

Headspace: Guided Meditation for Everybody

Headspace

In partnership with RAIN

Skill Launch: December 2017

Case Study: (updated)

April 2020



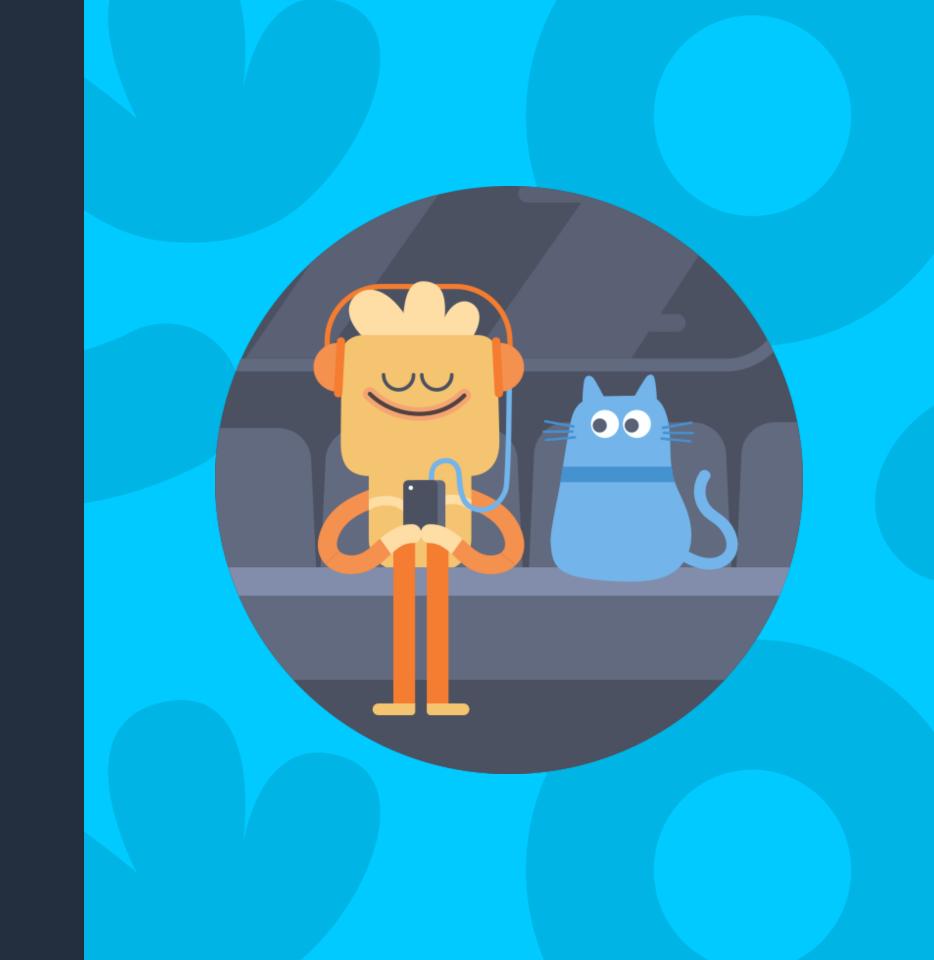
Case Study – Headspace

Problem

Headspace was founded with the goal of teaching meditation and mindfulness to as many people as possible. Through a mobile app, Headspace enabled people to experience the benefits of meditation anytime, anywhere. But in today's always-on world, mobile app-based meditation experiences could suffer from unwanted interruptions, from notifications midsession to the glow of the screen at night.

Opportunity

To help launch meditation without distraction, Headspace partnered with RAIN to bring the popular service to Alexa and other voice-first services, seeking to exploit the natural fit between immersive voice experiences and the rich audio content in the Headspace library.



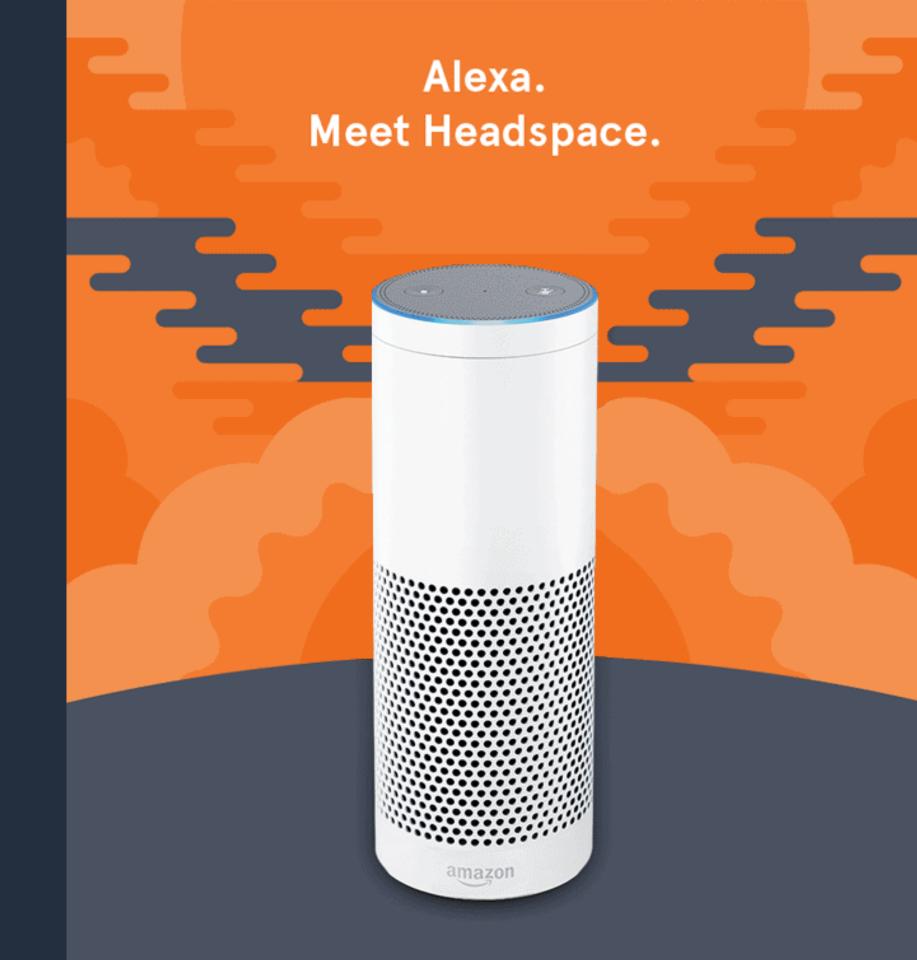
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Solution

To open new pathways to meditation and overcome the distractedness that can come with using mobile devices, RAIN worked with Headspace to reimagine the meditation experience for voice-enabled technology. This resulted in a meditation experience that was simpler, more seamless and more accessible than ever –the *Headspace: Guided Meditation for Everybody* Alexa skill.

The Alexa experience features custom audio to lead guided exercises, as well as a robust conversational repertoire with nearly 500 responses and reprompts. The skill enables subscribers to link their accounts for a personalized experience, but also allows non-subscribers to access the "basics" as a way to drive trial and new subscription conversion.

To capitalize on the release of Echo Buds in Q4 2019, Headspace and RAIN updated the skill to enable two special "on-the-go" meditations - walking and running – suggested to customers using geo-location-enabled mobile devices.



Go-To-Market

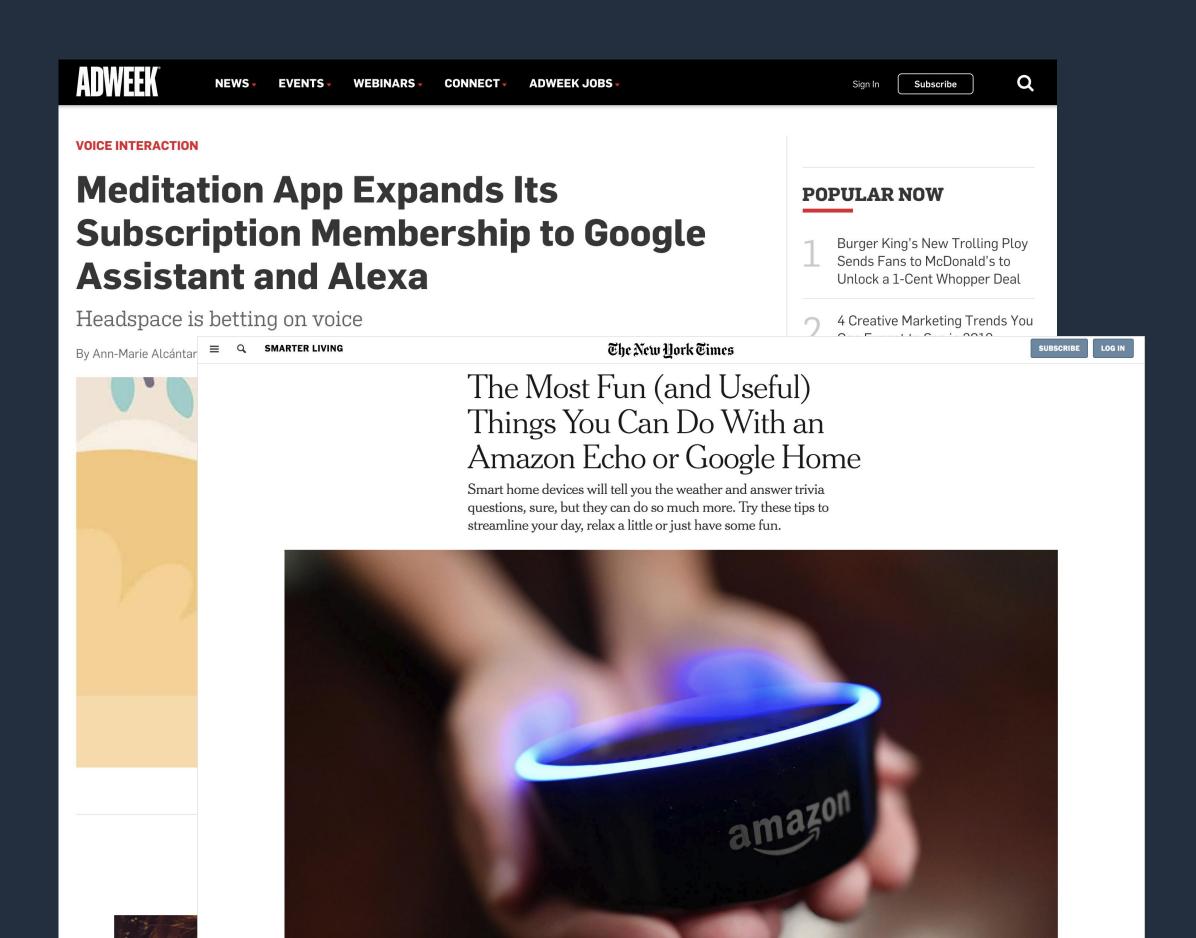
Go-To-Market Approach

Headspace's commitment to continually iterating on its voice product offerings has provided a basis for a sustained drumbeat of communications to current and prospective customers.

In addition to voice-specific website pages, the company's social channels frequently spotlight the Alexa skill and its newest functionalities (most recently Sleepcast).

As an early adopter of new features, Headspace has also received featured placements in the skill store.

Headspace's voice efforts have garnered coverage in *AdWeek*, *Venturebeat*, *PC Mag* and even *The New York Times*.



Results



25%

42%

Top 5

Total unique users since December 2018

Source: *Headspace*

Of users engage weekly or more frequently

Source: *Headspace*

Of users complete account linking once prompted

Source: *Headspace*

Rankings in the Alexa store for both Lifestyle and Health & Fitness categories

Source: *Alexa Skill Store*

Headspace's Learnings



Treat your voice experience like any other first-class digital product, complete with a vision, roadmap and a frequent release of new innovations, including features that capitalize on the affordances of new Alexa functionalities.



Invest in premium, original audio content to keep users engaged. Focus on ownable sound design to help differentiate your experience.



Drive retention and conversion with existing and prospective members through features such as accountlinking and crossfunctional compatibility.