



David's biography

David Rowan

Former editor-at-large of WIRED magazine's UK edition

David is a keynote speaker on the corporate circuit who shares his insights into [consumer behaviour](#), the digital era, social commerce and media.

David Rowan Keynote Speaker

- Technology columnist for The Sunday Times
- Deep knowledge of trends in technology, social media and [consumer behaviour](#).
- Interviews the world's disruptors and innovators in order to share that insight with [business leaders](#).
- Early-stage investor in 40 tech companies.

David delivers fascinating and knowledgeable presentations full of insight into The future of technology together with lively examples and engaging clips which reveal that in some cases the future is already here.

He's typically asked to speak about how Innovation and technology are likely to impact a particular sector (from manufacturing to motoring), and what incumbent companies can do to protect themselves. He customises every talk, and in recent months has addressed audiences in finance, fashion, utilities, television, insurance, shipping, travel, real estate and business software.

He also speaks a lot about changing business models, and how companies can develop a [culture](#) of innovation. One talk he is asked frequently to deliver is titled "How smart companies are innovating". Another is "Ten ways to stay ahead of tech innovation".

Career

He is the former editor-in-chief of WIRED magazine's UK edition from 2009 to 2017, which won 2009 Launch of the Year at the British Society of Magazine Editors Awards.

In 2017, he moved from his role as editor-in-chief of Wired UK, to become the magazine's editor-at-large, in order to explore the latest trends that will be changing the world as we know it. He spent a brief stint investigating the companies and entrepreneurs changing our world, spending time with the founders of WhatsApp, LinkedIn, Google, Spotify, Xiaomi, Nest, Twitter and countless other disruptive startups from Tel Aviv to Shenzhen before stepping down from the magazine entirely.

Previously he wrote the monthly Digital Life column in GQ magazine; the Tech Traveller column in Conde Nast Traveller, and tech and trend-watching columns for The Times. Trained at The Times, David edited

The Guardian's op-ed, education, analysis and Saturday features sections. In 2006 he was brought in as editor to modernise The Jewish Chronicle.

In 2009 David curated an exhibition of British creative talent for the UK Government's Cabinet Forum conference as a speaker. His regular media appearances include BBC Newsnight, BBC Breakfast News, BBC Radio 4's Today Programme and Channel 4 News. In 2010 David was a judge in the Brit Insurance Design Awards and the 2010 Conde Nast Traveller design awards.

He is a regular speaker and moderator at global conferences including; TED Global, DLD, SIME and NEXT, and at private corporate events for organisations including; Goldman Sachs, HSBC, Best Buy UK, and Nectar. He speaks on topics ranging from the future of luxury brands to the new rules of business in a mobile-internet age and has worked with; IBM, American Express, British Insurance Brokers Association, Estee Lauder, Interactive [Advertising](#) Bureau, KPMG, and Deutsche Bank.

Background

David Rowan attended the University of Cambridge where he got an MA in History. He began his career in journalism at The Times in 1988 and worked briefly at The Independent before joining The Guardian, where he edited their websites among many other writing and editing roles.

David's talks

- **The future of the customer experience**
- **How smart companies are innovating**
- **Why the world will never move this slowly again**
- **How the internet of things is redefining the relationships between business and consumers**
- **Ten technologies shaping our future**
- **Ten lessons I've learned from the world's fastest innovators**
- **How tech will impact financial services**
- **The future of the workplace**
- **How will emerging technologies affect insurance/ the legal industry/ motoring/ travel/ healthcare?**
- **How utilities will change in the decade ahead**
- **New business models that are redefining industries**
- **How [artificial intelligence](#) can boost (not destroy) your business**
- **Lessons from the great disruptors**
- **How to embrace transformation in an exponential era**
- **The future of television**

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