

PowerPoint 2013 – Small Enhancements but Minor Problems Say Presentation Agency BrightCarbon

Submitted by: BrightCarbon

Monday, 30 July 2012

Presentation agency BrightCarbon give mixed review to preview of PowerPoint 2013.

PowerPoint 2013 contains a number of small enhancements for presentations, say presentation specialists BrightCarbon. Yet missing features will upset some PowerPoint design (<http://www.brightcarbon.com/powerpoint-design/>) professional users if they are not put back in, chief among them the ability to customise the colour scheme of the software itself.

The new features of PowerPoint 2013 make presentation slides easier to edit. PowerPoint 2013 is more supportive of co-authoring; animations and templates are easier to work with; slides now default to a 16:9 widescreen format – although it's easy to revert back to a 4:3 format for creating iPad presentations (<http://www.brightcarbon.com/ipad-presentations/>); and presenter view has been improved, making it easier for presenters to navigate and zoom in on slides.

According to Chris Korek, presentation consultant at BrightCarbon, "PowerPoint 2013's new buttons make the overall design appear less cluttered. Some of these icons may be more abstract, but the ultimate impression is one of more space.

"Other improvements include replacing the format box with a format pane, and enhancing the colour fill menu with a useful colour picker tool. The time bars of animation are also colour coordinated to the four types of animations, and motion paths leave shadows which trace an object's movement, allowing for simpler slide corrections.

"Collaboration in PowerPoint 2013 is easier too. The comment box, rather than the old style post-it notes, presents the comments as a conversation, so it is easier to track and reply to specific points. Integration with SkyDrive also makes sharing of large files easier."

John Bevan, presentation consultant at BrightCarbon has a more negative view "Microsoft have scrapped the colour scheme options in the preview. I work with PowerPoint for 10 hours a day and after 1 hour with the Preview I have eye strain, because there's no way to adjust the colour scheme. Why remove such basic comfort features? The small improvements in PowerPoint 2013 aren't made up for by the removal of a feature I rely on."

About BrightCarbon

BrightCarbon helps sales and marketing teams hit their numbers, by offering a full range of presentation services and B2B sales tools (<http://www.brightcarbon.com/>). BrightCarbon also runs presentation skills training for sales people, and provides pitch presentation support to clients for their important deals.

BrightCarbon helps companies to tell their stories elegantly and visually. With BrightCarbon:

- Sales representatives stop wasting time creating their own collateral, and become more productive

- Training is more effective, and easier to deliver
- Presentations become visual and more effective

BrightCarbon also offers a complete presentation outsourcing helpdesk service for companies without a dedicated presentation department.

BrightCarbon has offices in the UK and Singapore.

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