

Social Media *Power*

200 Powerful Social Media Tactics
For **Increased Sales, Fans and Followers**



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INTRODUCTION

Social media – it is probably the most phenomenal invention ever conceived by man since the birth of the World Wide Web. And even though earlier versions of online communication have flourished since the earliest days of the internet, nothing compares to the versatility, ease of use, and fun factor of social media.

So what is social media? These are websites that are designed to allow people to connect to one another in a unique and brand new way. Users can keep their contacts updated round the clock. Graduating from the primitive text-form updates, users of modern social media sites can now also upload photos, video clips, slideshows, and music.

Some of the most illustrious examples of social media include Facebook and Twitter.

The trend of social media created something unprecedented in history – an online social community composed of millions of users around the globe. With social media, you have the power to reach people anywhere on the globe where there is internet connection.

And the world of business and commerce is not slow to realize the profit potential of social media. Businessmen and investors quickly realized the huge potential that social media holds. They are particularly interested in the ability of social media sites to reach almost anyone.

Yes, businessmen saw social media as a potential advertisement channel – a powerful advertisement channel that might rival the influence of television advertisement.

Now, businessmen are effectively using social media sites to advertise their products and services. They also use social media to gather useful information which they can use for their marketing strategies.

For instance, businessmen can use social media sites to perform a low cost survey campaign. Never before in the history of business has surveying been as cost effective. Moreover, social media sites allowed businessmen to reach more people than ever before.

But for a social media site to serve its purpose, one must know how to use it properly. Take note that social media is a double-edged sword. If wielded correctly, it can propel your business upwards. If used wrongly, the effect can be the opposite.

And that is why we offer you this eBook. In this eBook, you will find 200 unique and useful tips that will help you make use of social media in the most effective way possible. With this

eBook, you will be able to use Facebook, Twitter, and Youtube as effectively as successful businesses do.

So let us get started...

GENERAL BASICS

1 Be an eye-candy

Keep your social media page looking attractive. This is one of the best ways to attract more subscribers and viewers. Moreover, your viewers will think that you pay a lot of attention to quality if your page is always in top shape.

2 Be active

A social media page must never be stagnant even for only a short period of time. If your page has no activity, your subscribers will likely leave. Always think of new and interesting things to post (you can hire someone to do this for you).

3 Be polite

With a personal social media page, you can say that you are entitled to your own opinion. But since you are representing your business/company, it is important that you maintain a peaceable attitude.

4 Be professional

You are advised to connect with your subscribers. But you must keep a professional relationship. You should also exercise professionalism in the posts, comments, and multimedia content that you upload and post.

5 Be watchful

You cannot control how your subscribers will behave. They may post hate comments, destructive comments, and they may argue with one another. Always be on the watch and take appropriate action as soon as possible.

6 Be interesting

Blog posts that talk about business offers, product offers and services can be really dry and boring. You have to think of ways on how to make dry topics sound interesting.

YOUTUBE

YouTube Superstar – The Page Design Expert

7 Edit your profile page

Unlike Facebook and Twitter, you have greater freedom when it comes to customizing your Youtube profile page. Take this advantage to make your page look more attractive to other users. You can stand out this way.

8 Sport a page design that suits the nature of your business

Do not just sport any page design and theme that you personally prefer. Instead, you must sport a design that suits the nature of your business. For example, it might be wise to use a cartoonish theme if you are selling toys. On the other hand, you might want a more serious approach if your target customers are professionals.

9 Be creative on a professional level

You need to be creative with your page design. However, you must do so in a professional way. Do not just be playful. Put some finesse into it. Your viewers will appreciate this and will think that you pay serious attention to 'quality'.

10 Hire an expert to do the task

Do you not have the skills to pull off a good page design? Then hire someone else to do it for you. You can outsource this task to online freelancers.

11 Change page design according to season/event/holiday

An attractive design will not stay attractive for too long. People will soon grow tired of it. Offer something new by changing your page design according to season/event/holiday (e.g. Christmas theme, Halloween theme, Sales day theme, etc.).

12 Avoid being over-decorated

In your pursuit to have an attractive page design, you might end up overdoing things. This is a mistake that many online marketers make. The result? Their page looks unattractively shabby.

YouTube Superstar – The Crowd Control Expert

13 Include a list of policies

On Youtube, commenters are mostly anonymous. As a result, many users feel safe and at ease making destructive, insulting, and negative comments. Therefore, you must clearly state in your page what behavior you will not tolerate.

14 Delete damaging comments

Despite posting a list of policies, some will still do as they please. You should always be on the watch for destructive comments. Delete them immediately before anyone else sees.

15 Discourage arguments

Sometimes, hate comments are not directed towards you. Clashes can happen amongst commenters themselves. Halt such arguments right away. You can delete their comments, give them warning, or ban them from your page.

16 Monitor your main page and videos regularly

Youtube is live 24/7. Comments may be posted while you are sleeping, taking a bath, or making your dinner. A bad post can be made anytime. You should always be on the lookout. Monitor your Youtube page regularly.

17 Hire a moderator

You have other things to do in life. You may also be busy with work. Therefore, it might be wise to hire a page moderator – someone who will maintain the page on your behalf.

18 Be polite at all times

You may need to reply to the questions of some of your viewers and subscribers. When you do, you should always be polite. You have to be polite even if the other person is being difficult to deal with.

19 Ban abusive users

You may start with a warning. But if a user is repetitively abusive, you have the option of banning him/her from your page.

20 Restrict comments if necessary

You have the option of turning off the comments feature. But use this sparingly.

21 Restrict Thumbs Up if necessary

You have the option of turning off the Thumbs Up feature. But use this sparingly.

YouTube Superstar – The Authentic Page

22 Use company logo and name

Viewers must know that your Youtube page belongs to your business/company. Start by decorating your Youtube page with your company logo and name. Make sure that it also appears in each of your videos.

23 Get rid of spams immediately

How do spams affect the authenticity of your page? If you are unable to control spams, people will think that you are not capable of maintaining your page. This will affect how people view you.

24 Provide a link to your main website

Another way to tell people that you are authentic is to provide a link that will direct people to your company's official website (if you have one). Also, your official website must provide a link that will direct people to your Youtube page.

25 Keep your videos top-notch

If your videos are of low quality, people will surely relate it to the quality standards of your company.

26 Post a welcome video

Make at least one video that welcomes Youtube users to your Youtube page. It must be delivered by one of the top officials of your company (owner, manager, supervisor, CEO, etc.).

YouTube Superstar – The Easy-To-Find Content

27 Use tags

Without tags, the videos you uploaded will likely stay invisible in the video archives of Youtube. Make your video visible by adding as many tags as possible.

28 Know what tags to use

What single-word terms should you use as tags? It could be any word that is related to the video. With a video that talks about 'television' for example, related tags could include the following: flat, screen, LCD, plasma, 3D, HD, etc.

29 Use appropriate title

The title of your video will also determine if your video is hard to find or not. Make sure that your video's title is complete and best describes the content of the video.

30 Provide a good description

You might want to include all the keywords in the title of your video. But that is not possible nor is it attractive to do so. You have the chance of mentioning the rest of the keywords and secondary keywords in the description box.

31 Add related pages to your friends list

There may be other pages that are somewhat related to your market niche. If those pages already have a large subscriber base, it will benefit you to add those pages in your friends list. This way, you are exposing your page to their subscribers. Maybe some of them will subscribe to your page as well.

FACEBOOK

Facebook Superstar: The Trendy Page

32 Harvest 'Likes'

You expose your page not only to subscribers (people who liked your page) but also to the people that are in their friends list. So by having many 'Likes' you are effectively reaching out to more people. This is a powerful advertising tool.

33 Keep subscribers hooked

Just because a user subscribed to your page does not mean that they will stay around. Always keep them hooked to your page by making regular posts. Your posts should also be interesting.

34 Always offer fresh content

When running out of ideas, some pages resort to recycling old content. You should avoid this. Most people are smart enough to realize that you are recycling stuff. Your content should always be fresh and interesting.

35 Open a group account instead

With Facebook, you have the option of opening either a personal account or a group account. For business related purposes, a group account offers more useful features (e.g. advertisement feature).

Facebook Superstar: The Image Expert

36 Be authentic

Anyone can make a Facebook account and put the name of your business on it. Therefore, it is important that you set your Facebook page apart by being authentic. There are many ways to make your page look authentic. One way is to use the company logo.

37 Be professional

Professionalism will go a long way in telling your subscribers that you mean business. Always act accordingly and avoid childish and immature jokes in your posts and comments (unless it is part of the marketing strategy).

38 Be polite

The way you respond to your subscribers will largely contribute to your company's public image. It is important that you maintain a 'polite' standing in order to win the heart of your subscribers. Also, they will admire and commend you this way.

39 Advertise successes

Announcements like "our sales went up by 25% this year" and "we manage to enter the Thai market and things are looking good" tell people that your company is moving forward. This will make people trust and respect you more.

40 Avoid posting negative and potentially insulting comments

Taking care of your image means avoiding things that will your company a bad reputation. Therefore, it is important that you steer clear from negative comments and insulting words.

41 Avoid posts that might incite arguments

Topics that touch religion, politics, and racial issues will almost always result in an argument. Avoid posting anything related to such controversial topics.

42 Be considerate to the feelings of your subscribers

To do this, you have to study the contents of your post before you publish it. Ask yourself: 'is this potentially offensive to someone?' If you will be advertising a skin whitening product for example, do you think it is wise to openly say that fair skin is better than dark skin tone? Or will that offend dark-skinned people?

Facebook Superstar: The Advertisement Expert

43 Narrow down your target audience

If you are selling women's clothes for example, you are probably just wasting money by advertising to the male subscribers of Facebook. Therefore, it is important that you narrow down the scope of your advertisement to your target audience (you pay Facebook more by including more categories of people in your scope of advertisement).

44 Capture the attention of your target audience

Just because you found your target audience does not mean that they will buy from you or even take a second look at what you have to offer. What you need to do is capture their attention. Be unique and imaginative with your advertisement schemes.

45 Know the interests of your target audience

If you know the interest of your target audience, it will be easier to capture their attention. If your target customers are teenagers in Europe for example, you can start by researching the trends among teenagers in Europe.

46 Know how to reach your audience

You know who your target customers are. You also know what their interests are. But you also have to know how to reach them. Facebook offers several options you can choose from – some are paid, some are not. Choose wisely.

47 Pay SOME attention to closely related connections

Earlier, we discussed that you should focus your advertisement on your target customers. But you also need to advertise to other groups. When it comes to women's clothes for example, you may also want to reach husbands and boyfriends who are looking for gift ideas for their partner.

48 Subscribe to related groups

You might also want to subscribe to related Facebook pages. If you are selling women's bags for example, you can like pages of businesses that sell bags, shoes, and such. This way, your page will be exposed to the subscribers of those related pages. They will get the chance to see your own page.

49 Like the posts of related groups

Make yourself more visible to the subscribers of related Facebook pages. You can do this by occasionally liking the comment posts of those Facebook pages. Just be careful not to like a questionable post.

50 Facebook Superstar: The Post Expert

51 Use captivating words

When you want to say something to your subscribers, do not simply say what you have in mind. You need to tell them in style. Prepare a phrase or paragraph that is catchy. Maybe you can use some rhymes too.

52 Avoid being too shabby

The danger of attempting to be 'captivating' is the possibility of being 'too shabby'. A phrase that you thought would click might actually appear as 'cheap'. You can avoid this by asking opinions before posting anything.

53 Use images and photos to spice up your posts

Sometimes, mere words are not enough to get the attention of Facebook users. You might want to add some photos to go with the message. Just make sure the image is related to the post.

54 Use graphics instead of plain text

Sometimes, the words do not have to be in typed text form. You can integrate the text with the image and post that image. This should make things more interesting.

55 Use videos instead of plain text

You can also make your posts more interesting by expressing them through a video clip. With the use of both video effects and sound effects, your subscribers will enjoy more.

56 Use audio instead of plain text

This is not a very popular choice but it should work in some situations.

57 Use different posting styles alternately

Mentioned above are the different ways of expressing your thoughts through your Facebook page. So which one should you use? It is advisable that you use them all alternately.

58 Learn to use the 'Starred Post' feature

Timeline profile is divided into the left and right side. A standard post normally takes only one side. But if you 'star' a post, it will use the entire space (left and right side). This way, the post will be more noticeable. This is useful if you want to make a certain post stand out more.

59 Learn to use the 'Pinned Post' feature

Unlike the 'starred post', the 'pinned post' only takes one side of the Timeline profile. However, a 'pinned post' will take the uppermost side of the page making it noticeable.

Facebook Superstar: The Multimedia Expert

60 Maximize storage space using Youtube

We previously discussed that it is good to use multimedia content to convey your messages to your subscribers. However, Facebook limits how much you can upload. To save on space, you can upload the video to your Youtube account and post the URL of the video on your Facebook page.

61 Delete very old multimedia posts

Another way to save on storage space is to delete very old posts. Just make sure that you delete the oldest posts because some people still like to view your old posts.

62 Keep video clips short and concise

The purpose of this is not only to save on storage space. Most of your viewers might be very busy people. Even if they are not busy, most people are not patient enough to watch a lengthy clip. Keep your videos short, detailed, and complete.

63 Use designs that correspond to your market

When making a video, make sure that you use graphics and style effects that are suited to your nature of business. For example, it might not be appropriate to use playful music and childish themes in a video that targets adult professionals such as managers, supervisors, and CEOs.

64 Use subtitles on your videos

Some people might be using a computer that does not come with good speakers. Some might be accessing the web in a public place where the noise is bustling. So if you included voice in your video clips, it is wise to add a subtitle.

65 Keep video quality top-notch

Do not settle for mediocre and low quality video that looks like it is made by kid. Most of your subscribers will judge your company's capability based on how well you make video clips.

66 Hire experts to make the video

Do not let just anyone make the promotional video clips for you. Make sure that you ask an expert who knows the stuff.

67 Consider outsourcing the job to freelancers

Your team might not have a professional video artist. In which case, you can simply outsource the task to others. The internet is a good place to find freelancer video artists. Those from the Philippines are particularly impressive.

Always authenticate your videos with your own logo

Your videos should always include your company name and company logo. All your videos may start with the company logo and name.

68 Recycle objects to save on cost

Multimedia content such as videos are made up of elements which include images, sounds, and short clips. You may have also paid money to obtain these elements. To save on cost, you can reuse elements you already to come up with newer multimedia content.

69 Use video size that everyone can view

A high quality video with high frame rate, high sound bitrate, and high-definition encoding is definitely an eye-candy. Sadly, not all users can view such videos. Some use computers with low specifications and internet connection that is not very fast.

Facebook Superstar: The Troll Management Expert

70 Put up a 'Policy Page'

The policy page should clearly state the things and behavior that you will not tolerate on your page. Although try not to sound too bossy when writing down the list of do's and don'ts. Try using 'avoid' instead of 'never'. And do not forget to use the word 'please'.

71 Closely and regularly monitor every posts made by subscribers

People around the globe can make posts on your Facebook page round the clock. With every second that passes by, a new post and/or comment may have already been made by someone. So keep watch.

72 Check the page 'regularly'

'Regularly' means you should check your page at regular intervals (e.g. every 1 hour, every 5 hours, every day, etc.). Set a time interval that is convenient to you.

73 Hire someone to monitor the page at regular intervals

You might not have the time to check your Facebook page regularly. In which case, it is advisable that you hire a page moderator – someone will monitor and maintain your page.

74 Quickly remove Spams

Some people will attempt to post spams on your page. You may think it is okay to leave them. However, viewers will get the impression that you are not maintaining your page properly.

75 Remove potentially damaging comments

Some people, for many different reasons, will try to say bad things about your company and your products/services. They are the detractors. Quickly remove any posts from them before other people sees.

76 Never fall to argumentation

There are those that will attempt to provoke you into answering back. That is what they want. They want to make you look bad. Avoid entering into argumentations no matter what. You must be professional.

77 Answer questions politely

There are those that will ask you questions through posts and comments. Whether they are polite, aggressive, pushy, or just trying to annoy you, it is necessary that you answer them politely. Do not argue. Simply provide the answer to their question.

78 Avoid ignoring crucial questions

Sometimes, a detractor will ask a question that will attract the attention and interest of your subscribers. If you do not provide an answer, your subscribers will think that you are dodging the question and that you are hiding something. You will leave an unanswered question in their mind. You must avoid this.

79 Ban repetitively abusive users

Depending on the gravity of the offense, you may choose to simply warn an abusive user. But if he/she is repetitively breaking your rules and policies (e.g. posting hate comments), you may need to take the appropriate course of action.

Facebook Superstar: The SEO Expert

80 Find the most-searched keywords in your category

To be an SEO expert, you must be good in generating keywords. You can do this using Google AdWord – a tool that can generate the most searched keywords for a particular market. You can use the generated keywords to write SEO powered articles.

81 Include the main keyword in the page title

You will generate many keywords. But there is always just one main keyword. Include this keyword in the title of your page. This way, your Facebook page will have better chances of making it to the top search results of Google when someone searches for a related keyword.

82 nclude the main keyword in the URL

This has the same effect as including your main keyword in your title page. Facebook will automatically give you a URL name when you sign up. You can change this in the settings. Replace the default URL name and include the main keyword on the new URL name.

83 Use secondary keywords in your regular posts

If the main keyword is to be used in the URL and title page, where will you use the secondary keywords? You can use them in the short articles that you post. But do not forget to still include the main keyword along with the secondary keywords.

84 Do not give up quality when integrating keywords/phrases

In their attempt to integrate keywords to their articles, some writers end up sacrificing the quality and sincerity of the article. Do not resort to this. Quality should still be your priority.

85 Update the keywords used on regular intervals

The most searched keywords change after some time. As such, AdWords may not generate the same results as it did a week or even a day ago. So always generate new keywords on regular intervals. Update your Facebook page using the new set of keywords.

Facebook Superstar: The Link Expert

86 Post links to related news articles

This is one way to keep your viewers tuned to your page. If you see an online article that is related to your market niche, especially those by reputable sources such as Times Magazine online, it would be a good idea to share that page on your Facebook profile.

87 Post links to related video clips

You may also find online videos that talk about your market niche. If the content of those videos are of interest to your viewers, you can link them to you Facebook page.

Facebook Superstar: The Information Expert

88 Announce promos and events through your Facebook page

If you have promos, it would be a good idea to announce them through your Facebook page (e.g. we will offer 50% discount on selected items from Jan 15 to January 18). After some time, your subscribers will realize that you are announcing your promos through Facebook. This way, they will keep visiting your page to check for your next promo offer.

89 Announce business changes through your Facebook page

If there are some changes in your business (new products, days closed, service hours, etc.), announce them through your Facebook page. It will not only inform your subscribers, but it will also alleviate the authenticity of your page.

90 Reveal only the physical address of the office

This has to do with safety. Be transparent enough by revealing the physical address of your office. This will also help with authenticity. But there is no need to reveal the physical address of the admins and the company employees.

91 Reveal only the contact information of the office

The same goes with the contact information. You should refrain from disclosing the contact information of your admins and employees. If they have a dedicated email address used for the sole purpose of entertaining customers, you may disclose that email ID then.

92 Be discreet in withholding information about the admin

To avoid identity theft, you should be discreet in withholding information about your admins and employees. People with ill intention may use the personal information of other people for their benefit. It can be used for conning, scamming, and deceiving.

93 Link Facebook and Yahoo Messenger

This will help you stay updated on everything that is happening on your Facebook page. When someone posts something, you will know right away via your Yahoo Messenger.

94 Access Facebook via mobile phone

This is for mobility. If you can access your Facebook page through your mobile phone, then you will always stay updated. You can even make posts using your mobile phone.

Facebook Superstar – The Page Moderator

95 Hire a page moderator

With a diligent page moderator, your Facebook page will be easily maintained. And with a page moderator, negative comments will be removed earlier.

96 Divide the task among employees

You may not need to hire another person to do the task of a page moderator. You may simply divide the task among your existing employees. For example, you may task employee A to monitor the page every 8 AM, employee B every 10 AM, employee C every 12 PM, and such.

97 Limit the actions of your moderator

Your moderator should know his/her limits. He/she should not make decisions for your company. He/she should only make posts according to your instructions.

98 Make sure your moderator understands your values

Your moderator may be authorized to make replies. In which case, he/she must understand your ideals and your policies especially when it comes to politeness and self-control.

TWITTER

Twitter Superstar: The Image Expert

99 Maintain a good follower/following ratio

If you are following more people than the number of people following you, it will not create a good image for you. There should always be more people that follow you.

100 Generate followers

The start is the most difficult part. Ask people that you know to follow you on Twitter. They could be relatives, employees, friends, and friend of friends.

101 Be selective on who to follow

As already mentioned, you need to follow only a limited number of Twitter users. As such, you need to be selective. Follow only those that matters.

102 Maintain a professional attitude

People do not usually mind what others say. But since your Twitter account represents a company, they will be sensitive to the things that you will say. Be professional at all times so as not to create a bad image for your company.

103 Be diligent in replying

You will appear as a snob if you refrain too often from replying to the questions of your followers. Unlike Facebook, Twitter puts more highlight on replies. Be diligent in replying.

104 Use the company name and logo

This is one way to authenticate that your Twitter account is really connected to your company. It is also one way to isolate your page from possible posers.

105 Be connected to popular groups

Do not just follow any popular group. The popular group that will follow must be connected to your market niche. If you are selling baby products for example, it might be a good idea to follow the Twitter page of Gerber, Huggies, and other popular baby product brands.

The Twitter Superstar: Crowd Management Expert

106 Ban abusive users

These are called trolls. Some people will seek to tarnish your public image. Maybe they are people who were once displeased with your service or product. If they continue to be abusive, simply ban them from your page.

107 Check what people are saying about you

People will talk about you. Always check what they are saying. If you detect any libelous comments, you have the power to report them to Twitter.

108 Avoid controversial comments

These are comments that may attract negative reactions. Avoid making such comments.

109 Avoid reacting to controversial topics

You have the power to reply to the public messages of others. But you must limit your use of this power. You must especially steer clear from controversial topics (e.g. religion, racial topics, politics, etc.).

110 Provide discreet contact and address information

This will give people an impression that you have nothing to hide. Provide the office phone number and physical address of your business/company.

MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS

Consistency With Information

111 Posts about the same news must be consistent

The danger of having multiple accounts is having inconsistent information. When you post about the same thing on all your social media accounts, make sure they provide exactly the same information.

112 Make posts at the same time

To avoid inconsistency, you should make posts at the same time. So if you need to announce a 50% discount sale promo for example, do it on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media accounts at the same time.

113 Allow one person to make all the posts across different accounts

It will also help if the same person is making the posts on all your social media accounts. This will prevent inconsistency.

114 Check and re-check

And of course, you will need to check and re-check all the posts that you made. No matter how careful you are, some mistakes will still go through once in a while.

Advertising Accounts

115 Mention the other accounts in one account

You can provide this list at the description page, about page, or even the title page.

116 Report growth of other accounts

Tell your subscribers how your other accounts are faring. This will attract them to subscribe to your other accounts as well. In your Twitter for example, say something like: "Our Facebook page hit its first 100,000 likes!"

117 Invite subscribers to check your other accounts

In your Twitter for example, you may Tweet "check out our Facebook page as well".

118 Provide links to other accounts

Some subscribers might be too lazy to check out your other accounts. Help them out and make things easier for them by providing a URL link that works.

HOOTSUITE.COM

119 Manage multiple social media accounts

Managing multiple social media accounts is difficult. But this tool allows you to do the task with more ease. Sign up and use Hootsuite to manage all your social media accounts.

120 Make scheduled message posts

You can pre-program Hootsuite to make blog posts and Tweets. Of course, you have to prepare the messages in advance.

121 Track brand mentions

A subscriber or a commenter might inconspicuously mention other brands in your page. Track this activity and see what their comment is all about.

123 View analysis report

This will make it easier for you to analyze how well your social media account is doing. Reports like traffic flow will be very useful to you.

124 Use RSS feeds

This will allow you to auto-update your social media accounts via news feed or from your blog.

125 Enjoy the free account

Hootsuite.com offers a free service. The features available are limited but most businesses will do with it. The free account offers the following features: manage 5 social profiles, use quick reports, use message scheduling, have 2 RSS feeds.

126 Use the paid service

If you are the demanding user and you manage quite a few more social media accounts than regular, you might need a paid service. The paid Hootsuite service offers the following additional features: control unlimited profiles, use analytics reports, use Google analytics integration, use Facebook insights integration, have unlimited RSS feeds, have 2 free users.

COMPOSING POSTS

127 Match writing style with audience

Consider your audience. Are they young people? Are they old people? Are they conservative individuals? Are they outgoing? Are they sensitive to some forms of speech? Consider these factors and write accordingly.

128 Write in an active tone

A paragraph or a sentence with an active tone makes use of action words. Instead of saying "You can save money by..." you should say "Save money by...". This style of speech encourages readers to take action.

129 Use highlighting techniques

Highlight important words to make a message or blog post more noticeable. So instead of simply posting "Save up to 10 USD and get a free headphone", you should post "SAVE up to 10 USD and get a FREE headphone". You can also highlight using underlined and bold text.

130 Hire people to compose blog posts for you

If you are not confident enough that you can properly compose blog posts, you should outsource the task to those who can. You can find freelance blog post writers at www.odesk.com.

131 Make sure your writers understand your trade

If you outsource this task, make sure that the writer knows about your product, services, and your policies. Communicate closely with the person you hire.

CLOSING THE COMPETITION

Topping your competitors

132 Offer something more

Are your competitors getting more subscribers and more views? Then try offering something more. If they are always posting good multimedia content, then start by posting more multimedia content that are of better quality.

134 If you cannot beat them, be good in something else

Can't beat your competitor in terms of multimedia content? Then beat them with better blog posts. Can't beat their frequent discount offers? Then beat them with better quality products.

135 Aim for their numbers

Use their numbers as the goal that drives you. If you have 1000 subscribers and your competitor has 10,000, then your goal is to get another 9,000 subscribers.

136 Aim for their subscribers

Why not attract their subscribers towards you? Maybe you can send them newsletters.

Learning from your competitors

137 See how your competitors use social media

Admit it. Your competitor might be better at handling their social media account. In which case, simply learn from their expertise. Do how they do things.

138 See which of their messages get more response

Which among the blog posts of your competitor are getting more likes and replies? Study those posts and analyze why those posts are viral. Apply what you learn to your own blog posts.

139 Analyze what about their page you find unattractive (from a customer's viewpoint)

Imagine that you are a customer. As a customer (not a competitor), what do you find disappointing about their profile page? Identify the mistakes and avoid making the same errors.

140 See how they make use of multimedia

Check out the video clips, images, graphics, sound clips, slideshows, and other media content posted by your competitors. See how they do things right or wrong.

Monitoring your competitors

141 Regularly check the page of your competitors

Keep checking the page of your competitor at a regular basis. See how often they are updating their page. Observe their movements and marketing plans.

141 Ask someone to do the monitoring

You might not have all the time to snoop around your competitor's page round the clock. Ask someone to do it for you.

142 Check out their future plans

Your competitors will announce things on their page. Keep checking for such posts and see their future plans. You particularly want to keep an eye on their marketing plans (e.g. discount sales, promo offers, etc.).

143 Check out their growth

Check out how fast your competitors are growing. They will usually announce such growth to entice their subscribers.

144 Subscribe

Create a dummy account. Subscribe to the site of your competitor. This is because some competitors restrict some information and some features to their subscribers and members only.

Dummy Profiles

145 Make a dummy account

Dummy account should not be traceable to you. Create a new email account for this purpose only.

146 Reply to blog posts and suggest your brand

This will lead the subscribers of your competitor to check out your brand. You might convert some of them.

147 Make suggestions subtle to avoid spam alert

When you suggest your brand, you must do so in a subtle way. It should not sound like a Spam or it will be removed. Be creative.

148 Make multiple accounts

If you use only one account, people will notice that you are a spammer. Make about 10 social media accounts.

149 Create a comment string

Create a conversation between your dummy accounts. When one account says: "I also liked <brand>", another account may say "Yeah I agree".

150 Make the dummy profile fully private

Dummy accounts will likely have no friends, no real address, no albums, and such. You can mask this by making the dummy profiles fully private. This way, people will think that the albums and posts are not visible only because the profiles are private and not because those elements are really not there.

ROLE MODEL

151 Check how industry leaders do it

Industry leaders are the popular brands. With toothpastes for example, you can say that Colgate is one of the industry leaders. Check out the profile page of the leaders in your industry and see how they do things.

152 Analyze why they succeeded

Study and observe the social media of these industry leaders. Why is their page viral and popular? Why are they getting a lot of subscribers?

153 Make a draft of how to imitate them

You should not just copy them. You should make a plan on how to do it.

Apply their techniques to your social media accounts

Take note that there are a lot of differences between your company and your role model company even if your company is in the same industry. Do not just imitate things as they are.

SURVEYS

Getting Information

154 Know what your customers want/expect from you

Use surveys to ask your customers what they want you to offer next. Maybe they are expecting you to sell some new product or offer some new service.

155 Get opinions about new plans

Are you planning some big change in your company, products, and/or services? Then ask your customers what they think about it. See how they will react.

156 Get feedback on new things you tried

Did you recently make some changes? See how your customers are faring with the changes that you made. Do they like it? Or do they hate it? Do they have suggestions that you might want to take note of?

157 Get feedback on products you sold

See how your customers like the products that you sold. You will want to hear both the negative and the positive feedbacks. This will give you an idea on how to improve the products that you will sell in the future.

Doing Surveys Right

158 Make surveys short

Viewers will immediately back down upon seeing long survey questions with lengthy paragraphs and endless choices. Keep your surveys looking short and viewers will most likely be willing to participate.

159 Make survey questions short, detailed, concise, and complete

The question and the choices does not have to be lengthy. Just be concise. This is how your subscribers will like it. Surveys like this one get more attention.

160 Keep the list of choices short

Avoid having more than four choices for each question.

161 Pin/Star survey posts

This feature is available in Facebook. You can 'star' or 'pin' a post to make it more visible and more noticeable. When you post a survey question, you should either make it a Starred post or a Pinned post – assuming that you are using Facebook.

Advertising Your Survey

162 Write in header box that you are holding a survey

Let people know that you are holding a survey. The header box should advertise this. In a Facebook group account, this is the 'About' page. Write something like: "We are currently holding a survey. We will appreciate your participation. It will only take a few seconds/minutes."

163 Advertise in main website that you are holding a survey

You can assume that a lot of people are also viewing your main/official website. In your main website, you can say something like: "Please join the survey we are holding in our Facebook page."

164 Advertise survey through RSS feed

Preset your RSS page to occasionally publish a reminder that tells your subscribers to join your survey.

165 Encourage people to join via newsletter

Newsletter maybe the oldest method in the book. But it is still an effective online marketing strategy. Invite people via newsletter to join your survey. You might as well provide a link to the survey page.

MARKETING

Getting Attention

166 Advertise in advance

If you will be holding a sale for example, it is best to announce it in advance to entice your subscribers and customers. You will also be able to get the opinions of your subscribers and customers about your plans.

167 Start with teasers

Maybe you should post teasers first before revealing a promo offer or a sale day. Something like: "we have a special surprise for our customers next week" will surely get your subscribers pumped up.

168 Make your announcements standout

Use some techniques to make your marketing posts more noticeable. Use videos, images, sound clips, slideshows, and such. Highlight important words in as well.

169 Follow-up with newsletter

Make your loyal customers feel special by informing them personally about your upcoming promos and discount offers. Send them a newsletter telling them about the promo.

Upselling/Cross-selling Via Social Media

170 Announce upsell/cross sell options

Customers might be better prepared to an upsell and cross offer sell if they are informed in advance. You have better chances of making an upsell and cross sell this way.

171 Tell people why they need it

In your post, tell your subscribers how they will benefit from the upsell and cross sell option. Here is an example: "With these Hi-Fi headphones, you will better enjoy the high multimedia capabilities of the gaming computer that you will buy... etc. etc."

172 Tell people how much they will save

People are always interested in gain. Tell them how much money they will save if they avail of the upsell and cross sell offer – assuming that the upsell and cross sell products you offer are at a discount.

Provide A Digital Catalogue

173 Upload product photos

Customers are primarily interested in what you offer. If your social media page provides a catalogue of your products, they will surely frequent your page. You will also get to advertise your products for free.

174 Provide product information/specification

Post photos and include in the description box a list of specifications for the product.

175 Provide pricing data

Many online users are also after the price list. Make sure that you include the price tags in your online catalogue.

176 Update catalogue regularly

Whenever your catalogue changes, you must also make appropriate changes in your online catalogue. You do not want your subscribers to view an outdated catalogue. This could be damaging to business.

177 Make sure the list is complete

Include all your services and your products in your online catalogue. Try not to miss a single one.

178 If the list is not complete, make sure it is clear

Some businesses offer an almost endless number of individual products. A car auto supply shop is an example. It would be too troublesome to include every single unit to the online catalogue. Just make sure that your subscribers know that your online catalogue only include select items.

179 Organize products for easier navigation

The online catalogue should be organized according to kind. If you are selling mobile phones for example, you can use a separate folder for Nokia, Samsung, Sony Ericsson, and others.

GLOBAL LANGUAGE

180 Open accounts in different languages

If your customers and subscribers include people from different countries that speak different languages, you might want to open several accounts. Each account should be similar in content but written in different languages.

181 Offer translation option

You may not need to open several accounts. Opening several accounts will scatter the number of subscribers and number of Likes. You may simply offer translation options in your social media page. Facebook offers this option. However, you cannot control what language your subscribers will use when they post a message on your wall.

182 Write in an easy tone

Your page should be friendly to all users. Make sure that you only use simple English. This way, people of all ages and education level will be able to benefit from our page. Also, people who are not that adept in English will be able to understand your wall posts.

CORRECT TIMING

183 Know when to post

Your subscribers might be receiving a lot of new notifications every day. After some time has passed, your wall post might become unnoticeable. This means that you must choose a good time to post (e.g. if your subscribers are mostly students, it would be good to post after school hours when students are most likely online).

184 Know when to repeat a post

Your subscribers might comprise of individuals from different countries. As such, their time slots might be different. Repeat a post to make it visible to all your subscribers around the globe.

185 Know how to repeat a post

Re-posting a similar wall post might be a good idea at all times. It will look as though you are recycling materials. With Facebook for example, try the 'share' feature instead. Click the 'share' button on old posts to refresh it on top of your profile page.

186 Have a timeline for posts

Do you have ten or so messages that you need to post? Do not post them all at once. Otherwise, some of the messages might not get noticed. Have a timeline and plan when to post each post.

187 Know when to reply

It is not always wise to reply immediately. This is especially the case with trolls. You might want to see how your other subscribers will respond. It is fun to see how some of them will actually defend you.

188 Know when to follow up

Some companies like to follow up after a post. They do this by sending newsletters. But do not immediately send a reminder email only days after your original wall post. It will look as though you are desperate. Allow some time to pass first.

189 Know when to change your profile

Be in time for Christmas, Halloween, Independence Day, and other holidays. With Christmas for example, it is a good idea to change into Christmas theme months before the actual holiday.

190 Know when to take down a post

Some post may no longer be necessary. But do not be hasty in taking them down. Some of your subscribers might still like to see them (e.g. funny videos you made). In other cases, quickly take down a post that you no longer want your subscribers to see (e.g. contains information that is no longer true).

191 Know when to hold a survey

There are times when people are more susceptible to agreeing to a survey. For example, they might be in the mood to do a survey after a 3-day discount sale. They might also feel the same during salary days. This is because they are happy and satisfied.

CLEVER TRICKS

192 Keep this secret

There is a reason why these are called 'dirty tricks' So keep them secret. Do not worry. Probably all online marketers use these tricks.

193 Use dummy accounts to make positive reviews

Dummy accounts should each use a unique email for registration. Also, each dummy account must have a private profile (cannot be viewed) to hide the fact that they are in fact dummy accounts. Use these accounts to write positive responses to your wall posts. Also, use these accounts to give positive reviews to the products/services that you advertised.

194 Sound natural

Outrageously sounding reviews are not believable. Also, they will raise the suspicion of your other subscribers and other onlookers. Make sure that the positive reviews you posted using your dummy accounts all sound natural.

195 Hire a writer to make positive reviews

It is hard to write a convincing review that sounds natural. You might want to hire a professional to do this for you. There is a market for this kind of requests.

196 Hire different writers

You want each of the fake reviews to sound different. If they all sound like they are written by the same person, your cover could be blown. Hire different writers.

197 Ask friends to make positive reviews

Your friends can help out too. Just make sure these friends are not obviously friends with the employees of your company.

198 Hire a moderator to handle dummy accounts

It is difficult to handle multiple dummy accounts. Ask someone to do the task for you. And make sure that they are good at hiding secrets.

FINAL TIPS

199 Your social media is an extension of your company

This is a mindset tip. Always keep in mind that your social media is not just a social media account. It is an extension of your company. It embodies your company. If you look at it this way, you will surely take better care of your social media account.

200 Your company's social media account is separate from you

This is another mindset tip. Keep in mind that your company's social media account represents your company and not you. As the moderator, it can be hard not to display your own personality. But you must train yourself to be neutral.

CONCLUSION

Social media can be a powerful tool. In the right hand, it can propel any business to the top. With the right strategies, a company might see a significant increase in sales within a short period of time. With the right management, a company might gain more popularity from the public.

But this is the good side of social media. Just as social media can build you up it can also completely destroy you. Be very careful in the use of social media. We are not trying to talk you out of it. It is just a reminder. Thankfully though, it is not very often that a company wrongly uses a social media account so as to cause significant damage.

Hopefully, this eBook will be of great help to you. It should guide you to the right direction. With this eBook, you will be able to avoid the dark side of social media. Instead, you will enjoy the benefits of social media's good side.