lines are typeset in McGill Sans Medium. In English, the preposition stays on the first line but in French it goes on the second one.
2.4 / Logo Extensions

2.4.1 c) One-tier extensions (longer unit names)

A three-line logo extension is the maximum.

2.4.1 d) One-tier extensions (unilingual)

As with the bilingual version, the horizontal option is preferred.
2.4 / Logo Extensions

2.4.2 a) Two-tier extensions (unilingual)

The subordinate unit’s name is set in McGill Sans Regular. It must not be longer than three lines.

2.4.2 b) Two-tier extensions (bilingual horizontal)

The English and French main unit names are placed side-by-side to the right of McGill (same as in the one-tier horizontal option) and the subordinate units are placed 2 pts below. The subordinate units are set in McGill Sans Regular.

2.4.2 c) Two-tier extensions (bilingual vertical)

The English and French main unit names are placed side-by-side under McGill (same as in the one-tier vertical option) and the subordinate units are placed 2 pts below. The subordinate units are set in McGill Sans Regular.
2.4 / Logo Extensions

2.4.3 Special logo extensions

a) University

The words ‘University’ and ‘Université’ can be displayed as shown but are only to be used in cases where it is deemed that the logo by itself may not be sufficient to clearly identify McGill as an educational institution.

b) Macdonald campus

In efforts to better integrate both campuses, the Macdonald Campus shield with its combination of green and gold is no longer used to separately denote the Macdonald Campus. Instead, the word Macdonald, or the words Macdonald Campus or Campus Macdonald, is/are displayed under the McGill logo, as shown. The Macdonald shield may be used only under special circumstances.
2.4 / Logo Extensions

2.4.4 Improper extensions

**DO NOT:**

a) Mix type weights on the same line.

b) Use McGill Sans Medium for anything other than a unit designation e.g. ‘Faculty of’ or a two-tier subordinate unit (see 2.4.2).

c) Use more than three lines max for any logo extension.
2.5 / Other Logos

2.5.1 a) Named faculties

No academic unit (including its programs) other than one covered by the Policy Relating to the Naming of University Assets, may develop a secondary logo (see page 56).

The University strongly encourages all units to use an extended version of the McGill logo, rather than develop their own separate logo. Secondary logos may be used only with approval from the Office of Communications and External Relations and only in conjunction with the McGill logo. If you are planning to use an image consistently, e.g. for a recurring event, consideration should be given to visual identity issues, whether or not the image constitutes an official logo.

The University’s named faculties (Desautels Faculty of Management and Schulich School of Music) have, with permission, created their own logos for which separate standards have been developed. Both logos are used in conjunction with the McGill logo. For further information about the branding guidelines of these particular faculties, please contact their communications offices.

![McGill DESAUTEELS](image1)

2.5.1 b) Named schools

A few University schools are also named after a donor, like the Max Bell School of Public Policy. In cases where they have their own logo, the latter is placed in a similar manner to faculty names, that is, to the right of the McGill logo and separated by a vertical line not closer than half the shield. The vertical line’s height can vary according to the school’s logo. Care should be taken to balance the school’s and McGill’s logo so that neither dominates the other visually.

![McGill MAX BELL SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY](image2)
2.5 / Other Logos

2.5.1 c) Other approved logo

No academic unit (including its programs) other than one covered by the Policy Relating to the Naming of University Assets, may develop a secondary logo.

2.5.1 c) Other approved logo

The University has given permission to use a variation of the logo in the following case:

McGill Athletics and Recreation

This logo may be used on sports equipment and promotional items. It is to be used solely by Athletics and Recreation, in accordance with standards created for its use.

2.5.1 d) New secondary logos

Units seeking to create a secondary logo must request permission from the Office of Communications and External Relations and must work with its Graphic Design unit which will ensure that any secondary logo harmonizes with McGill visual identity standards. Graphic Design can also provide instruction as to how secondary logos may be used.

Unless approved by the Office of Communications and External Relations, the McGill logo or the individual elements that compose it (shield, martlet, wordmark, logo) CANNOT be included within the new logo.

2.5.1 e) Pairing a secondary logo with the McGill logo

If pairing a secondary logo with McGill’s, the only accepted placement is to position the secondary logo to the right of McGill’s, separated by a black divider line, with half the width of the crest between each element, similar to extension names (see section 2.4). The secondary logo can also be placed separately from the McGill logo, but the latter must then appear prominently elsewhere on the same page. Care should be taken to balance the secondary logo and McGill’s so that neither visually dominates the other.
2.6 / Special Applications

2.6.1 Logo on special materials

CORRECT application on glass

INCORRECT application on glass

2.6.2 Other special applications (large formats)

2.6.3 a) Other special applications (large formats)

When producing special types of communications, such as banners, signs or items where the size of type must be visible from a distance, type can be placed next to the logo as long as vital spaces are respected.

2.6.2 b) Other special applications (small formats)

2.6.3 b) Other special applications (small formats)

For very small applications, the shield may be dropped from the logo and the wordmark may be reduced to fit. Vital spaces should be respected as much as possible.
2.7 / Use of Other McGill Symbols

2.7.1 Martlet Icon

**CORRECT APPLICATION**

The red bird called a martlet is one of McGill's most recognizable symbols. Martlets can be used as added elements on brochures, newsletters or any University collateral. The martlet has no feet and thus always appears in flight.

Approval by the Office of Communications and External Relations is required should you wish to use a martlet as a design element.
INTRODUCTION

Visual System

The University’s visual system is used to implement the brand across various media. Official colours, typefaces and visual elements are important in creating a consistent graphic look and feel, and ensuring a unified and strong brand.
3.1 / Colour Palette

One Rule for Colour: Use McGill Red

McGill Red is our colour to own. As long as McGill Red is incorporated into our layouts (alongside the McGill logo), we can be free to choose the rest of our palette.

Colour is a strong identifier and using the distinctive McGill Red will ensure connection across communications whether we are using type, illustration, photography or pattern for our communications.

3.1.1 McGill Red

McGill Red is CMYK 0 100 90 0.

For electronic display, the RGB (red, green and blue) value is: R237, G27, B47 or Hexadecimal value #ed1b2f.

Pantone Solid 185 is used when printing in one or two colours.
# 3.1 / Colour Palette

## 3.1.2 Secondary colours

McGill’s secondary colours, are not official but rather suggested colours that cover a larger spectrum to complement the McGill red. They can be used to add variety and contrast for headings, bullets, background and other graphic elements.

### PASTELS

- **CMYK**: 0 14 47 0
- **RGB**: 255 215 148
- **HEX**: #FFD794

- **CMYK**: 0 2 52 0
- **RGB**: 255 241 147
- **HEX**: #FFF193

- **CMYK**: 28 0 12 0
- **RGB**: 181 225 225
- **HEX**: #B5E1E1

- **CMYK**: 20 0 2 0
- **RGB**: 200 234 245
- **HEX**: #C8EAF5

- **CMYK**: 18 0 43 0
- **RGB**: 213 230 168
- **HEX**: #D5E6A8

- **CMYK**: 8 40 0 0
- **RGB**: 226 167 204
- **HEX**: #E2A7CC

### BRIGHTS

- **CMYK**: 0 50 100 0
- **RGB**: 247 148 29
- **HEX**: #F7941D

- **CMYK**: 0 15 100 0
- **RGB**: 255 212 0
- **HEX**: #FFD400

- **CMYK**: 70 0 30 0
- **RGB**: 39 189 190
- **HEX**: #27BDBE

- **CMYK**: 60 0 0 0
- **RGB**: 68 200 245
- **HEX**: #44C8F5

- **CMYK**: 35 0 100 0
- **RGB**: 178 210 53
- **HEX**: #B2D235

- **CMYK**: 20 72 0 0
- **RGB**: 199 104 169
- **HEX**: #C768A9

### MUTED

- **CMYK**: 13 72 76 2
- **RGB**: 211 103 74
- **HEX**: #D3674A

- **CMYK**: 0 20 90 10
- **RGB**: 232 185 46
- **HEX**: #E8B92E

- **CMYK**: 86 35 40 6
- **RGB**: 8 127 140
- **HEX**: #087F8C

- **CMYK**: 80 10 0 15
- **RGB**: 0 150 201
- **HEX**: #0096C9

- **CMYK**: 50 23 87 3
- **RGB**: 139 160 78
- **HEX**: #8BA04E

- **CMYK**: 40 76 33 6
- **RGB**: 155 86 120
- **HEX**: #9B5678

### DARKS

- **CMYK**: 0 72 75 35
- **RGB**: 170 75 49
- **HEX**: #AA4B31

- **CMYK**: 35 45 100 0
- **RGB**: 178 140 53
- **HEX**: #B28C35

- **CMYK**: 90 45 53 23
- **RGB**: 10 98 102
- **HEX**: #0A6266

- **CMYK**: 97 66 38 20
- **RGB**: 48 85 52
- **HEX**: #024F6D

- **CMYK**: 78 42 86 40
- **RGB**: 65 90 31 18
- **HEX**: #9E0918

- **CMYK**: 0 150 90 40
- **RGB**: 158 9 24
- **HEX**: #9E0918

### BLACK & NEUTRAL GREY

- **CMYK**: 0 0 0 100
- **RGB**: 0 0 0
- **HEX**: #000000

- **CMYK**: 0 0 0
- **RGB**: 0 0 0
- **HEX**: #000000

- **CMYK**: 66 52 44 17
- **RGB**: 93 103 112
- **HEX**: #5D6770

- **CMYK**: 66 52 44 17
- **RGB**: 93 103 112
- **HEX**: #5D6770

- **CMYK**: 66 52 44 17
- **RGB**: 93 103 112
- **HEX**: #5D6770
3.2 / Typography

One Rule for Type: Use McGill Typeface

The University has its own unique typeface with both serif and sans serif that have been designed to use interchangeably. It is a flexible face that has been created for use in graphics, headlines, body copy, as well as informational needs like diagrams and captions. When used together, they signal the multifaceted spirit and eclecticism of McGill. The McGill Typeface may be downloaded here.

3.2.1 The McGill Typeface

McGill Sans

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Regular

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Medium

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Medium Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Bold

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Bold Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

McGill Serif

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Regular

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Medium

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Medium Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Bold

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```

Bold Italic

```
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
```
3.2 / Typography

3.2.2 Word, Outlook and PowerPoint typefaces

Arial

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
Regular

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
Italic

Times

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
Regular

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890
Italic

3.2.4 Word, Outlook and PowerPoint typefaces

When it is not possible to install the McGill typefaces on the computer and when composing emails, please use the system fonts Arial and Times Roman as substitutes.
3.2 / Typography

3.2.3 The McGill Typeface in application

Grounded by our mission, and guided by the spirit of learning and discovery, we are exploring new ways of looking at the world.

Mixing

Grounded by our mission, and guided by the spirit of learning and discovery, we are exploring new ways of looking at the world.

McGill Sans Medium

Grounded by our mission, and guided by the spirit of learning and discovery, we are exploring new ways of looking at the world.

McGill Serif Italic

Grounded by our mission, and guided by the spirit of learning and discovery, we are exploring new ways of looking at the world.

McGill Serif Regular
Visual System

3.1 Colour Palette
   3.1.1 McGill Red
   3.1.2 Secondary colours

3.2 Typography
   3.2.1 The McGill Typeface
   3.2.2 Word, Outlook, PowerPoint
   3.2.3 The McGill Typeface in application

3.3 Lookbook
   3.3.1 The Visual World
   3.3.2 Use of Photography

3.4 Made Platform
   3.4.1 Made by McGill
   3.4.2 Visual Overview
   3.4.3 Tools

### 3.3 / Lookbook

#### 3.3.1 The Visual World

“For me, a graduate degree is about building yourself up. The experience and knowledge you gain, nobody can take it away from you.”

Hyacinth Ali
PhD Candidate
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Future of Retail is here.
The Fashion Retailing Conference
April 27-28, 2018

Planning for Resiliency in the face of Climate Change
Wednesday and Thursday, April 4 and Thursday, April 5
Centre Mont-Royal

Grounded by our mission, and guided by the spirit of learning and discovery, we are exploring new ways of looking at the world.
3.3 / Lookbook

3.3.2 Use of photography

Portraying the beauty of McGill’s campus, the amazing accomplishments of its vibrant community and the small pleasures of everyday life at the University is key to maintaining a strong brand. Here are some best practices for the capture and use of photography:

3.3.2 a) Copyright

Before using any photo in your publication, ensure that the rights to its use have been obtained and that proper credit is attributed. The University has a bank of photos that can be used for McGill-related documents. You may also use creative-commons or royalty-free stock images or commission your own photos. You should NOT obtain and use photos from the Internet or other sources if you are unsure about its copyright status.

3.3.2 b) Quality

To avoid pixilation, ensure that all images are of high quality, at least a resolution of 72 dpi for web and 300 dpi for print.

3.3.2 c) Style

It is best if your photos represent real McGill people and locations. However, when this is not possible, the use of stock photography is fine if it matches the University’s overall branding and positioning. Avoid very cliché and generic shots and favour authenticity, honesty and originality.

3.3.2 d) Subjects

Subjects in photographs should appear natural and spontaneous, rather than heavily staged or posed. While shooting portraits, subjects should convey confidence and ease.

Avoid corporate logos, very busy or potentially offensive graphics on the subject’s clothes or props they are holding.
3.3 / Lookbook

3.3.2 e) Framing and composition
Photographs should be framed to lead the eye towards one focal point. This could be a person, object or place. For a more dramatic effect, consider using close-ups and tighter framing during the design phase rather than when capturing the picture to allow for more flexibility.

Avoid very cluttered backgrounds. A bokeh effect, where the background is blurred out, can help in isolating and focusing on the main subject.

While capturing action, include the context in the frame to provide relevant information to viewers.

3.3.2 f) Contrast and lighting
Capture photos with unfiltered colours and natural contrast for a true-to-life representation of the McGill story.

For portraits, make sure the subject’s face is well lit, favouring soft contrast and avoiding harsh shadows. Use of a flash is recommended when shooting indoors and when there is insufficient natural light.

You may contact The Office of Communications and External Relations for information about the shared photo bank or questions regarding photo credits.
3.4 / Made Platform

3.4.1 Made by McGill is our creative brand platform.
We use it for recruitment, fundraising, among other marketing initiatives.

If you are interested in using the Made by McGill platform, please contact McGill Communications and External Relations allison.j.flynn@mcgill.ca or jean-bernard.ngmansun@mcgill.ca
3.4 / Made Platform

3.4.2 Visual Overview

In this stream of brand and campaign communications, consistency is crucial to making an impact at scale.
3.4 / Made Platform

3.4.3 Tools

We incorporate McGill Red and specific McGill typefaces for Made by McGill communications, along with a distinct mark and photography style.

For guidelines and tools for the McGill platform, please contact McGill Communications and External Relations allison.j.flynn@mcgill.ca
jean-bernard.ngmansun@mcgill.ca

3.4.3 Colour palette, Font, Photography

Font
The McGill typeface is used on all Made by McGill collateral.

This example shows how McGill Sans and Serif are designed to live together in a headline.

Photography
Made by McGill photography ranges from Portraits, Places, Story and Metaphoric themes.

This example is a portrait of McGill professor, Brenda Milner.
Stationery System

The University stationery includes both printed and electronic letterhead, business cards, envelopes, memos, fax sheets, notepads, and e-mail signatures. The samples shown here present the maximum amount of information that would likely be included. Most cases should have less information to display and therefore appear less crowded. All information is printed in black or McGill red. McGill Printing Services is the official supplier of McGill letterhead and stationery. Printing Services can also provide units with electronic versions of their letterhead. Units are encouraged to work with Graphic Design should they have more customized stationery needs.
4.1 / Letterhead

4.1.1 Standard bilingual style

Official University letterhead, both printed and electronic, is disseminated around the world. Although e-mail is now the more common form of correspondence, much of our official communication is still sent via printed letterhead. It is therefore important that the information on all McGill letterhead be organized and well presented.

4.1.1 Standard bilingual style

All letterhead used by the University should be bilingual. The standard letterhead is as shown. A unit name can appear as a standard logo extension and/or at the bottom.

Format: 8.5" x11"

Faculty name: McGill Sans Medium – 10.25/12.5 pts
Name of person: McGill Sans Medium – 8/9.5 pts
Degrees: McGill Sans Regular – 6/9.5 pts
Titles: McGill Sans Regular – 7/9.5 pts
Unit name: McGill Sans Medium – 7/9.5 pts
Address: McGill Sans Regular – 7/9.5 pts
Red line: 7" x .0937"

McGill Printing Services has templates for all McGill stationery and should be used for typesetting and printing these items (see page 60 for contact info).
4.1 / Letterhead

4.1.2 Letterhead with affiliate

When a McGill entity has an affiliate or partner, the affiliate’s logo should be aligned as shown, in the top right corner. This area has the most space to add other signatures and logos without encroaching on the writing area.
4.1 Letterhead
4.1.1 Standard bilingual style
4.1.2 Letterhead with affiliate
4.1.3 Electronic letterhead

4.2 Business Cards
4.2.1 Spacing and layout
4.2.2 Approved secondary logos
4.2.3 Graduate student

4.3 Envelopes & Labels
4.3.1 Envelopes
4.3.2 Labels

4.4 Memorandum

4.5 Email Signature
4.5.1 Email signature – English only
4.5.2 Email signature – bilingual

4.1.3 Electronic letterhead
For customized electronic letterhead, contact Graphic Design.
4.2 / Business Cards

4.2.1 Spacing and layout

For business cards, the name of is set in McGill Sans Medium 8/9.5 pt, degrees in McGill Sans Regular 6/9.5 pt, and titles in McGill Sans Regular 7/9.5 pt. E-mail address and telephone should be written below the name and title. There is an extra +5 point space below the telephone information. In order to create uniformity and save space, the following symbols are suggested for both English and French:

T: Telephone, C: Mobile devices, F: Fax

The Unit name is set in McGill Sans Medium 7/9.5 pts and the address in Sans Regular 7/9.5 pts. The McGill business card is bilingual, with each language printed recto verso. The red line thickness is .1565”.

4.2.2 Approved secondary logos

Approved secondary McGill logos may be added to the right of the black line. The faculty name then moves down after the department name in order to make room for the secondary logo. The logo size must not be larger than the McGill shield. A McGill business card should not incorporate the logo of an external institution, as this practice incorrectly suggests a formal institutional relationship.

4.2.3 Graduate student

McGill graduate students can obtain business cards through Printing Services, with the authorization of the academic unit where they are registered. McGill Printing Services has templates for all McGill stationery and should be used for typesetting and printing these items.
4.3 / Envelopes & Labels

4.3.1 Envelopes

Whatever size the envelope, the McGill logo always appears in the top left corner as shown. The unit extension appears to the right and the return address can either appear below or on the back flap if it is deemed too lengthy.

4.3.2 Labels

Mailing labels are used for oversized envelopes and packages. The standard mailing label size represented here is 4.75" x 2.75". In this example, the logo, extension and address are reversed on a McGill red band.

McGill Printing Services has templates for all McGill stationery and should be used for typesetting and printing these items.
4.4 / Memorandum

4.4 Memo

A University memo template, as shown, is available on the web.
4.5 / Email Signature

4.5.1 Email signature – English only

Name
Title
Department
McGill University
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
City, Province Postal code
T: 514-398-0000 / C: 514-000-0000 / F: 514-398-0000

Department website
Social media

Example:

John Jones
Communications Officer
Faculty of Medicine

McGill University
Duff Medical Building, Room B8
3775 University Street
Montreal Quebec H3A 0G4
T: 514-398-6600 / C: 514-232-0303
mcgill.ca/medicine
facebook.com/McGillFacultyofMedicine

4.5.2 Email signature – bilingual
4.5 / Email Signature

4.5.2 Email signature – bilingual

You can also choose to have a bilingual signature. However, for simplicity’s sake we recommend that the address be in French only.

Example:

Megan Morse
Graphic designer / Designer graphique
Communications and External Relations / Communications et relations externes

McGill University / Université McGill
James Administration Annex / Pavillon James – Annexe
845 rue Sherbrooke Ouest
Montréal (Québec) H3A 0G4
mcgill.ca/cer
facebook.com/McGillUniversity
INTRODUCTION

Visual System: Web

This section covers websites created outside McGill’s WMS. Units are encouraged to work with McGill’s Digital Communications team for support when looking to build a new website.
5.1 / Guidelines for Colour Use

5.1.1 Primary colours – Web

The primary colours of any McGill web property must match the McGill Core Palette (see section 3.1 – pages 23-24 for RGB and Hex values).

Websites must use McGill red (#ED1B2F), solid black (#000) and white (#FFF). Neutral (not warm or cool) grays may also be used.

We suggest pale gray (#F4F4F4) as a light background color that complements the core palette. Medium gray (#D4D4D4) works well for structural accents like horizontal rules.

Websites may use additional colours as long as they are compliant with the Core Palette standards.
5.2 / Web Typography

5.2.1 Official McGill typefaces – Web

McGill Sans

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890

Regular

McGill Sans

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890

Regular

5.2.1 Official typefaces – Web

All new websites and applications should use the McGill typefaces.

We suggest a minimum size of 16pt (or its equivalent) for body copy. Microcopy may be as small as 14pt.*

Where the site or application does not accommodate custom fonts, please contact Digital Communications to determine the appropriate level of compliance.

* We use points as a unit because compliance is determined by physical size and legibility on all supported devices, regardless of display type or pixel density. Often, 16pt will be equivalent to 16px or 1em.
5.3 / Headers and Footers

5.3.1 Use of headers – Web

In order to maintain consistency across McGill web properties, the header must feature the McGill logo and unit name/identity as described in The McGill Logo: Logo extensions on horizontal logo extensions. Note that the logo and its extension must meet the standard space contrast and black-divider-line requirements.

Aside from respecting best practices for site navigation schemes, there are no other requirements for the header. Colour, layout and styling can be freely adapted to meet the needs of the sponsoring unit and their audience.

Example of a compliant header
5.3 / Headers and Footers

5.3.2 Use of footers – Web

McGill web properties should use a standard footer with a black background.

- Header and emphasized text are white
- Links and other text are pale grey (#D7D7D7)
- Horizontal rules and other structural elements are medium gray (#676767)

Websites should always include the institutional footer shown below at the very bottom of every page. This contains McGill logo (linked to McGill.ca), copyright notice, and links to accessibility, privacy, and contact information.

Above that, the footer may also include a collection of links that users would expect to find in the footer. This is separated from the institutional footer by a divided line.

If this upper portion contains more than six links, these should be organized into columns:

For code and assets needed to build the standard footer, please contact Digital Communications.

For applications and third-party software with different footer standards, contact Digital Communications to determine the appropriate level of compliance.
5.4 / Analytics

5.4.1 Tracking code

McGill has a central Google Analytics installation that includes all McGill-branded and sponsored websites. All new websites must embed the tracking code on the left in order to be included in the central dataset.

Tracking ID: UA-26739495-1

Complete code:

<!-- Global Site Tag (gtag.js) - Google Analytics -->
<script async src="https://www.googletagmanager.com/gtag/js?id=UA-26739495-1"></script>
5.5 / Other Considerations

5.5.2 Favicon
All official McGill sites must use a mcgill.ca URL: either sitename.mcgill.ca or mcgill.ca/sitename.

5.5.3 Site icons
Google Material Icons
Use of a project-specific, professionally designed icon suite is permitted, provided the icons are used in a way that is accessible and compliant with best practices. Where this isn't possible, McGill recommends using Google Material Icons: an exhaustive set of scalable and user-friendly icons.

5.5.4 Page credits
The public-facing side of a McGill-branded website should bear no mention of the platform (ex. WordPress, Drupal), vendor, or other service provider implicated in the creation, maintenance, or hosting of the site.

5.5.5 Site Titles
Site titles (as seen in browser tabs)
The title attribute for a homepage should use the format “Site name | McGill University”
The title attribute for internal pages should use the format “Page name - Site name | McGill University.”
INTRODUCTION

Video

This section covers McGill-branded video. Units are encouraged to work with McGill’s Video Production Services when looking to produce original video content.
6.1 / Captions

6.1.1 Typography
Wherever possible, official McGill fonts should be used for creating video captions. In most cases, McGill Sans regular and McGill Sans Medium will be used. Given the variations in editing software, point sizes cannot be standardized. However, good examples of the correct scale may be found in the examples on the left.

6.1.2 Type colours
White type should be used wherever possible and captions should be placed on darker backgrounds. Backgrounds can manually be darkened, if necessary. If there is no darker area, then black may be used.

6.1.3 Labelling convention
Proper names are spelled out in all caps. Stacked beneath the proper name in regular font is the job title and/or the affiliated Lab/Department/School/Faculty/Unit.
6.2 / Logo Use – Closing Slate

The McGill logo (and its extensions, when applicable) as outlined in Section 2.2 should be used for McGill-related videos. Whenever possible, the logo should be placed on a white or black background as seen on the left at the end of each video prior to credits. Logos should be centred on the screen and set no smaller than 300 pixels wide.
6.3 / Logo and Text – Closing Credits

The McGill logo (and its extensions, when applicable) as outlined in Section 2.2 should be set on a white or black background.

Official McGill fonts should be used for closing credit type. In this example, McGill Sans regular and McGill Sans medium are used.
INTRODUCTION

Social Media

This section covers McGill-branded social media channels.
It is very important that McGill’s social media channels also project a consistent and coherent look. As such, official social media avatars and high-quality “cover” photography (please see section 3.3.1) are required. Please use this form to request a customized avatar for your Faculty, Department or Unit. Avatars may be created for Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube. On the left are examples of circular avatars but they may also appear as square ones on some platforms.
INTRODUCTION

Vehicles

This section covers McGill-branded vehicles.
8.1 McGill-branded Vehicles

The McGill logo extension (see section 2.4) is used to brand University vehicles. The logo extension is placed on both driver and passenger side doors and the McGill logo should appear on the back. Either option A or B can be chosen but the same option has to be used for both side doors. Please contact Graphic Design for decal production.
INTRODUCTION

Resources

A number of resources exist to support the use of these visual identity standards.
9.1 / Online Resources

9.1.1 Visual identity standards
This document appears online, with most current updates incorporated. Please ensure that you are using the most up-to-date version as reference. http://www.mcgill.ca/mcgill-logo/

9.1.2 Logos
The various formats and versions of the McGill logo, along with explanations about which to use when. https://www.mcgill.ca/visual-identity/download-mcgill-logo

9.1.3 Trademark policy

9.1.4 Other policies and guidelines

9.1.5 Fonts
McGill's official typefaces may be downloaded here: https://www.mcgill.ca/visual-identity/files/fonts
9.2 / Services

If you have questions or need support as you design your communications materials, please don’t hesitate to contact the units listed.

9.2.1 The logo and other McGill trademarks
For questions about McGill’s trademarks and brand, contact:

**Communications and External Relations**
James Administration Building – Annex
845 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G4

**Allison Flynn**
Director, Integrated Communications
Phone: 514 398-7698
E-mail: allison.j.flynn@mcgill.ca

9.2.2 Graphic design
Contact the Graphic Design unit for all design needs, including questions about templates and logos. Graphic Design is also in charge of creating the campus’ lamp post banners and scheduling installation.

**Graphic Design**
Communications and External Relations
James Administration Building – Annex
845 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G4

**Prachi Khandekar**
Associate Director, Graphic Design + Multimedia
Phone: 514 398-6753
E-mail: prachi.khandekar@mcgill.ca

**Jean-Bernard Ng Man Sun**
Art Director
Phone: 514 398-6058
E-mail: jean-bernard.ngmansun@mcgill.ca

9.2.3 Photos
Contact the Media Relations office to request photos from the University’s image bank or ask questions about use of photos.

**Media Relations**
Communications and External Relations
James Administration Building, Room 110
845 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G4

**Laurie Devine**
Manager, Social Media
Phone: 514 398-5929
E-mail: laurie.devine@mcgill.ca
9.2 / Services

9.2.4 Stationery
To obtain business cards, letterhead or other standard stationery, contact Printing Services. For customized stationery needs, contact Graphic Design.

McGill Printing Services
3465 Durocher Street
Montreal, Quebec H2X 0A8
Phone: 514 398-6300
Fax: 514 398-7353
E-mail: printing.services@mcgill.ca

9.2.5 Visual identity standards for special logos
There are detailed standards for use of certain special logos. These include

- Athletics and Recreation
- Desautels Faculty of Management
- Schulich School of Music

Contact the relevant unit for more information.

9.2.6 Visual identity on the web
Contact Digital Communications for information regarding McGill-branded websites.

Digital Communications
E-mail: web.communications@mcgill.ca