

"Four Steps to Successful Public Speaking"

1. Just Write it!
 - a. Narrow it down--don't try to cover too much
 - b. Lead strong and tie close to opening if at all possible
 - c. Sprinkle key ingredients: humor or drama, startling statistics, and why it matters to audience (making it relevant to the audience)
Bonus: Tie to a current event or newsworthy happening or holiday if at all possible...
2. Just Say it!
 - a. To use notes or not--that is the question: Memorizing versus winging it versus a happy mix of the two
 - b. Be yourself--don't try and speak like someone else. It won't ring true.
 - c. Use visual props and fun stuff when at all possible
 - d. Handouts are a good thing...
3. Just Do it!
 - a. Even if public speaking is not "your thing," take advantage of times to practice your speaking skills.
 - b. If you feel like you're gonna hurl...
 - c. Never let 'em see you sweat!
 - d. Smile and the world smiles with you...
4. Just Market it!
 - a. Remember you have something to say that no one else can say in exactly the same way.
 - b. Sell yourself as an expert. (www.vistaprint.com for business cards, brochures)
 - c. Ways to find speaking gigs...if you dare! (Join groups such as Toastmasters, CLASServices, etc.)
For more information about public speaking, go to:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_speaking
<http://www.kidsturncentral.com/links/speakinglinks.htm>

Fun Quotes About Public Speaking...

- “The human brain starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public.” Anonymous
- “According to most studies, people's number one fear is **public speaking**. Number two is death. Death is number two. Does that sound right? This means to the average person, if you go to a funeral, you're better off in the casket than doing the eulogy.”—Jerry Seinfeld