

Tips on presenting for the AARST International Radon Symposium™:

Slides can be helpful, but are not necessarily suited for all talks. For the style presentation in general, less (slides) is more. Think of a single graphic for your slide which would convey an idea rather than a long block of text. Additional reading by audience, means they aren't at full attention to what you are actually saying.

Tips on images:

- Make sure the slides are image rich, and easy to understand. Bring in a designer if needed.
- Only use high-resolution pictures and graphics.
- Keep graphs visually clear, even if the content is complex.

When it comes to text and content, ask yourself:

- **Do the slides have a lot of text?** Text-heavy slides will only distract the listener from the heart of the message.
- **Do the slides have too much information?** No slide should support more than one point.
- **Is each slide necessary?** Too many slides can be distracting. Make sure every slide has a purpose – for those that don't, cut them.
- **Simple backgrounds and bold text. Slides will also use the Symposium Template with the AARST Logo. Templates are found above (with a minimum of using the current year's footer.)**

Prepare slides for presentation: If there is anything special in your slide you need the AV crew to know in advance please review these when you check in.

Alternative style of slides: Check out [Prezi presentation \(How-to videos on Prezi\)](#) these slides styles are fresh and help you move the viewer along your presentation without them getting tied up into reading a slide instead of them *LISTENING TO YOU!*

WATCH THIS FIRST: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iwpi1Lm6dFo>

Rehearse your Presentation, especially if you are used to standing at a podium. The staging will be different, how much will you use the stage? Sit on a stool for a group chat? This is dictated by the style session you are presenting; the Symposium Manager can help you better understand the style of the staging. Will you have items for show and tell? We have live video to get close ups of you as you present or items or details you plan on showing.

Here are some best practices:

Body language (The following recommendations are from Ted Talks in preparing their presenters)

- When speakers step onstage, they should feel comfortable to let a beat or two go by, take a breath, and anchor their feet before beginning.
- Rehearse standing still. Pacing on stage makes life difficult for the camera crew and can ruin a video.
- Work on physicalizing the talk – gestures can help speakers emphasize important points.

Script and memorization

- **Record, transcribe, edit, repeat.** Some speakers will benefit from hearing themselves speak, others will find it a nauseating experience. Try recording your talk on your phone as you practice, time yourself as you rehearse.
- **When a speaker sounds too rehearsed, they're not done rehearsing.** Speakers should run through the talk again and again, until they don't have to think about that fact that they're reciting a script. Rehearse until the words feel like an integral part of your being.

Emotion and tone

- Find a conversational tone. Imagine they're at a dinner party telling the one story of the night that will make the whole table pause.
- Encourage speakers to tap into honest, contagious emotions during their talk – wonder, optimism, anger, surprise, etc.