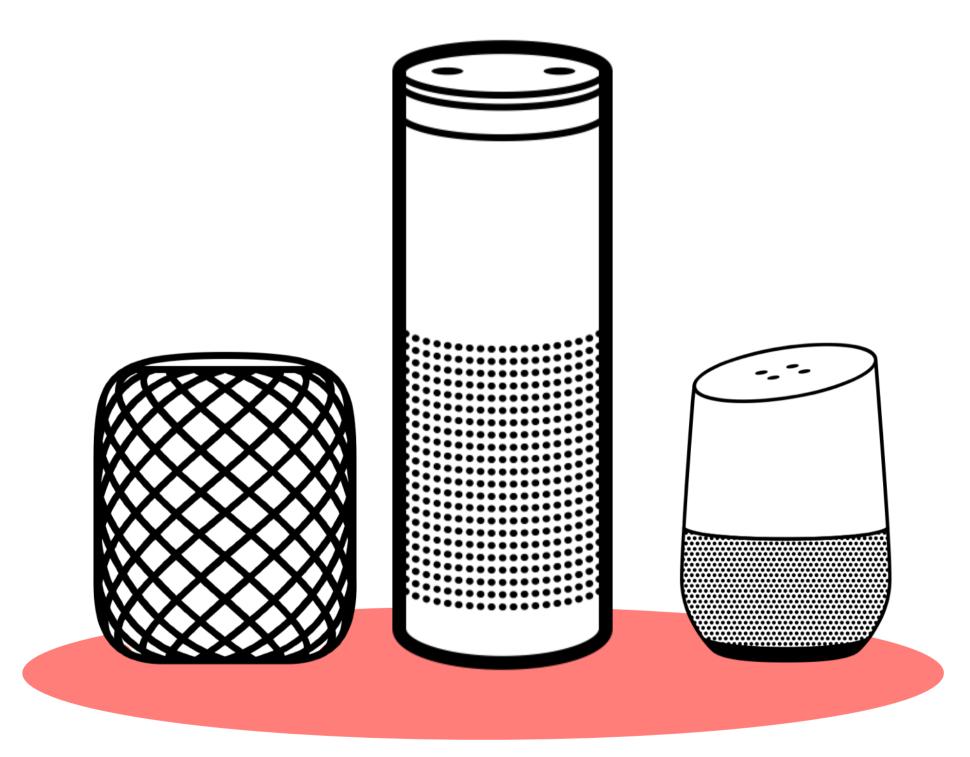
# **Insights 2017**



A "voice-first" device is an always-on intelligent piece of hardware where the primary interface is voice, both input and output

# Voice First

# **Table of Contents**

- What is voice-first technology?
- What is top content for Adults and Kids?
- 2 The VF marketplace, now and next.
- 5 Insights and Considerations

3 Device Audit

6 Recommendations

# 01What is voice-first technology?

A "voice-first" device is always-listening, it shares and receives information through voice command.

Alexa, Google Voice and Siri are all considered artificial intelligence. The "Brain" that devices like echo, home and homepod run on.

It is "smart" in that it runs on a system of algorithms designed to learn behaviors and predict user needs. It can communicate with other devices within the same wifi network.

This product landscape is changing rapidly including 2-way video, tactile buttons and haptic feedback.

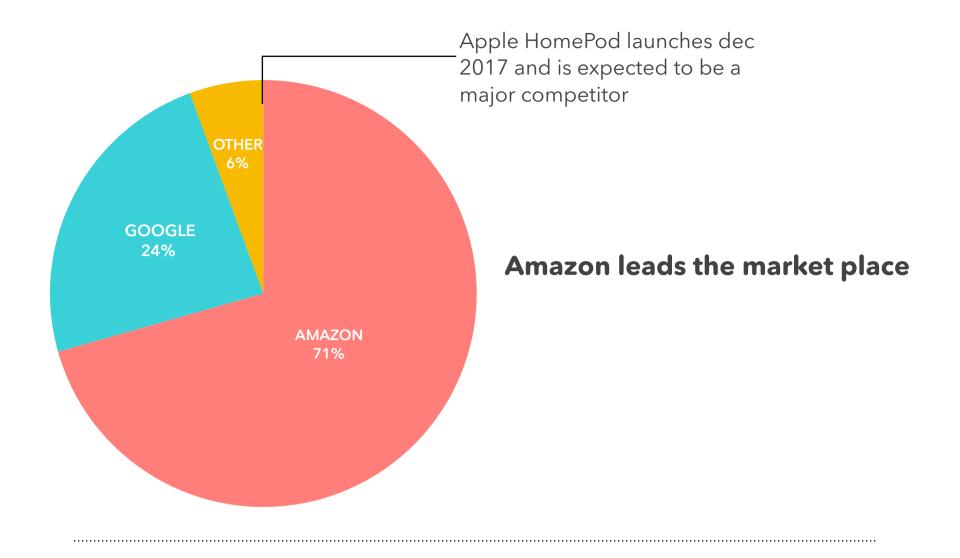
The primary motivation for using voice is simplicity.

Voice interactions show lower levels of brain activity and is less taxing cognitively than screen based interactions

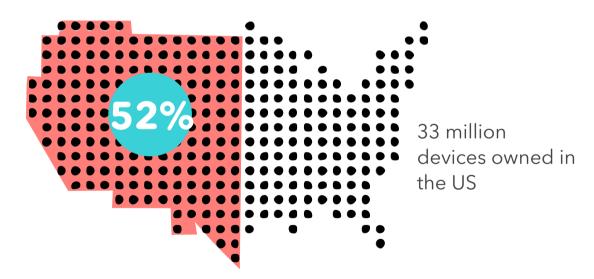
Voice-first products are part of a whole ecosystem working together create a holistic experience.



# 02What does VF look like in the marketplace?



# 23% (over 18m) of these voice devices purchased for kids



# Others to keep an eye on...

### **Smart Assistant**

- Apple HomePod
- Lenovo
- | G
- Little Fish
- MSFT Cortana
- Samsung Bixby

### **Kid-Facing**

- Mattel Nabi
- Jibo

### Niche

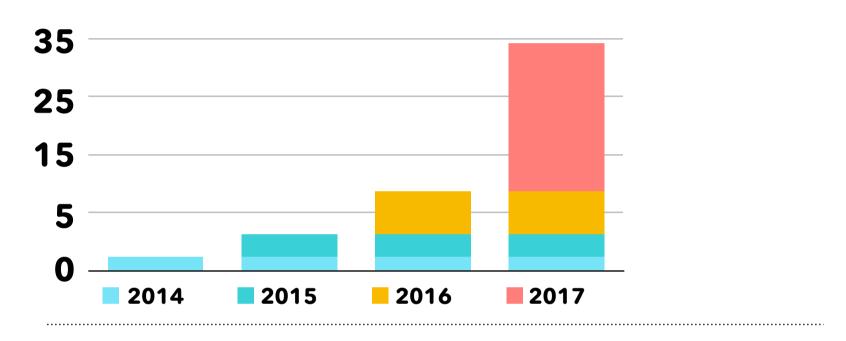
- Harmon Kardon (sound)
- Sonos (sound)
- UE Boom (outdoor)
- IKEA smart home (affordable)

\* runs on Alexa

# 02The growth of voice-first technology

Voice first technology has grown exponentially since it's introduction in 2014. Device sales are expected to double by 2020.

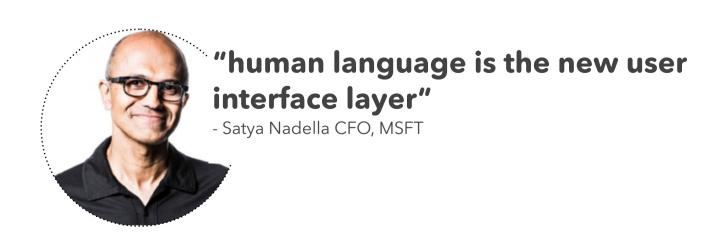
# Voice-first device growth 2014 - 2017



### Voice-first devices reach the mainstream in 2017

**24.5M** devices shipped by the end of 2017

33M devices total, in circulation.



# 02The future of voice-first technology

Voice first adoption is expected double in the next few years. Many appliance, car and children's companies are already working on ways in which they can include voice into their product experience.

### **By 2020**

50% of voice searches on smartphone

30% of voice searches without a screen

\$600M + in device sales

2.1M smart speakers in homes

### By 2021

There will be 7.5 billion active devices – more than one per person on the planet.

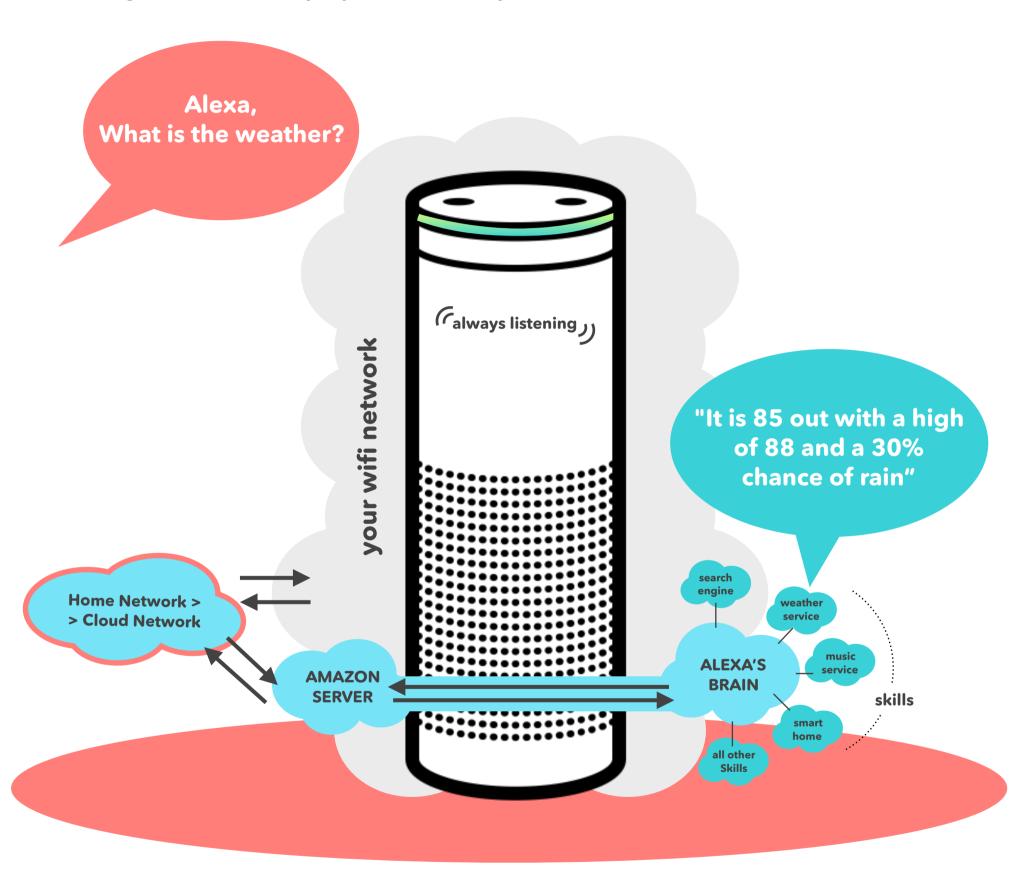
### By 2024

Smart Speakers are expected to more than double (\$13B in device sales) by 2024

Alexa's next big growth is the lending of it's AI to other companies to create products using Alexa's guts that can ultimately join the Amazon Alexa network. Products currently in discussion are; a smoke alarm, power strips, light switches, living room lamps, kitchen appliances and naturally.... a robot.

# 02Alexa; how it works

Alexa is the AI (artificial intelligence) that lives inside various amazon and non-amazon products. It hears your questions, sends them through your local network into the cloud and returns it's responses. Alexa's abilities are called "skills" and it's learning new "skills" everyday. Alexa currently has 15k skills.



# 02Sesame Street and Nickelodeon join Alexa skills

The growth of voice-assistance has not just changed the user experience landscape but offer enormous opportunity for interactive entertainment for kids. Many companies are creating content for this new friction-less way of interaction.

### **Sesame Street**



### What is it?

Sesame Street created a skill that allows kids to call Elmo and play hide & seek or letters learning games. Both are based on recognizing sounds and solving puzzles or finding Elmo through Q&A. Promotion is currently limited to YT, Amazon and SS.

### How did they do it?

- They used distinct and recognizable sounds that aren't too similar
- They highlighted the characters most distinctive characteristics (ex. Elmo's laugh)
- They used a kid-friendly appropriate amount of repetition, grammar and language to create surprises

### **Nickelodeon**



### What is it?

The Spongebob team created a memory game that has kids working at the Krusty Krab and taking orders. There are 80 memory challenges, over 70 character voices and the iconic music paired with SpongeBob's laugh. Promotion is currently limited to YT, Amazon and Nick.

### How did they do it?

- They built from existing play patterns
- They highlighted the characters most distinctive characteristics (ex. SpongeBob's music)
- They built in discoverable easter eggs

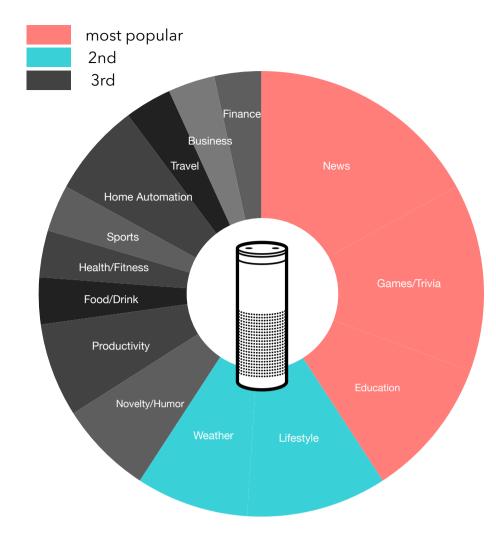
created by RAIN digital

created by Pullstring

# 03**Amazon Alexa**

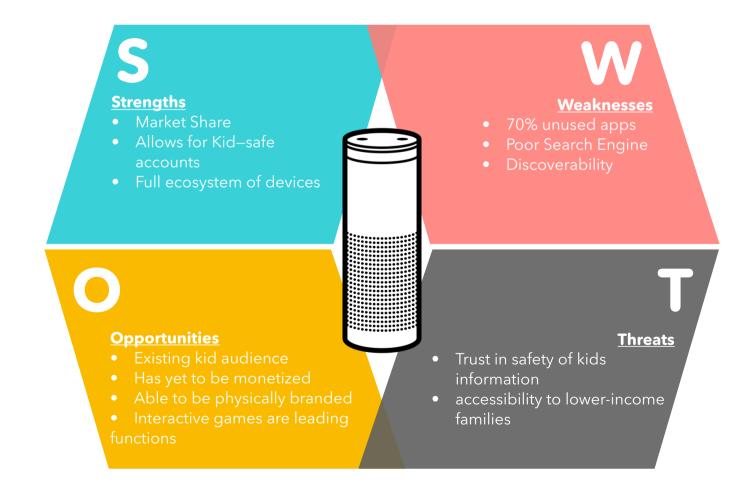
Price

\$44.99 - 249.99



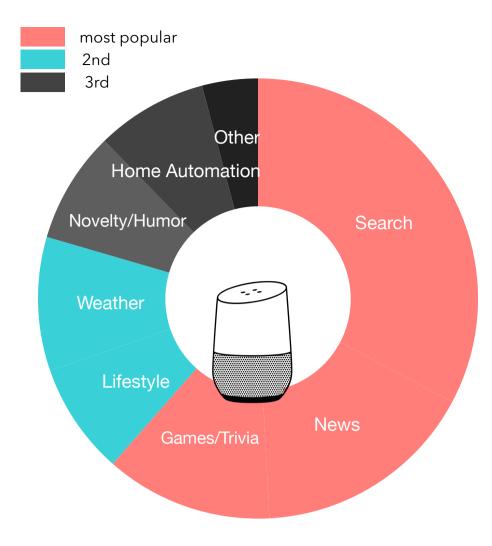
### The Facts:

- Sold over 5.1M units since 2014
- 15,000+ Skills
- 1.63M devices sold in 2017 so far
- Echo ownership has increased spending on amazon by 10%
- Most popular skill: Setting a timer
- 2nd most popular : Music/News
- Ecosystem of devices; echo, dot, look, spot, show, tap and fire stick/fire TV



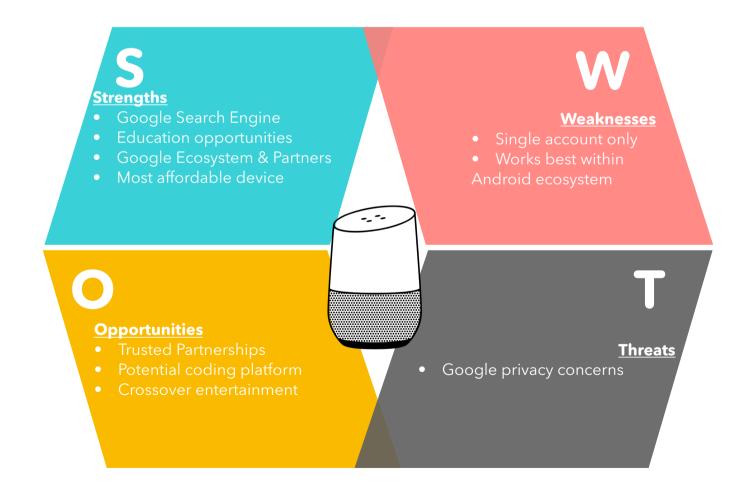
# 03**Google Home**

Price **\$129.99** 

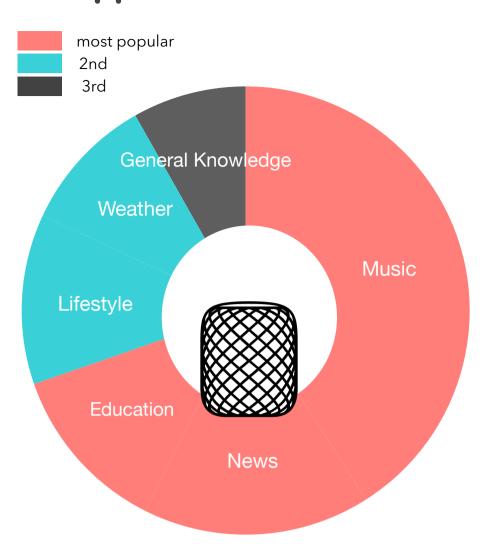


### The Facts:

- 1 million devices in homes
- Google Home has 80 "skills"
- Google voice will reach over 200 million devices by the end of 2017
- Search, News and Fun Google Games dominate it's current service



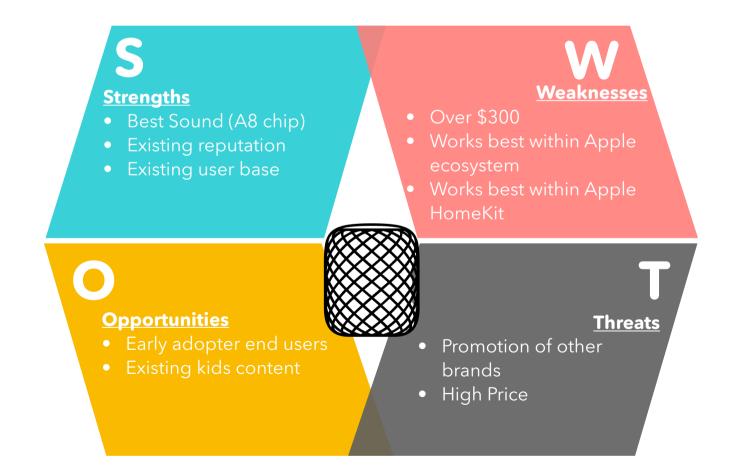
# 03Apple HomePod



Price \$349.99 \*LAUNCHES Dec 2017

### The Facts:

- A8 Chip making it the most powerful smart speaker available
- Built with spatial awareness to adjust sound accordingly
- Over the past 5 years Apple has been entering the "smart home" market via apple TV, Home kit and now HomePod



# 03Mattel Aristotle

Teen NB NB Toddler

Child

Child

Price \$299.99 LAUNCH TBD

### The Facts:

- First device designed with AI for children
- Aristotle is a room hub and camera bundle
- Children's IoT built around security, privacy and intuitive ease of use through play pattern
- Partnership with Tandem cognitive learning
- Replaced IFTTT with "Do this when" protocol

# \*ON HOLD\*

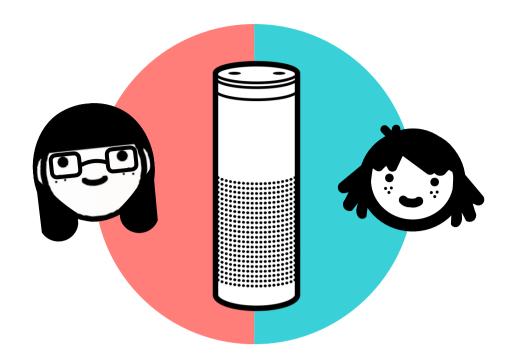
# Strengths COPPA Compliant Can create smart room Parent Mode and child mode Hippa Compliant Opportunities Ability to grow with child considers options for kids on spectrum /differentlyabled Homework support Meaknesses Powered by Bing Runs on MSFT, might be difficult integrating into other ecosystems Much smaller market share Alexa can do similar if set up accessibility to lower-income families that might need the support

# **Overview of each device**



	Differentiator	Kid-Facing	Concerns
Amazon Alexa	<ul> <li>Largest market share</li> <li>Existing Ecosystem</li> <li>Monetization Plans in process for games + subscriptions</li> </ul>	Kid safe account provides opportunity for branded CN space	COPPA compliancy does not assure safety and trust for parents
Google Home	<ul><li>Google search capabilities</li><li>Existing android never network</li></ul>	Can decipher multiple kid voices in home	Many parents are concerned about "the affects of AI on our children"
<b>Apple HomePod</b> (Launch Dec 17)	<ul> <li>Apple products appeal to early adopters who are willing to be more experimental with tech</li> </ul>	Existing kids gaming platform through app store	High price point might exclude much of our audience.
<b>Mattel Aristotle</b> (launch TBD)	<ul> <li>COPPA Compliant</li> <li>Designed BY children's experts</li> <li>Nabi Ecosystem</li> <li>runs on Alexa + Cortana</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Designed for ages NB - Tween</li> <li>Designed with trusted childrens SME's</li> </ul>	VF products designed specially FOR children undergo far more scrutiny and testing (mattel aristotle vs. alexa)

# 04What is top content for Adults and Kids



Basic behaviors are leading Alexa skills.

### **Top Behaviors (Skills) for Adults**

- Set a Timer
- Play Music
- News Updates
- Control Smart Lights
- Add item to shopping lists
- Set a Reminder

### **Top Behaviors (Skills) For Kids**

- Set a Timer
- Asking it questions (trying to stump Alexa)
- Play Music
- Trivia
- Choose your own adventure stories

# Both Kids and Adults love playing Jeopardy together.

# **Future Content Opportunities** (voice only)

- Linear Tie-Ins
- Digital Tie-Ins
- ACR Device Tie-Ins
- Voice Changing (Alexa make me sound like gumball)

# **Future Content Opportunities** (with screen)

- Interactive Video
- Exclusive Content
- Partnership Tie-ins (music.ally etc)
- ACR for Content
- Body movement replication

# 05Insights

- Growing rapidly with kids and adults
- Discoverability is key. If we don't capture our users immediately we'll lose them.
- These ecosystems will become the fabric of the home allowing CN to be part of conversation
- Language is a low barrier to entry for kids to communicate
- A great technology to create engagement around the intersection of creativity and technology
- Still learning if/how socio-economic status plays a role in use

### **Considerations**

- This space is moving so rapidly it requires agility
- In this experimental space, we need to take time to figure out the right way to build an audience and monetize it.
- Identify success metrics and KPI's in this space
- Need to learn how to engage with this space
- Trust issues with COPPA compliancy

# 06Recommendations

- Utilize existing kid behaviors
- Look for opportunities to be first in
- Partner with an agency with knowledge in the space
- Keep our creative process agile and experimental