

## craft creative headlines

TIME: About 5-10 minutes each. Rewrite "losers" for next release.



**SUMMARY:** Grabbing the attention of your audience is a challenge. In this guide we will help you develop the initial idea, find associations that leverage Top of Mind Awareness and then turn those elements into a headline that gets you traffic and results from the media, search engines, blogs and RSS feeds.

"Sports Icon Kareem Abdul Jabbar Dances With Rabbis" Get Creative - Your headline will show at the top of the web page and in the headline spot of your release. Make sure it's focused, engaging, unique, and causes your viewer to ask "how do they do that?" or makes them want to know more about your release. This is the time to sizzle!

ToMA= Today's Events Common Phrases Industry Topics Think ToMA - You want to tie your headline to a theme: ToMA (Top of Mind Awareness) is key: Ask yourself "what is happening in the world today that I can leverage in my headline?" or "What funny, interesting or resonant thought occurs to me that might make a killer headline?" Then write it 3–6 ways to see which approach makes the most sense.

Product Name Brand+Tag Line Common Search Terms on Google **Keywords** - To ensure that your press release draws the right sort of traffic from the Search Engines (eg Google and Yahoo), make sure you have an important "keyphrase" within your headline – and don't forget to *mention your brand or product name* as well. Leverage keywords for SEO-SEM and to enhance organic search results!

170 Characters
~20 Words
1 Keyphrase
Call to Action!

**Keep it Short -** You have **170 characters (about 20 words)** to craft a grabbing, eye-catching, **engaging title loaded with your keyphrase**, **brand** and **some action element**. When you're crafting your sample headlines, **think about how you can re-order the words to add impact** while shortening the headline.

Keep Message Consistant Message Top to Bottom FOCUS! **Tie to Body Content** - A killer headline that doesn't tie to your actual summary and press release is *a waste of the reader's time...* and readers will remember that you played bait and switch. **Keep a consistent message from top to bottom and you'll build a loyal following.**