

Exploring Visual Construction for Time-Honored Brand Rejuvenation: A Systematic Literature Review

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Abstract

This study conducts a systematic literature review (SLR) to explore the role of visual construction in the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands, employing a structured methodology that systematically searches and synthesizes literature from data bases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. Despite growing interest in brand revitalization, there remains a research gap in understanding how specific visual strategies contribute to balancing heritage with contemporary relevance. A total of 31 primary studies were identified, focusing on the intersection of visual branding and consumer engagement, and were organized into three key themes: symbolic interactionism, consumer perception, and design innovation. The findings reveal that strategic visual elements including packaging design, typography, and brand storytelling play a pivotal role in preserving brand heritage while simultaneously enhancing modern appeal. These elements foster emotional connections, reinforce brand equity, and drive consumer engagement. This review extends the theoretical discourse on visual branding and offers a practical framework for brand managers, presenting evidence-based strategies for revitalizing traditional brands in a visually saturated and digitally evolving marketplace.

Keywords: Brand Rejuvenation, Consumer Perception, Systematic Literature Review, Time-Honoured Brand, Visual Branding

Introduction

Research Background

In their discussion on heritage brands, Zhao and Xiang (2024) emphasizes that these time-honoured brands play a pivotal role in industries where tradition, craftsmanship, and cultural identity are valued. These brands carry a strong historical legacy, reflecting their deep-rooted values and longstanding consumer trust. However, Yulistiyono, Andriani, and Rukmana (2023) points out that in today's rapidly changing market landscape, maintaining relevance while preserving authenticity presents a significant challenge for heritage brands. Shifts in

consumer preferences, technological advancements, and competitive pressures necessitate continuous innovation. In response to these challenges, Kurnaz (2024) notes that many heritage brands are adopting rejuvenation strategies to modernize their appeal without compromising their historical essence.

A critical element in the brand rejuvenation process is visual construction, which includes logo redesign, packaging innovation, typography adjustments, and transforming the digital presence (Zhao & Jung, 2024). Lee et al. (2024) highlights that the manner in which a brand visually communicates its identity can significantly affect consumer perceptions, emotional connections, and purchasing behaviours. On the other hand, Agu, Iyelolu, Idemudia, and Ijomah (2024) observe that while some brands manage to successfully incorporate modern design trends while preserving their core values, others find it challenging to find a balance, which can lead to alienating loyal customers or failing to attract new ones.

Despite the burgeoning interest in the nexus of branding and design, research on the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands remains fragmented across various disciplines such as marketing, design, cultural studies, and consumer psychology (Zhang, 2024). Wang and Chen point out that while many studies focus on individual aspects of branding, there is a dearth of comprehensive analysis that examines how visual identity impacts brand rejuvenation as a whole. Swain et al. (2024) argues that this gap necessitates a systematic literature review (SLR) to consolidate existing research, identify recurring patterns, and outline future research directions in the visual construction of heritage brand transformation.

Visual branding plays a significant role in preserving and modernizing time-honoured brands. As globalization, digital media, and evolving consumer preferences challenge traditional brands, the need to balance heritage with innovation has become increasingly evident (Yan & Li, 2023; Wang et al., 2024). This study explores how visual construction contributes to brand rejuvenation, focusing on its impact on consumer perception and engagement (Bruckberger et al., 2023; Pecot et al., 2022).

Brand Aging, Rejuvenation, and the Role of Visual Culture in Branding

Brand aging occurs when a brand's image, messaging, and visual identity become outdated, which can lead to declining market engagement and brand loyalty. Alzaydi (2024) note that unlike newer brands, which are designed to adapt to contemporary trends, heritage brands often grapple with the challenge of balancing tradition with innovation. To address this issue and rejuvenate an aging brand, companies often employ strategic visual identity updates to refresh their image and appeal to modern consumers (Martynenko et al., 2023; Ni, 2024).

Visual culture plays a fundamental role in branding, as it encompasses the use of imagery, colour schemes, typography, and design elements that communicate a brand's identity. A brand's visual identity acts as a bridge between its historical narrative and its future aspirations. In heritage brands, visual construction is particularly significant because it embodies authenticity, legacy, and consumer trust (Buschgens, Figueiredo, & Blijlevens, 2024; Kesgin et al., 2021). The challenge lies in ensuring that visual updates resonate with modern audiences while maintaining historical continuity (Angkawijaya et al., 2024; Xue, Lo, & Yue, 2024).

Effective visual branding strategies have been observed in various industries, including luxury fashion, food and beverage, traditional craftsmanship, and cultural heritage products. For example, companies such as Burberry, Coca-cola, and Cartier have successfully refreshed their visual identity while maintaining a strong connection to their heritage (Di et al., 2022; Augustine, Gopakumar, & Jagadeesh, 2024; Luo, Feng, Yu, & Mo, 2024). However, other brands have faced consumer backlash when changes to their visual identity were perceived as inauthentic or too drastic. Understanding the principles that govern successful visual brand rejuvenation is crucial for marketers, designers, and brand managers (Bettaieb & Alsobahi, 2022; Pettey, 2023).

Research Gaps and Justification

Although there is a growing body of literature on brand identity, marketing strategies, and consumer behaviour, several key gaps exist in the study of visual construction in brand rejuvenation:

1. Lack of an integrated framework: Current research explores different elements of visual identity (e.g., logo design, typography, packaging) in isolation, without a comprehensive framework that connects these elements to overall brand rejuvenation (Hamzah Muhammad Iskandar & Pontes, 2024; Chitturi, Londoño, & Henriquez, 2022).
2. Limited interdisciplinary perspectives: While marketing and consumer psychology studies discuss branding strategies, there is a lack of integration with design studies, which offer crucial insights into the aesthetic and semiotic dimensions of branding (Purnamasari & Affandi, 2025; Ji & Lin, 2022).

Addressing these gaps is essential for developing a structured approach to visual brand rejuvenation and guiding future research. This systematic literature review will contribute to filling these gaps by offering a comprehensive synthesis of existing studies, identifying critical insights, and proposing future research directions.

This study adopts a systematic literature review (SLR) methodology to ensure a rigorous and structured examination of existing research on visual brand rejuvenation. The scope includes academic articles and conference papers from peer-reviewed sources in marketing, branding, design, and consumer psychology. Studies focusing on non-visual brand transformation aspects (e.g., pricing strategies, supply chain modifications) will be excluded to maintain a clear focus on visual identity (Sumelius, 2022).

In the competitive landscape of modern markets, time-honoured brands must strike a balance between preserving their heritage and embracing innovation. Visual construction plays a pivotal role in this transformation, influencing consumer perceptions, brand loyalty, and market positioning. However, despite its significance, research on visual identity in brand rejuvenation remains fragmented across disciplines, necessitating a systematic synthesis of existing knowledge (Yan et al., 2024).

This study seeks to bridge this gap by conducting a comprehensive systematic literature review, offering insights into effective visual branding strategies for heritage brands. By integrating perspectives from marketing, design, and consumer psychology, the findings will contribute to both academic literature and real-world branding practices. Ultimately, this research aims to provide a foundation for future investigations and strategic

decision-making in heritage brand management, ensuring that time-honoured brands can thrive in the digital era without losing their legacy (Ke et al., 2023).

Methodology

This section delineates the systematic approach adopted in this literature review to examine the impact of visual construction on the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands. The rigorous methodology ensures the comprehensive collection, evaluation, and synthesis of relevant studies, focusing on the intersection of visual branding and consumer engagement within the context of heritage brands. Emphasizing methodological rigour, this review adheres to established protocols to provide transparent and reproducible results, which are essential for advancing the theoretical and practical understanding of brand rejuvenation.

Identification

The study selection process involved a systematic search across multiple academic databases to retrieve literature relevant to the exploration of visual construction for time-honoured brand rejuvenation. To ensure comprehensive coverage, a set of carefully chosen keywords including “visual branding”, “brand rejuvenation”, “heritage brands”, “brand identity”, and “design innovation” were used in combination with Boolean operators to search titles, abstracts, and keywords. As presented in Figure 1, the initial search yielded a total of 612 documents from various sources, including Web of Science, Scopus, and ScienceDirect. An additional 19 records were identified through reference screening and citation tracking, resulting in a total of 631 documents. All retrieved documents were imported into Zotero (version X3.8) for citation management. Duplicate records were identified and removed, leaving 599 unique studies for further evaluation in the subsequent screening phase.

Screening

Each title and abstract were reviewed to ascertain its relevance to the study objectives. Out of these, 527 records were excluded for reasons such as irrelevance to the specific focus on visual construction in branding, or being general design studies, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, conference papers, patents, book chapters, or incomplete English-language content. This screening process left 72 articles eligible for full-text assessment.

A subsequent screening process led to the removal of 42 papers that did not directly address visual elements in brand identity, packaging design, spatial brand representation, or consumer recognition of brand imagery. This exclusion narrowed the field to 30 articles suitable for detailed evaluation. Upon thorough evaluation of their content, 30 additional studies were excluded due to a lack of empirical data, absence of consumer perception insights, or a non-quantitative research approach. Ultimately, 31 studies that explicitly examined brand visual identity construction, consumer perception of branding visuals, and design strategies for rejuvenating time-honoured brands were included in the final analysis, providing a robust basis for synthesizing evidence in the field. The full list of selected studies is provided in the Supplementary Online Materials (see Appendix A).

To ensure that only the most relevant and high-quality studies were included in the review, a set of predefined inclusion and exclusion criteria was established. The inclusion criteria were designed to capture studies that directly address the research focus on visual

construction in brand rejuvenation. Studies were included if they met the following conditions:

- i Relevance to visual branding: The study had to focus on visual identity elements such as logos, typography, colour schemes, product packaging, or digital branding strategies.
- ii Connection to brand rejuvenation: Only research discussing the role of visual elements in revitalizing, repositioning, or modernizing heritage brands was considered.
- iii Empirical or conceptual contribution: Both empirical research (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods studies) and conceptual papers that offered theoretical insights into visual branding were included.
- iv Publication in peer-reviewed sources: Only studies published in peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, or reputable academic sources were included to ensure credibility and academic rigor.
- v Publication timeframe: To focus on recent advancements and contemporary strategies, studies published within the last 15 years (2009-2024) were considered.
- vi Language: The review included studies published in English to maintain consistency in data interpretation and analysis.

Conversely, exclusion criteria were applied to filter out studies that did not align with the research scope. Studies were excluded if they:

- i Focused on general brand rejuvenation strategies without discussing visual construction.
- ii Were opinion pieces, book chapters, white papers, or unpublished theses, as these sources lack peer review.
- iii Primarily addressed brand communication, consumer psychology, or marketing strategies without exploring visual branding elements.
- iv Discussed visual branding in a different context (e.g., corporate branding, start-ups, or luxury rebranding) without a focus on heritage or time

The data extraction process was systematically carried out to ensure accuracy and consistency. One author compiled the collected literature into Zotero reference management software, organizing it by title, type, author, and publication year (Grace, Srilakshimi, & Madasamy, 2022). Duplicate entries were removed through a collaborative review process, and studies that did not meet the eligibility criteria such as non-English publications, conference abstracts, book chapters, pilot studies, or those not published in peer-reviewed journals were excluded (McKeown & Mir, 2021). Additionally, research with insufficient reporting, lack of consumer-focused measurement, or restricted access to full texts was also removed from consideration (Katirai, 2024). A team of four independent reviewers conducted a detailed assessment of the titles, abstracts, and full texts of the selected studies, resolving any discrepancies through discussion with a fifth reviewer (Lunny et al., 2021). Data extraction was performed using Microsoft Excel spreadsheets, where relevant study details were systematically recorded, with an additional reviewer verifying the accuracy and completeness of the extracted data (Garritty et al., 2021).

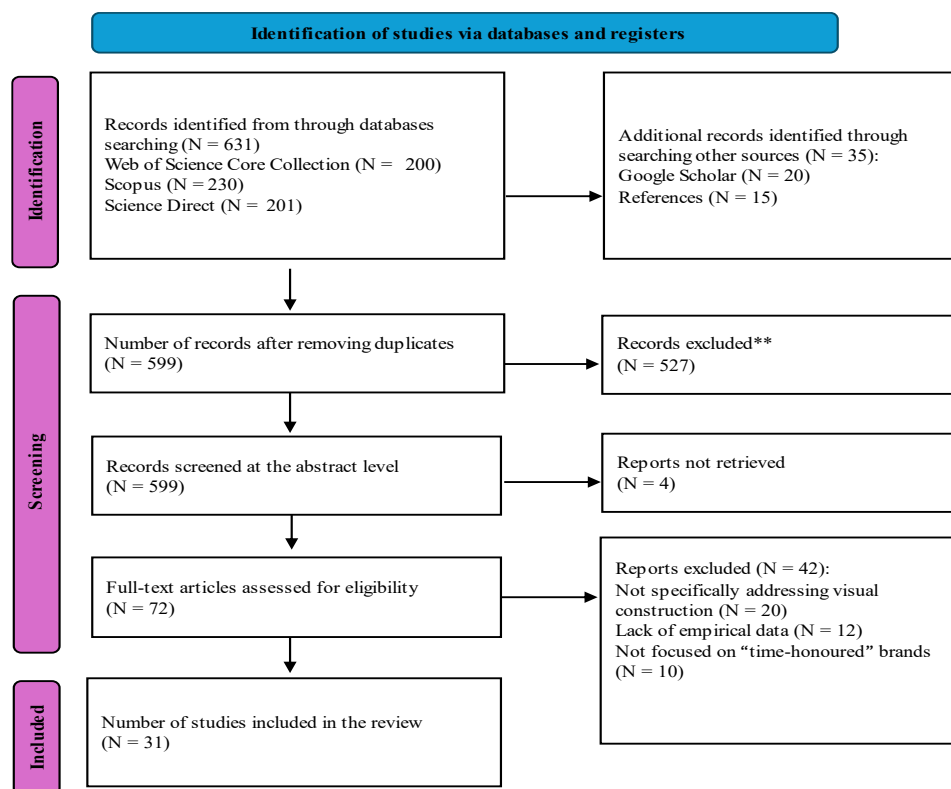


Figure 1. PRISMA flow diagram

Eligibility Criteria

To ensure the inclusion of relevant studies, five eligibility criteria were established. First, all selected articles were required to be published in English to ensure accessibility and standardization in review processes (Van Dinter, Tekinerdogan, & Catal, 2021). Second, only studies published in peer-reviewed academic journals were considered to maintain research credibility and rigor (Hiebl, 2023). Third, the research has to adopt a visual design perspective, focusing on the role of design elements in brand rejuvenation, which aligns with current trends in brand strategy research (Kim & Choi, 2024). Fourth, the studies needed to involve consumers as participants, ensuring that the findings reflected real-world consumer interactions with brand visuals (Kaur et al., 2024). Lastly, the research had to provide measurable outcome data on consumer attitudes or behaviours towards the brand, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of how visual elements influence brand perception (Dzyabura & Peres, 2021). Studies that did not incorporate visual design as a core component or lacked consumer-focused measurement approaches were excluded from the review (Alemu & Zewdie, 2022).

For the 31 studies that met all eligibility criteria, detailed data abstraction was performed. The information extracted included authors, publication years, research design, methodologies used, and key findings. This phase utilized structured data extraction tools to organize and categorize the data systematically, facilitating an effective synthesis and analysis. The data abstraction process was critical in identifying patterns, emerging themes, and gaps within the collected research, directly informing the synthesis of findings.

Quality Assessment

To ensure the validity and reliability of the findings in this systematic literature review, the included studies were assessed using the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Critical Appraisal Checklist (Joanna Briggs Institute, 2024). This structured tool evaluated each study based on methodological rigor, clarity of reporting, and relevance to the research focus, using ten standardized criteria. A total of 31 studies met the quality threshold and were included in the final analysis.

The assessment confirmed that all selected studies demonstrated acceptable levels of methodological transparency, ethical conduct, and analytical robustness. The results of this evaluation, detailed in Appendix B, provided a strong foundation for the thematic synthesis. By ensuring only high-quality studies were included, the review upholds the credibility of its thematic findings related to visual construction strategies for brand rejuvenation (Li & Lin, 2024; Garczarek-Bak et al., 2024).

Result and Findings

Following the selection of relevant studies, a structured data extraction framework was employed to systematically capture key information. The extracted data included study details (author, year, title, publication source), research methodology (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods), core themes (visual branding elements, brand rejuvenation strategies), key findings, and study limitations (Yu, Abidin, & Shaari, 2024). This structured approach facilitated the synthesis of findings across multiple studies while allowing for comparisons and trend identification.

To analyse the extracted data, a thematic synthesis approach was adopted. This method involved identifying recurring patterns, emerging themes, and conceptual frameworks that explain how visual branding contributes to brand rejuvenation (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019). Several key themes were identified, including:

- i Evolution of brand aesthetics: How heritage brands update their visual identity while maintaining their legacy (Demangeot, 2021).
- ii Impact of logo modernization: The role of subtle design changes in consumer perception (Phillips, McQuarrie, & Griffin, 2014).
- iii The influence of digital transformation: The integration of digital media, augmented reality, and AI in visual branding strategies (Bu, Huang, Liang, & Liao, 2023).
- iv Consumer perception and emotional branding: How visual elements create a sense of nostalgia while appealing to modern audience (Han, Newman, Smith, & Dhar, 2021).

A comparative analysis was also conducted to assess the branding strategies of successful and unsuccessful rejuvenation cases. This analysis highlighted key factors contributing to consumer acceptance or resistance when brands undergo visual transformations (Akbar, Zeb, & Ahmad, 2017). Where applicable, a trend analysis was performed to examine changes in visual branding strategies over time. This analysis provided insights into the shift from traditional print-based branding to digital-first visual identities that cater to evolving consumer preferences (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019).

To strengthen the reliability of the findings, a cross-validation process was conducted. Two independent researchers reviewed the thematic coding and data categorization to

ensure consistency (Phillips, McQuarrie, & Griffin, 2014). Additionally, a triangulation approach was employed, where findings from academic literature were cross-referenced with industry reports and case studies to provide a holistic perspective (Han, Newman, Smith, & Dhar, 2021).

The methodological approach outlined in this systematic literature review ensures a structured and rigorous examination of how visual construction influences the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands. Through a transparent and replicable process of data collection, study selection, and thematic analysis, this study synthesizes key findings from existing research while identifying gaps that warrant further exploration (Wiedmann, Hennigs, Schmidt, & Wuestefeld, 2011). By systematically evaluating the role of logos, typography, packaging, and digital branding in brand renewal, the review provides valuable insights into contemporary strategies for heritage brand revitalization (Bu, Huang, Liang, & Liao, 2023). The findings contribute to both academic discourse and practical branding applications, offering a foundation for future research on the evolving relationship between brand aesthetics and consumer engagement in the modern marketplace (Demangeot, 2021).

Data Items

This systematic literature review incorporates a total of 31 studies, as presented in Figure 1. The research analysis is systematically structured into three distinct sections to ensure a comprehensive and detailed evaluation of the selected studies. The first section details the research description, focusing on each study's hypothesis or research question, measurement items, and data analysis methods (Phillips, McQuarrie, & Griffin, 2014, Appendix C). This segment highlights the methodological rigor of the studies, and the analytical techniques used to assess the role of visual identity in brand rejuvenation. The second section presents survey results and practical implications, summarizing key findings related to visual construction strategies in the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands (Demangeot, 2021, Appendix D). It explores how brand visual identity influences consumer perception and brand performance, offering insights and actionable recommendations for brand managers. This section highlights the role of visual design in enhancing brand heritage and market relevance, ensuring that traditional brands adapt to evolving consumer expectations while maintaining authenticity. By structuring the research analysis into these three well-defined categories, this review ensures a clear, methodical, and systematic presentation of the role of visual identity in rejuvenating time-honoured brands.

General Details and Study Design

The research synthesizes diverse methodologies and outcomes from various studies, focusing on the rejuvenation of heritage brands through visual branding strategies. This synthesis provides a nuanced understanding of how visual elements influence consumer perceptions and brand identity across different markets. Several studies utilized empirical and experimental approaches to investigate the effects of visual redesigns on brand perception. For instance, research conducted by Müller, Kocher, and Crettaz (2013) examined how logo redesign influences brand familiarity and consumer perception, finding that updates to visual identity significantly enhance consumer trust and recognition. This relationship was rigorously analysed using a two-way ANCOVA, affirming the positive impact of modernized logos on brand engagement. Another study by Orth, Rose, and Merchant (2019) explored the role of packaging continuity in preserving brand heritage. Through archival dataset analysis,

it was demonstrated that elements of traditional design within packaging help mitigate consumer confusion during brand updates, thereby maintaining a stable heritage perception.

The integration of digital branding strategies plays a critical role in revitalizing brand images, as illustrated by a case study from Li, Cui, Chen, and Zhou (2019). The study highlighted how digital marketing and social media engagement significantly expand consumer bases, particularly effective for heritage brands seeking modern relevance. Furthermore, a survey involving 450 retail customers investigated the impact of visual identity consistency on consumer trust. The findings suggest that a uniform visual strategy across various brand elements from packaging to digital presence substantially strengthens consumer loyalty and trust over time.

Qualitative studies offer deep insights into the adaptation of brand visuals to fit multicultural markets. The research by Ahmad Taha and Abdelfattah (2023) detailed how cultural adaptation in branding not only enhances brand recognition but also boosts acceptance across diverse demographic groups. Additionally, a systematic review by Yu, Abidin, and Shaari (2024) compiled extensive literature on visual identity elements, confirming that innovative designs are crucial for distinguishing brands and improving consumer attitudes toward them. Innovativeness in branding, particularly through storytelling and unique packaging designs, has shown to profoundly impact consumer engagement and perception. A study focused on restaurant patrons revealed that brands perceived as innovative are more likely to engage consumers effectively, as evidenced through structural equation modelling. Similarly, Bu, Huang, Liang, and Liao (2023) emphasized the effectiveness of storytelling in branding, noting that narratives that resonate with consumers can significantly enhance brand loyalty and trust, especially among consumers of luxury brands.

The compilation of findings from this systematic review highlights the importance of balancing traditional branding elements with modern design techniques. The research underscores that while it is vital to maintain core aspects of heritage, integrating these with contemporary visual updates is crucial for brands to remain relevant in today's rapidly evolving market. These strategies are not only pivotal for maintaining consumer loyalty, but also for attracting new segments, thereby ensuring the sustained success and growth of time-honoured brands in the global marketplace. The subsequent section presents a comprehensive synthesis of findings derived from a systematic literature review focused on the visual construction strategies employed in the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands. The results delineated here encapsulate critical insights into the various dimensions of brand visual evolution, revealing both the strategic approaches adopted and the impacts of these strategies on consumer perception and brand identity. Through a meticulous examination of peer-reviewed articles, case studies, and empirical research spanning over two decades, this section aims to uncover the nuanced interplay between brand heritage and modern visual identity elements that resonate in today's dynamic market environment (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019; Orth, Rose, & Merchant, 2019).

Evolution and Principles of Visual Branding

The rejuvenation of time-honoured brands through visual construction is a nuanced process that requires balancing contemporary design trends with preservation of brand heritage. Historically, branding visuals were primarily designed for visibility and recognition in a relatively unsaturated marketplace. However, with the expansion of consumer markets and the advent of digital technologies, the strategies underpinning brand visuals have undergone significant transformation. This evolution reflects a broader cultural and commercial narrative, where established brands are continuously adapting to shifting consumer expectations while seeking to retain the core values that define their legacy.

One of the most prominent shifts in visual branding is the movement from complex, ornate designs to simplified and versatile aesthetics. Studies such as those by Müller, Kocher, and Crettaz (2013) highlight this transition, emphasizing how simplified logos and visual elements enhance brand recognition across various platforms and interfaces. This simplification is not merely a design trend but a strategic response to the globalized flow of information and the need for clarity in increasingly saturated visual environments. In an age where consumers are bombarded with content, clean and adaptable visual identities help brands cut through the noise and capture attention effectively.

Minimalist design has emerged as a dominant aesthetic strategy in brand rejuvenation, particularly for heritage brands. As observed in Demangeot's (2021) study, the resurgence of minimalism is not about erasing history but about distilling a brand's essence into its most powerful and emotionally resonant components. By simplifying visual elements, brands can make their stories more accessible to modern audiences while retaining the integrity of their historical narratives. This distillation process helps evoke deeper emotional connections, reinforcing core brand values and strengthening consumer loyalty across generations.

In addition to simplification, consistency across all brand touchpoints has been identified as a foundational principle in visual rejuvenation. According to Phillips, McQuarrie, and Griffin (2014), maintaining visual coherence across print, digital, packaging, and advertising materials ensures recognizability and builds consumer trust. This consistent presentation of a brand's identity contributes to the formation of a cohesive brand narrative, one that aligns with the audience's expectations regardless of the platform or medium of engagement.

Digital transformation has further expanded the possibilities of visual branding, introducing dynamic and interactive elements into traditionally static brand identities. The integration of digital tools, as discussed by Li, Cui, Chen, and Zhou (2019), has enabled brands to craft immersive consumer experiences that go beyond simple aesthetics. Through digital platforms, brands can now employ multimedia storytelling, augmented reality, and user-generated content to engage with audiences on a deeper level. These technologies not only extend a brand's reach but also allow it to remain culturally relevant and technologically agile in a fast-evolving marketplace.

A critical aspect of visual branding is the capacity to adapt to evolving trends without compromising the brand's core identity. Successful brand rejuvenation is not about frequent

reinvention but about making thoughtful, strategic updates that reflect current consumer values and market aesthetics. This adaptive strategy ensures that brands remain relevant while preserving the elements that have defined their heritage. As highlighted in the reviewed literature, including studies by Demangeot (2021) and Li et al. (2019), this balance between innovation and tradition is essential for brand survival in the digital era.

In conclusion, the evolution and principles of visual branding reveal a sophisticated interplay between historical continuity and forward-thinking design. Time-honoured brands that embrace simplification, consistency, digital integration, and strategic adaptability are better positioned to rejuvenate their identities without losing their essence. These principles not only preserve the visual and emotional legacy of a brand but also equip it to thrive in an increasingly digital, competitive, and aesthetically driven global market.

Consumer Perception and Engagement

The relationship between visual branding and consumer perception is central to the success of brand rejuvenation, particularly for time-honoured brands undergoing modernization. The systematic literature review reveals that visual changes, especially logo redesigns and packaging updates, significantly influence how consumers interpret a brand's relevance and authenticity. Studies such as Müller, Kocher, and Crettaz (2013) show that modernizing brand logos often enhances the perception of a brand as being more contemporary, without necessarily compromising its legacy. Similarly, Phillips, McQuarrie, and Griffin (2014) argue that when visual updates incorporate familiar elements from the brand's past, they tend to preserve consumer trust and loyalty while simultaneously refreshing the brand's image.

Digital platforms have added a new dimension to consumer engagement, transforming branding from a one-way presentation to a two-way interaction. The work of Li, Cui, Chen, and Zhou (2019) illustrates how digital tools allow heritage brands to create immersive and interactive branding experiences that deepen consumer engagement. These digital encounters are not limited to aesthetic appreciation; they invite consumers to co-create and participate in brand narratives, thereby enhancing emotional attachment and psychological investment. The shift towards interactivity reinforces the role of consumers not just as receivers of brand messages, but as active contributors to brand meaning.

Another critical insight from the reviewed literature is that consumer responses are heavily influenced by perceptions of authenticity and relevance. Bu, Huang, Liang, and Liao (2023) highlight that brands which integrate historical elements into modern visuals through narrative techniques such as storytelling tend to foster deeper emotional connections. This storytelling not only enhances brand recall but also aligns the brand's legacy with consumers' evolving values, particularly among younger demographics who value both innovation and tradition. Through visual narratives, brands can communicate their history in ways that feel personal and culturally resonant.

Cultural and demographic factors further shape how visual branding efforts are received. As Demangeot (2021) notes, younger consumers often seek a balance of heritage and innovation—brands that are rooted in tradition but expressed in contemporary ways. This generational shift underscores the importance of strategic visual design that is flexible and adaptable across diverse consumer segments. It also highlights the need for brands to

understand their audience deeply before undertaking significant visual changes, as perceptions of brand authenticity and emotional resonance can vary across age, region, and cultural background.

In conclusion, consumer perception and engagement are deeply intertwined with visual branding strategies. Time-honoured brands seeking rejuvenation must not only modernize their appearance but do so in a way that feels authentic and meaningful to their consumers. Engagement strategies that blend digital interactivity, emotional storytelling, and design continuity are more likely to strengthen the consumer-brand relationship. Ultimately, successful visual branding fosters a sense of familiarity and renewal, inviting consumers to reimagine their connection with the brand while reaffirming its enduring values.

Digital Transformation and Strategic Adaptation

The integration of digital technologies has emerged as a transformative force in the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands, revolutionizing how visual identities are presented, perceived, and engaged with. As outlined in studies such as Li, Cui, Chen, and Zhou (2019), digital platforms have expanded the ways in which brands can express themselves visually, moving beyond static representations to incorporate interactive, multimedia, and immersive formats. This shift not only allows for richer brand storytelling but also enables brands to create dynamic and engaging experiences that connect more meaningfully with contemporary, tech-savvy audiences.

One of the key advantages of digital transformation lies in its ability to generate real-time consumer feedback. Unlike traditional media, digital platforms such as social media, websites, and mobile apps enable brands to immediately gauge public reaction to visual changes, allowing for agile adjustments and more informed decision-making. For example, Old Spice's rebranding success, as discussed by Müller, Kocher, and Crettaz (2013), was significantly shaped by its rapid feedback loop and adaptive content strategy that resonated with younger demographics. This responsiveness exemplifies the importance of strategic adaptation, brands must be not only creative but also flexible in refining their visual strategies based on evolving consumer responses.

Digital media also empowers brands to adopt personalized and segmented approaches to visual branding. With the aid of analytics and targeted marketing tools, brands can now tailor their visual content to specific demographic and psychographic groups, enhancing relevance and resonance. This capability marks a departure from the one-size-fits-all branding model, allowing heritage brands to remain culturally agile while addressing the preferences of diverse consumer segments. Such personalization, when combined with authentic brand narratives, strengthens emotional engagement and increases the effectiveness of branding efforts.

However, the digital shift also presents new challenges. One significant issue is the need to maintain visual consistency across various digital platforms, each with its own technical specifications and user expectations. As emphasized by Phillips, McQuarrie, and Griffin (2014), inconsistency in visual presentation can lead to brand fragmentation and diluted recognition. Therefore, successful digital adaptation requires a cohesive visual

strategy that ensures all brand elements including logos, colours, typography, and imagery to retain their integrity across interfaces, from social media feeds to mobile applications.

Another aspect of strategic adaptation involves blending traditional brand values with digital innovations. As Li et al. (2019) suggest, the most effective visual rejuvenation efforts are those that do not abandon heritage but reinterpret it through modern technologies. Brands like Burberry have shown how digital tools such as online fashion shows, interactive apps, and virtual storefronts can enhance brand legacy while simultaneously reinventing it for a new generation. This approach respects the emotional and historical significance of the brand while making it accessible and appealing in a digitally driven marketplace.

In summary, digital transformation offers heritage brands a powerful toolkit for visual rejuvenation, but its effectiveness depends on strategic adaptation. Brands must leverage digital capabilities not only to modernize their visuals but to do so in a way that aligns with their identity and resonates across diverse consumer groups. By maintaining consistency, embracing personalization, and integrating traditional values with digital innovation, time-honoured brands can navigate the complexities of the modern branding landscape while securing their relevance in an increasingly digital world.

Discussion and Implications

This research paper has systematically reviewed the literature on the visual rejuvenation of time-honoured brands, elucidating several critical themes that have significant implications for both theoretical exploration and practical application. This discussion integrates these themes to provide a cohesive understanding of the strategic importance of visual construction in brand rejuvenation. The review highlights a recurring challenge faced by time-honoured brands: the need to integrate traditional elements with modern design principles. Studies such as those by Müller, Kocher, & Crettaz (2013) and Demangeot (2021) emphasize the delicate balance required to update brand visuals without eroding the established brand identity that loyal customers value. The implication for brand managers is clear: visual updates must be strategically planned to ensure they reinforce, rather than undermine, the brand's heritage. This balance is crucial for maintaining customer loyalty while attracting new segments of the market.

The findings also underscore the importance of aligning visual branding strategies with consumer expectations and behaviours. As digital media continue to reshape consumer interactions, brands must adopt more dynamic and interactive visual strategies to engage effectively with their audiences (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019). The shift toward personalized and consumer-customized visuals suggests a future where brand strategies are increasingly informed by consumer data analytics, enhancing the relevance and appeal of brand visuals (Bu, Huang, Liang, & Liao, 2023).

The impact of digital media on visual branding emerged as a pivotal theme, with brands increasingly leveraging digital platforms to enhance interactivity and engagement (Demangeot, 2021). The practical implication is that brands need to continuously adapt their visual strategies to keep pace with technological advancements. As augmented reality and immersive experiences gain traction, there is significant potential for brands to innovate how

they interact with consumers, offering more engaging and memorable brand experiences (Liang, Abidin, Shaari, Yahaya, & Jing, 2024).

Sustainability has emerged as a key concern in brand management, with consumers increasingly valuing ethical and environmentally friendly practices. The trend toward incorporating sustainability into brand visuals not only responds to consumer preferences but also aligns with broader corporate social responsibility goals (Bu, Huang, Liang, & Liao, 2023). Brands are encouraged to communicate their commitment to sustainability through their visual identity, which can help enhance their authenticity and trustworthiness (Amer, Elshimy, & Abo El Ezz, 2023). Looking forward, the trends identified suggest a move toward minimalism, essentialism, and the integration of sustainability themes within brand visuals. These trends reflect a broader cultural shift toward simplicity and transparency, which are becoming increasingly important in a globalized market where consumers are bombarded with information (Demangeot, 2021).

The systematic literature review conducted in this research provides comprehensive insights into the strategies and challenges of visual rejuvenation for time-honoured brands. The findings indicate that successful visual branding is not merely about aesthetic updates but involves a deep understanding of brand heritage, consumer psychology, and digital innovation (Phillips, McQuarrie, & Griffin, 2014). For academics, this study contributes to the theoretical frameworks of brand management by highlighting the complex interplay between visual identity and consumer engagement (Müller, Kocher, & Crettaz, 2013). For practitioners, it offers actionable insights into effectively managing brand visuals in an era marked by rapid technological change and shifting consumer values. Future research should continue to explore these dynamics, particularly in the context of emerging markets and evolving digital landscapes, to better understand the global implications of visual brand rejuvenation (Han, Newman, Smith, & Dhar, 2021).

Conclusion

The findings of this study reinforce the critical role of visual construction in the rejuvenation of time-honoured brands, highlighting how strategic visual identity transformations can enhance consumer perception, reinforce brand authenticity, and ensure long-term market relevance. Through a systematic literature review, this research has examined various elements of visual identity, including logos, typography, colour schemes, packaging, and digital branding, and their impact on consumer engagement and brand equity (Phillips, McQuarrie, & Griffin, 2014). The results suggest that a well-balanced approach to visual evolution is essential for heritage brands to maintain their legacy while appealing to contemporary audiences.

One of the most significant insights from this research is the importance of gradual and intentional brand modernization. The reviewed studies indicate that brands that implement incremental changes to their visual identity, such as refined typography, slight colour palette adjustments, or updated packaging materials, are more likely to retain consumer trust and loyalty (Orth, Rose, & Merchant, 2019). In contrast, sudden or radical rebranding efforts risk alienating existing consumers and diluting brand heritage (Han, Newman, Smith, & Dhar, 2021). This reinforces the idea that heritage brands must strike a

delicate balance between tradition and innovation, preserving recognizable brand elements while strategically integrating modern design aesthetics.

Another key takeaway from this study is the growing influence of digital branding in heritage brand rejuvenation. The increasing reliance on digital platforms, social media aesthetics, and interactive brand experiences suggests that heritage brands must expand their visual identity beyond traditional print and packaging (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019). Findings indicate that brands incorporating dynamic digital elements, such as motion-based logos, augmented reality packaging, and interactive storytelling, are better positioned to engage tech-savvy consumers while maintaining historical authenticity (Bu, Huang, Liang, & Liao, 2023). However, the study also cautions against over-digitization, emphasizing that visual identity updates should complement rather than replace the core brand heritage (Demangeot, 2021).

The study further highlights the emotional and psychological impact of visual branding on consumer attitudes. Findings confirm that heritage brands that successfully integrate visual storytelling into their branding strategies foster stronger emotional connections with consumers (Dion & Mazzalovo, 2016). By using nostalgic design elements, historical motifs, and archival references, brands can reinforce their authenticity and cultural significance, ensuring that consumers perceive them as trustworthy, established, and high quality. Moreover, the research suggests that different consumer segments respond differently to visual branding updates, with younger audiences favouring minimalist and contemporary aesthetics, while older consumers appreciate traditional and vintage-inspired designs. This indicates that brands must tailor their visual construction strategies to meet the expectations of diverse demographic groups.

Additionally, this study highlights the importance of cross-cultural adaptation in brand visual identity. As heritage brands expand into international markets, they must be mindful of cultural preferences and aesthetic expectations (He & Wang, 2015). Research suggests that brands that successfully localize their visual identity by adapting colour palettes, typography styles, and symbolic elements while maintaining a consistent global brand image are more likely to achieve market acceptance and consumer loyalty. This finding emphasizes the need for culturally sensitive branding strategies that respect historical traditions while embracing global diversity.

Another emerging theme in brand rejuvenation is the increasing emphasis on sustainability and ethical considerations in visual branding. As consumer awareness of environmental issues grows, heritage brands must integrate eco-friendly design elements, sustainable packaging solutions, and minimalist aesthetics into their branding strategies. Findings suggest that sustainability-driven visual identity updates not only enhance brand credibility but also strengthen consumer trust and loyalty (Zeren & Kara, 2020). This highlights the importance of incorporating ethical considerations into brand rejuvenation efforts, ensuring that visual branding aligns with contemporary values and societal expectations.

Theoretical and Contextual Contributions

This study offers both theoretical and contextual contributions to the growing body of knowledge on brand rejuvenation and visual identity. Theoretically, it extends current

understanding by synthesizing literature across marketing, design, and consumer psychology, presenting an integrated framework that links visual construction elements (e.g., logos, packaging, typography, and digital branding) to consumer perception and emotional engagement. It contributes to brand heritage theory by emphasizing how aesthetic modernization can preserve authenticity while enhancing market relevance. Contextually, this review addresses a significant research gap by focusing on time-honoured brands, particularly in rapidly evolving consumer landscapes shaped by digital transformation and global competition. The findings offer actionable insights for practitioners managing heritage brands, guiding them to balance innovation with tradition in their visual strategies. By bridging academic perspectives with real-world branding practices, this research supports informed decision-making in heritage brand revitalization across industries and cultural contexts.

Futur Research Recommendations

Future research on visual construction for heritage brand rejuvenation should focus on several pivotal areas. Longitudinal studies are needed to assess the long-term effects of visual identity updates on brand equity and consumer loyalty, particularly how gradual modifications impact brand performance over time (Wiedmann, Hennigs, Schmidt, & Wuestefeld, 2011). Additionally, the influence of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and augmented reality in creating immersive brand experiences warrants further investigation (Li, Cui, Chen, & Zhou, 2019). It is also critical to explore cross-cultural differences in visual branding preferences to develop customized strategies for global markets (He & Wang, 2015). Lastly, more research is needed on the psychological impacts of visual updates and the effectiveness of sustainability-driven branding efforts in enhancing consumer perception and brand loyalty (Zeren & Kara, 2020). These areas will provide deeper insights into strategic brand management and adaptation in a dynamic market environment.

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