5 YEARS OF TRUEVIEW: How user choice ushered in a new era of video advertising

Five years ago, YouTube launched TrueView, the first video ad format that put users in control of their ad-viewing experience. This ushered in a new approach to ads that powered our full ecosystem of creators, marketers, and viewers. As a result, we've seen brands embrace user choice, creating video ads that people both seek out and choose to watch on YouTube.

DECEMBER 1, 2010 TrueView Video Ads launch.

TrueView in-stream lets viewers skip an ad after 5 seconds, and advertisers pay when the viewer watches the full ad or 30 seconds, whichever is shorter.



Volkswagen uploads "The Force" four days prior to the Big Game, kicking off what would become a widespread trend of releasing ads—teasers and full-length spots—on YouTube before of the game.

With over 47M views, "The Force" became the most-viewed ad on YouTube in 2011.

FEBRUARY 2, 2011





AdWords for video launches.

Now businesses of all sizes can advertise on YouTube easily.



TrueView expands

its reach to include publishers on the Google Display Network.

AUGUST 22, 2012

TrueView goes mobile.

TrueView ads on mobile helps brands reach more people in the right place at the right moment.

DECEMBER 22, 2012

The YouTube Ads Leaderboard, a monthly look at the top branded video ads on YouTube, debuts. The top ad for 2012 is Nike Football's "My Time Is Now." ¹

"My Time is Now" had over 21M views in 2012.

DECEMBER 6, 2013 Who's wat Subscribi

Who's watching? Subscribing? Sharing?

Earned Actions reporting shows the actions people take after the initial view.



NOVEMBER 21, 2013

Audience retention reports launch

showing advertisers how viewers engage, tune-in, and drop-off from their content.

DECEMBER 26, 2013

Dancing babies take over YouTube in 2013. The most popular ad of the year is "Baby & Me" from Evian.²

20M views in two days (100M+ to date)6.9M+ social shares to dateHundreds of fan-created versions uploaded

FEBRUARY 10, 2014 -

Brand Lift launches

enabling brands to measure brand awareness, ad recall and brand interest generated by YouTube videos. AUGUST 19, 2014

Showcase your app.

You can now promote your app directly from TrueView video ads.



Four of the top 10 trending videos of 2014 are ads.³



Nike Football: "Winner Stays"



Wren: "First Kiss"

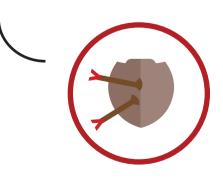


Budweiser: "Puppy Love"



DECEMBER 9, 2014

20th Century Fox: "Devil Baby Attack"



Over 7M hours

FEBRUARY 2, 2015

of Big Game ads and teasers were watched on YouTube (40% on mobile). Supercell's "Clash of the Clans" leads the way with 49M views.

APRIL 2015

Cards launch,

making TrueView ads more interactive across screens.





SOURCES

¹https://www.thinkwithgoogle.com/platforms/video/leaderboards/youtube-leaderboard-2012.html
²https://www.thinkwithgoogle.com/platforms/video/leaderboards/youtube-leaderboard-2013.html
³http://youtube-global.blogspot.com/2014/12/youtube-rewind-2014.html
⁴http://youtube-global.blogspot.com/2015/02/biggest-year-ever-for-big-game-ads-on.html
⁵YouTube data, 2014.