

DO YOUR RESEARCH

- Get a sense of the range of attendees
- Is the conference topic-specific or more general?
- Aimed at experts or open to beginners?
- Language-specific?
- Imagine a target audience member
 - What would she need to know in order to understand what you're saying in the time you've got?

MAKE YOUR BEST GUESS

- Rule of thumb: aim for understanding in 3/4 of your audience
 - Can't I just talk for the most experienced folks?
 - Your estimate is probably wrong
 - You'll leave too many people behind
 - Why not everyone?
 - Too many people will get bored and stop paying attention