



Designing  
Justice+Designing  
Spaces

# # Tool 5



## Peace & Justice Cards









## Description

### Peace and Justice Cards

Peace and Justice Cards are a conceptual deck of cards that can be used to explore design ideas with communities across cultures and language barriers. They cover a range of themes including places, people, objects, materials, and textures. By making selections of images in response to prompts and queries, participants can create a photographic essay of the qualities of spaces informed by restorative justice and love. These cards also are an easy way for participants to explore experiences with various emotions.

These can easily be used over and over again and are a cheap, easy, and fast way to elicit insight from participants about the design elements of spaces informed by restorative justice.

It is difficult to have all the potential images that participants may desire. If they do not see a card that represents an essential quality of the space they are considering, they can use pens, markers, and pencils to draw and write on blank cards to add to their deck.





### SAMPLE EXERCISE

Divide participants into small groups, give each group a deck of cards, and give them the following prompt:

*As a group, select and agree on five cards that represent the qualities of a space that is grounded in love.*

Participants may find it helpful to consider the queries below when determining their selections:

- What are the essential qualities that this kind of space would need?
- What images are you drawn to and why?
- What are common themes among the small groups?

Participants then present their selections to the larger group. After each group has presented, facilitate a large group discussion about similar and differing themes and design characteristics across the groups.







## Plan and Process

### Use this tool to

- Explore metaphors for justice, peace, calm, etc.
- Identify and discuss the design characteristics of spaces designed to facilitate justice, peace, calm, etc.
- Challenge participants to identify and agree on essential design characteristics.
- Identify literal and metaphorical characteristics of buildings, rooms, and spaces.
- Picture the “feel” of a place or space.
- Visualize concepts, ideas, or personal experiences.
- Explore participants understanding and perceptions of themes under discussion.
- Explore a variety of topics where visual imagery may facilitate learning.
- Encourage participation from those who may be less confident in their verbal communication skills.







## Modify the sample exercise

**Prompt 1:** As a group, select five cards that represent the qualities of a restorative space.

**Prompt 2:** As a group, select five cards that represent a space that is peaceful, nourishing, and/or calming.





## Exercise 1: The Peacemaking Palette

Traditional Native American peacemaking processes use storytelling from elders to persuade, guide, and heal within a circle formed by the larger community. The peacemaking pallet process draws on this tradition in order to get valuable input from the community on the design of spaces that are intended for restorative justice. Through the use of circles and several prompts, each participant contributes an image that represents his or her individual experience, in response to a prompt.

Invite participants to select an image they feel drawn to from a large pile of pictures (which may or may not be in a card format). This image provides a safe medium for participants to tell a story about their particular contribution to the pallet and the design of spaces that facilitate justice and peace building. A sample prompt to guide people in selecting an image is:

*Select an image that represents a space that is peaceful, nourishing, and/or calming? Be prepared to tell a story about why you chose this image.*

After participants have selected their images, the circle facilitator opens the circle and introduces the norms for respect in the circle, including the use of a talking piece and how the sharing of experiences will occur. If there is time, the group can establish the norms of respect themselves. See the Make and Build section for resources related to facilitating circle processes.

In the first round of the circle process, students/practitioners give a one- or two-word answer to the question:

*What values does our current justice architecture communicate?*

For example, participants may suggest majestic, disproportionate, institutional, balancing of scales, accountability, punishment, or intimidating. A second circle round may invite participants to the following question:

*How does justice architecture communicate this value?*

For example, participants may respond with comments about big entry stairs, large buildings, security, monumental columns, control of visitors' direction or activity, formal courtrooms, chaotic lobby, judge on a higher level than others, and prosecutor and defense having their own sides of the courtroom.

Facilitator then invites the participants, in circle, to present the cards they chose for peaceful, nourishing, and/or calming spaces and tell a story about the image they selected. After each participant shares their story, they place their picture in the middle of the circle to create a peace pallet of stories that represent a collective vision for restorative, peaceful, nurturing, and calming spaces for this particular community.

As a final circle, invite participants to respond to the following question:

*What does your image suggest about values that may be essential to the justice process?*

After this final prompt, invite the group to respond to the palette and the images included in it. Display the palette throughout the workshop.



## Exercise 2: The Peacemaking Palette with objects

If feasible, invite participants to bring personal objects to the workshop that are meaningful to them, using the following prompt:

*Select an object you feel drawn to or that represents a place or time in your life that was peaceful, nourishing, and/or calming. Be prepared to tell a story about why you chose this image.*

Facilitate the circle similar to Exercise 1 above, using similar prompts throughout.

Let participants know that the objects they contributed will be returned at the end of the workshop, as part of a closing circle. A prompt to guide this closing circle might be:

*Reflect on all the objects in the palette and the meanings they hold for other people. As you remove your object from the palette, share one new insight you have gained about spaces that promote peacefulness (or nourishment, calm, etc.) and one new thing you can do with the environments in your life to also experience peacefulness (or nourishment, calm, etc.).*

## Present and debrief the design tool

Whether using images on cards, loose images, or personal objects, the following questions may be used to discuss and debrief the various activities:

- What are common themes across the images/objects?
- What are differences across the images/objects?
- What is surprising about the images/objects?
- How do you react or respond to these images/objects as representative of a way to do justice that is restorative or aimed at experiences of peacefulness, nourishment, or calm?





## Make and Build

Peace and Justice Cards are easy and fun to make with groups of people. This tool provides the practitioner, architect, or researcher with a direct and concise way of getting design input when time is limited. The nice thing about this tool is that once you have a deck of cards, you can use it over and over again.



### Materials and process

#### 1. Make your own deck of cards

Collect images from photos, the Internet, or magazines, and cut or fold them to the size of the card on which they will be affixed. Be careful to frame the image the way you want it, prior to cutting or folding. Then glue or tape the image to a blank postcard of any size. You may wish to add questions, words, a stamp, or icon on the opposite side to brand your cards and allow them to be used in a variety of ways.

#### Materials

- Scissors or chipboard ruler to rip straight edges.
- Glue sticks and/or double sided tape.
- Images/magazines.
- Postcards or simple 3" x 5" or 5" x 7" office cards (a larger card allows for more flexibility).



## 2. Buy a deck of cards

If you wish to get a deck of cards professionally made, visit the websites below or buy our deck online at [www.designingjustice.com/tool/peaceandjustice](http://www.designingjustice.com/tool/peaceandjustice).

### Additional Websites

[www.makeplayingcards.com](http://www.makeplayingcards.com)

[www.printerstudio.com/unique-ideas/custom-playing-cards](http://www.printerstudio.com/unique-ideas/custom-playing-cards)

## 3. Create cards using the *DJ+DS* template

Template 5 in this section includes a selection of images that you can use, as well as some blank cards for you to create your own deck of cards. These images can be pasted onto 5" x 7" cards, available at any office supply store, if you want them to last longer.

### Materials

- Scissors or chipboard ruler to rip straight edges.
- Glue sticks and/or double sided tape.
- 5" x 7" postcards.

## Peacemaking references

For more information on circles processes or Native American approaches to justice and peace-building, see the following resources:

- *Peacemaking Circles: From Crime to Community* by Kay Pranis, Mark Wedge, and Barry Stuart.
- *Little Book of Circle Processes* by Kay Pranis.



## Peace & Justice Cards



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Tool  
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Peace & Justice  
Cards

Participant Handout







## Peace and Justice Cards

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### Peace and Justice Cards activity

In your small groups, consider the following prompt:

*As a group, select and agree on five cards that represent the qualities of a space that is grounded in love.*

You may find it helpful to consider the questions below when determining your selections:

- What are the essential qualities that this kind of space would need?
- What images are you drawn to and why?
- What are common themes among the small groups?

You will present your selections to the larger group. After each group has presented, you will participate in a large group discussion about similar and differing themes and design characteristics across the groups.





Tool  
# 5



Peace & Justice  
Cards

Templates





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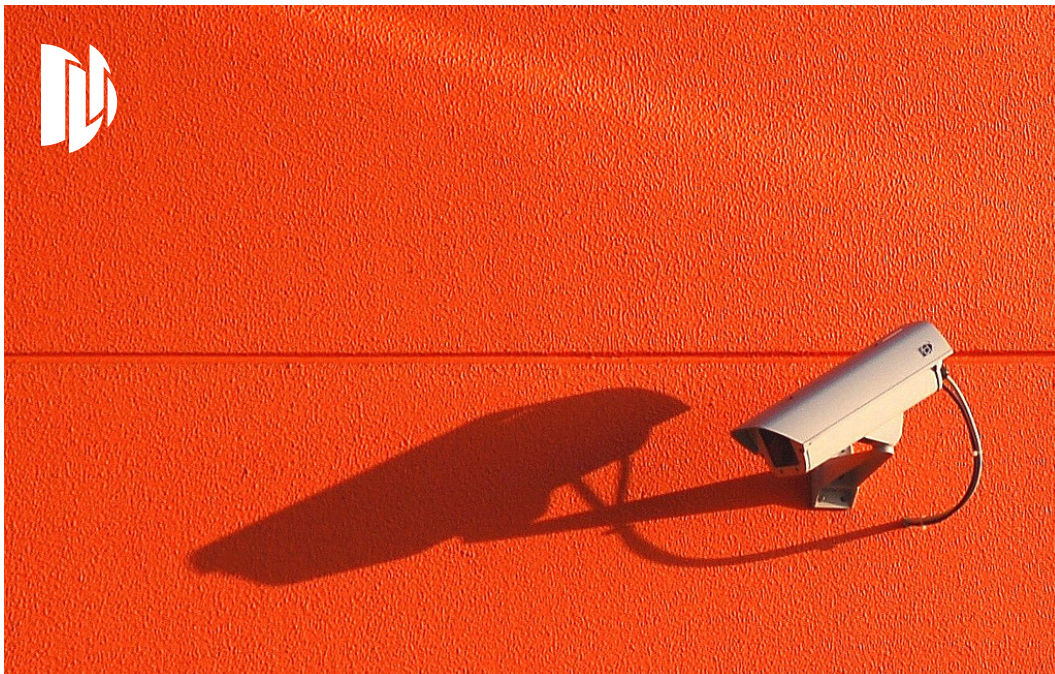


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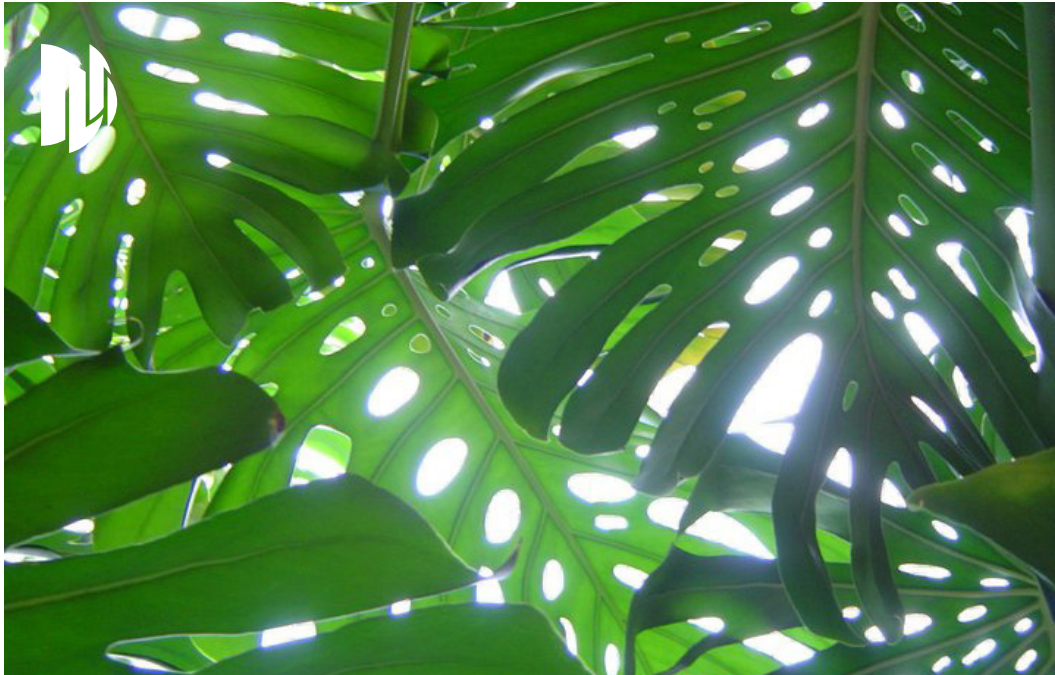




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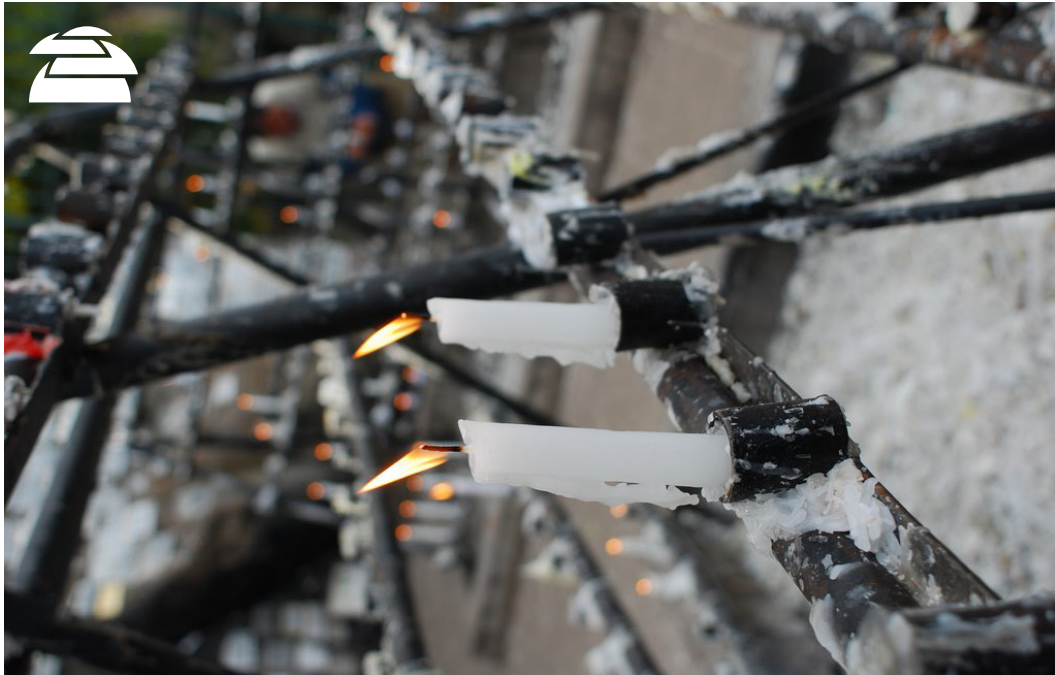


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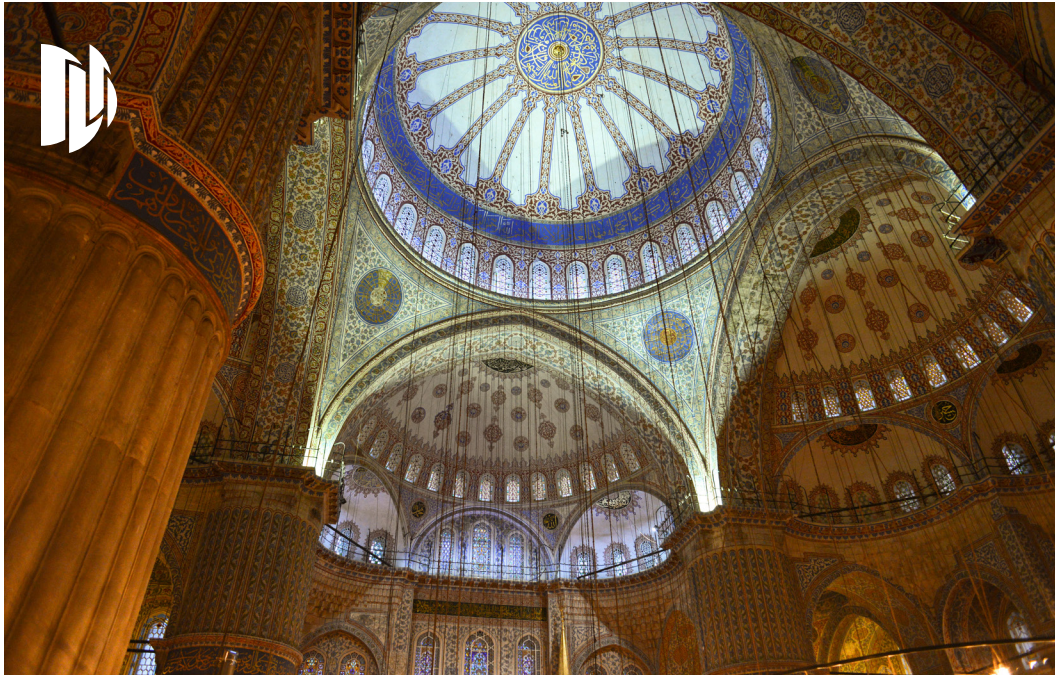


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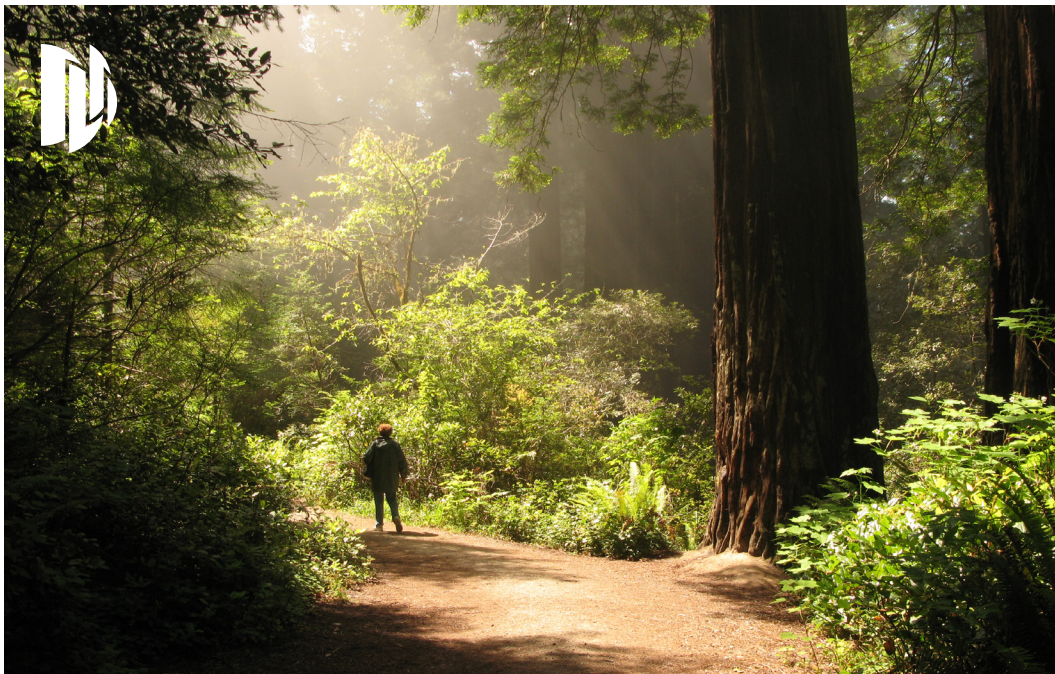


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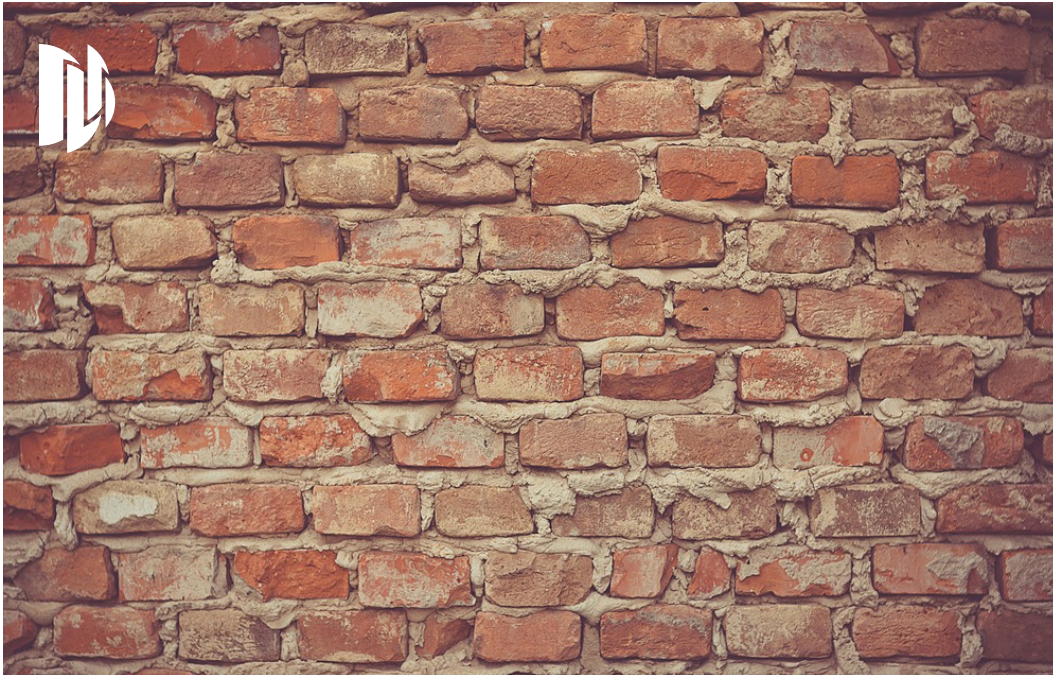




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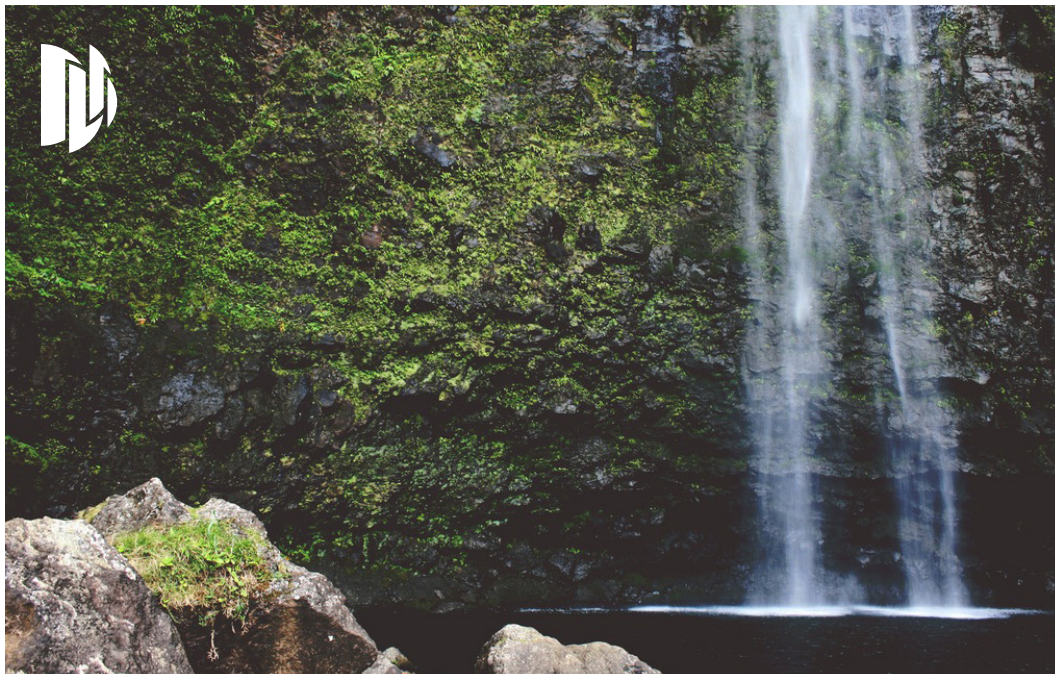


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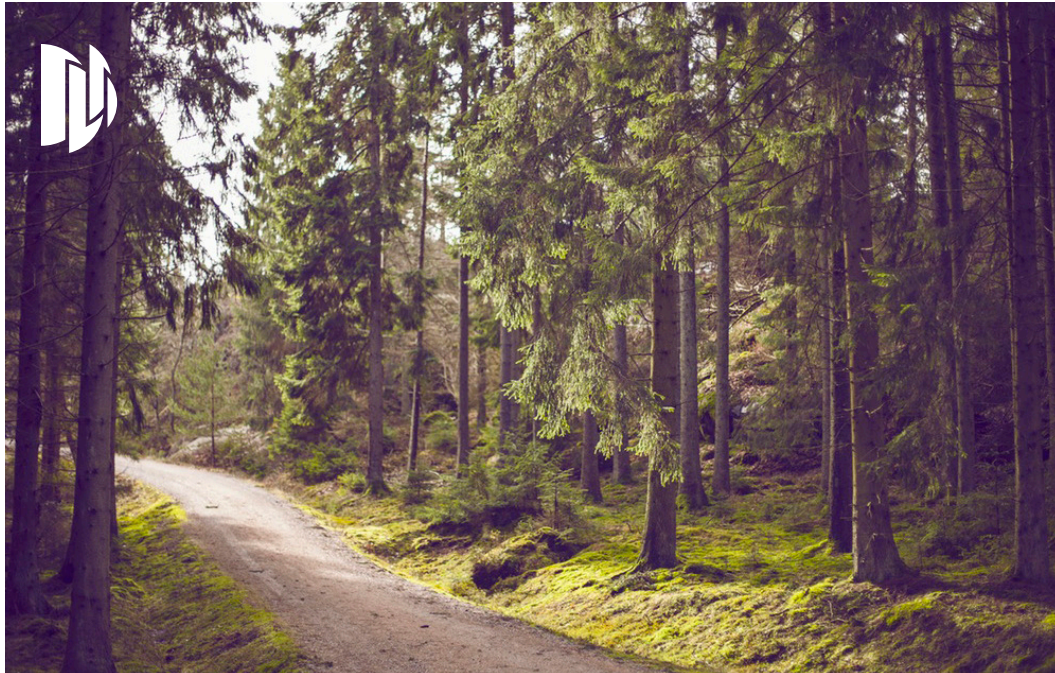




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