

# Chapter 16

# Retailing and Multichannel Marketing

# Supply chain (simplified)



## Make

Some of the activities include:

- Making the actual product
- Research & Development
- Supply chain management (efficiency, savings)

## Move/store

This level in the supply chain may (or may not) include a wholesaler like Costco

## Sell

Retailers, distributors, and manufacturers will often work closely with one another to create a more efficient supply chain, which can improve sales and profitability. It can even result in savings for the consumer.

## Consumers

If the consumer is not happy, no one along the supply chain is happy!

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# Retailers



Definition: Set of business activities that **add value** to products and services sold to consumers

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- **Location** → bring product/service closer to consumers
- **Wide selection** of products
- **Salespersons** can help in final choice/fit a product, e.g.:
  - Clothes → tailor to fit perfectly
  - Bike → bike fitting and sizing

# Manufacturer – retailers relationship

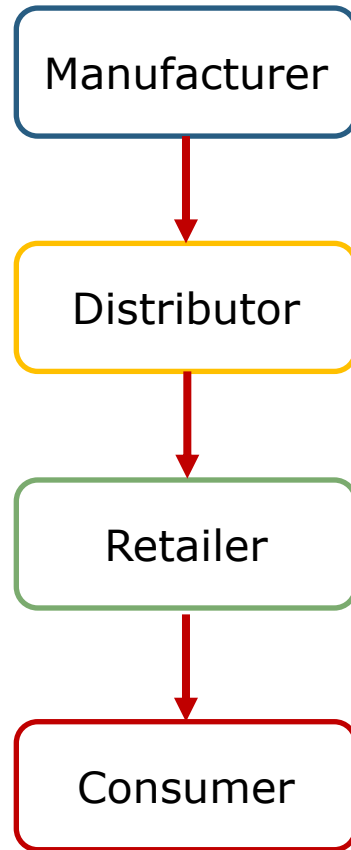


Which factors do manufacturers consider to establish relationship with retailers?

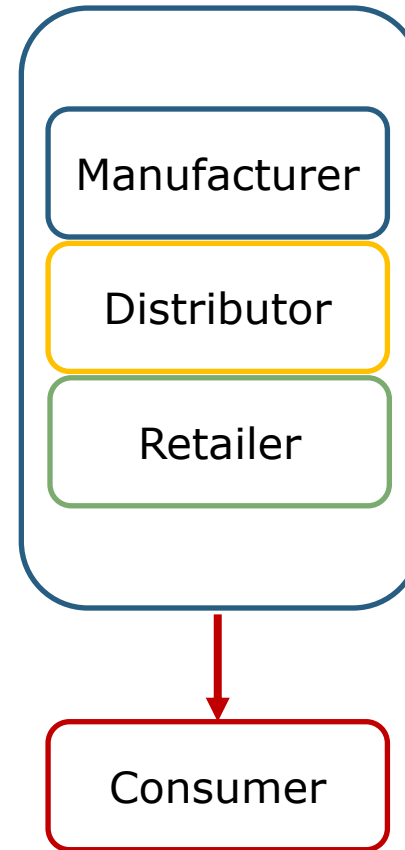
- Who fits your image best?
- What type of retailer should you pursue?
- What is your retail strategy?
- Multichannel presence – Online, brick & mortar

# Choosing Retail Partners

## 1. Channel structure is important



Every entity has  
its **own goals**



Entities act as  
**unified system**



## 2. Customer expectation

- Does Chanel sell perfumes at CVS?

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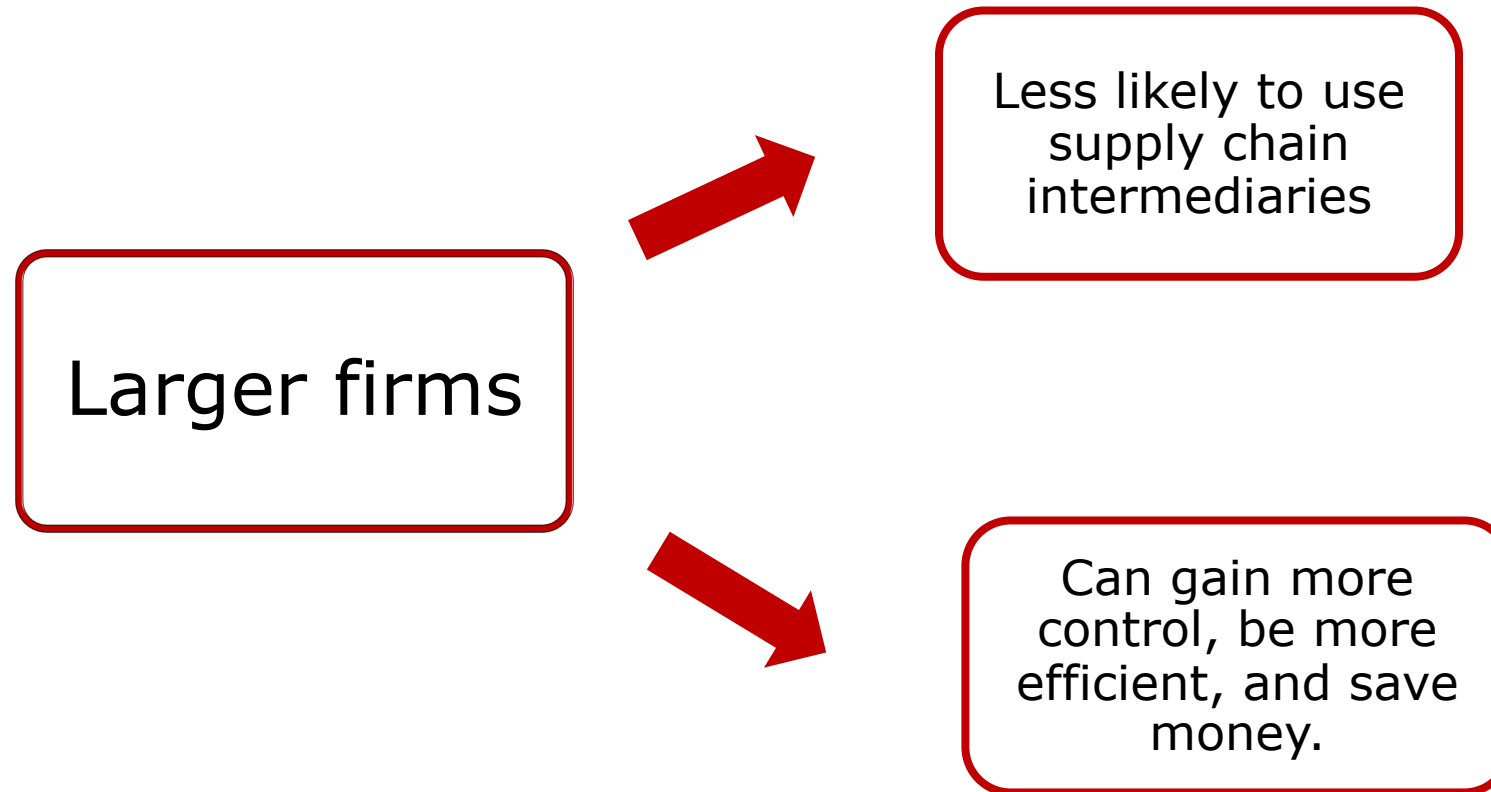
Doesn't allow any online sales except from [specialized.com](https://www.specialized.com), where everything is sold at MSRP

- Brand will look less valuable
- Don't upset "local bike shops"



PROTECT BRAND  
&  
THEIR (OFFLINE) RETAILERS

## 3. Channel members characteristics



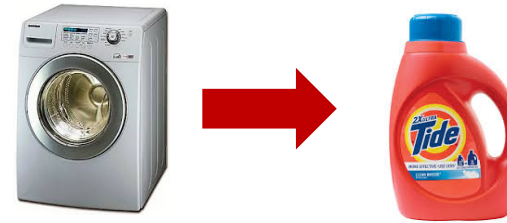
## 4. Type of distribution

- Place product everywhere possible
- Exclusive/Selective
  - Luxury goods use only few high end retailers! (Recall brand value)
  - Control inventory easily
  - Less competition

Retailers add value using the four Ps

## 1. Product: Home Depot Case

- Provides customers better access to product they want!
- Provides **right assortment**



- Online store to match consumer needs
  - Easier to locate items
  - No need to have physical product in stores
    - Online we can find low selling items

Retailers add value using the four Ps

## 2. Price

- It sets the image and perception of consumers



## Retailers add value using the four Ps

### 3. Promotion

- Facilitate sales
- Affect firm image
- Different forms
  - Offline/online
  - Coupon
  - Credit cards
  - Social media
  - Mobile
  - Etc.



Retailers add value using the four Ps

## 4. Location, location, location

- Being in a good location gives competitive advantage
  - If Starbucks is in a very good location, how can competitors find a competitive place where to open their stores?



How would you choose a good location if you have to open a business?

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**Brand Image** - Is the location consistent with the image you want to maintain?

**Competition** - Are the businesses around you complementary or competing?

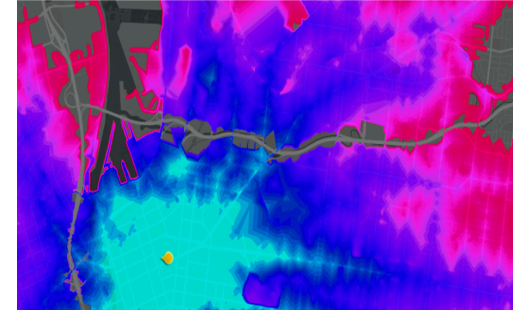
**Local Labor Market** - Does the area have potential employees? What will their commute be like?

**Plan for Future Growth** - If you anticipate further growth, look for a building that has extra space should you need it.

**Proximity to Suppliers** - They need to be able to find you easily as well.

**Safety** - Consider the crime rate. Will employees feel safe alone in the building or walking to their vehicles?

How do you think Starbucks finds good locations?



How do you think Starbucks finds good locations?

- (Big) Data analysis, e.g., using [ArcGIS Online](#), a technology platform for visualizing data in the form of maps
  - How far from home are customers willing to travel to get to a coffee?
  - Risks associated with building new stores

**“Retailers not only need to know where their potential customers are, they need to know where they will be over the 10-to-25 year lifetime of the investment they make in physical space.”** Jack Kilmartin, CEO

# Retail strategy: Place

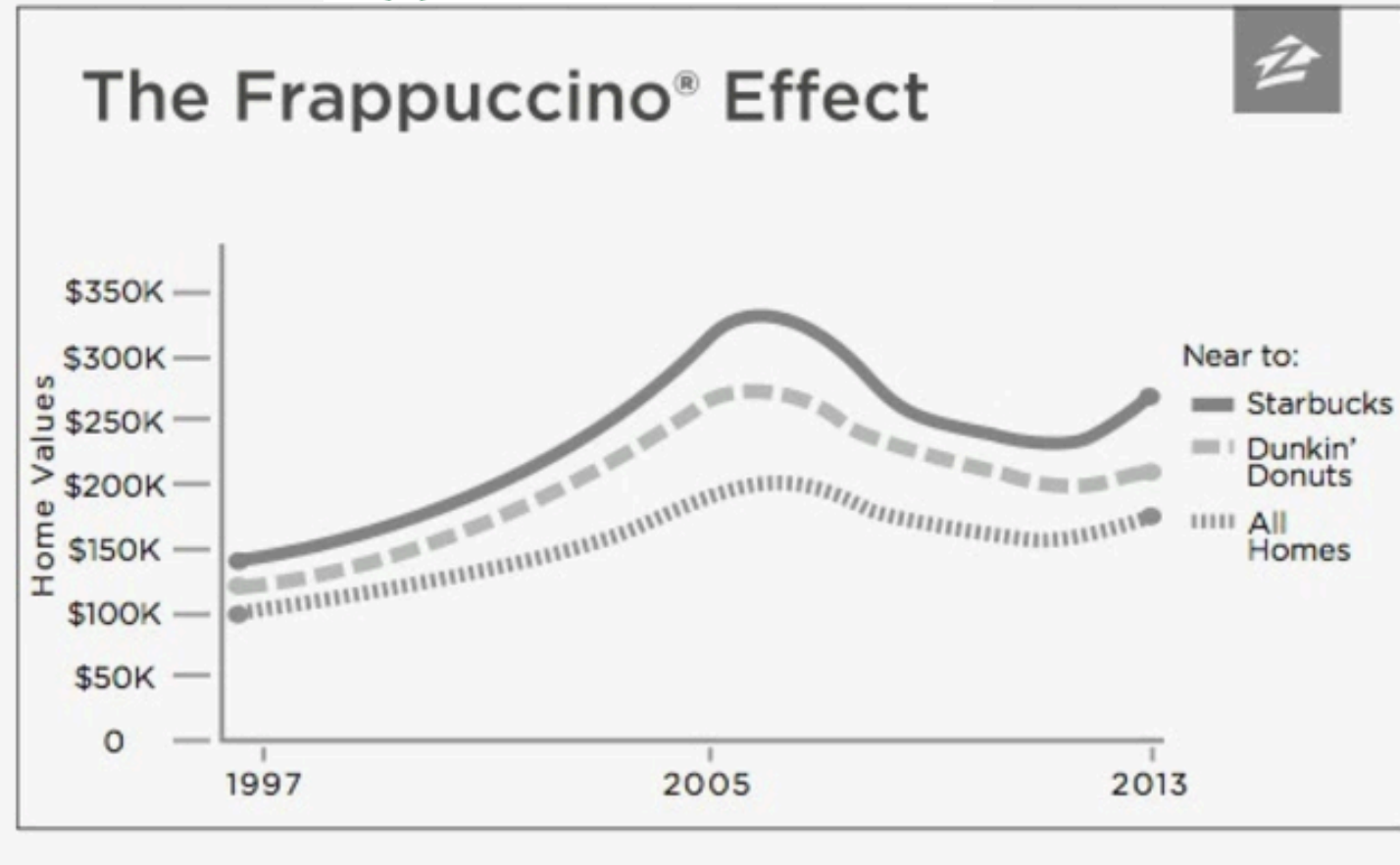
**Confirmed: Starbucks knows the next hot neighborhood before everybody else does**



# Retail strategy: Place



**STARBUCKS®**



Full article available at: <http://qz.com/334269/what-starbucks-has-done-to-american-home-values/>

- Today it is more common than ever
- Retailers use multiple channels to reach customers
  - At least two: online and offline
- Can you think about other channels?

# Multichannel retailing

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- Retailers use multiple channels to reach customers
  - At least two: Online and offline
- Can you think about other channels?



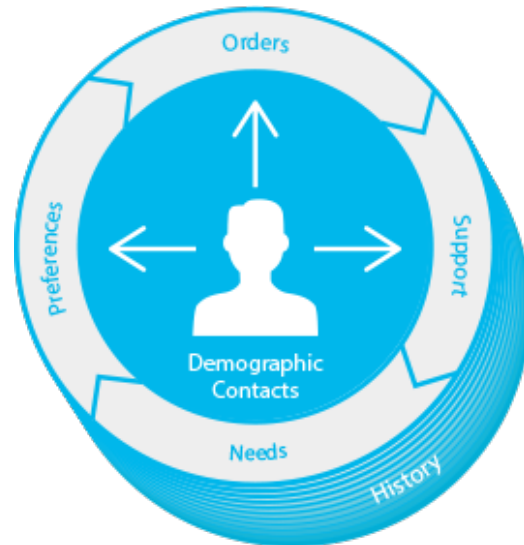


What are the challenges associated with having multiple retail channels?

- Consumers desire a **seamless** experience when interacting with multichannel retailers

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  1. Integrated **Customer Relationship Management (CRM)**



Data will help better handling

- Complains
- Returns
- Targeting
- Sales

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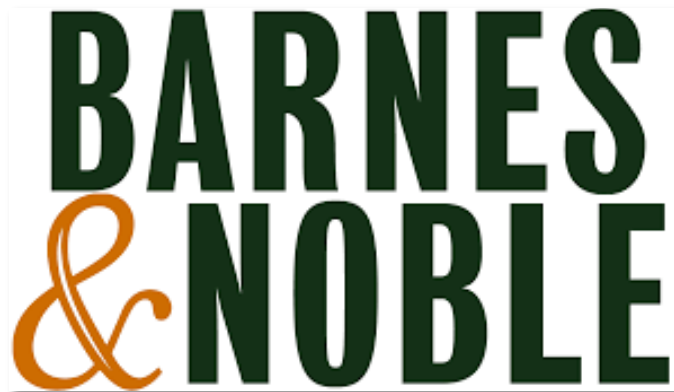
## 2. Brand image

- Must be consistent across the different channels!

<http://blog.hubspot.com/blog/tabid/6307/bid/34227/15-Businesses-to-Admire-for-Consistent-Stellar-Branding.aspx#sm.0001v6vjhu8bzcnuqbx2ni2fgmlh4>

What are the challenges associated with having multiple retail channels?

- Consumers desire a **seamless** experience when interacting with multichannel retailers
- 3. **Pricing** (it's complicated)
  - Should be consistent across channel...but competition can be different, e.g., online vs offline

The logo for Barnes & Noble, featuring the words "BARNES" and "NOBLE" in a bold, dark green, sans-serif font, with an orange ampersand "&" between them.

vs

The Amazon logo, featuring the word "amazon" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with a curved orange arrow underneath it pointing from the letter 'a' to the letter 'z'.

What are the challenges associated with having multiple retail channels?

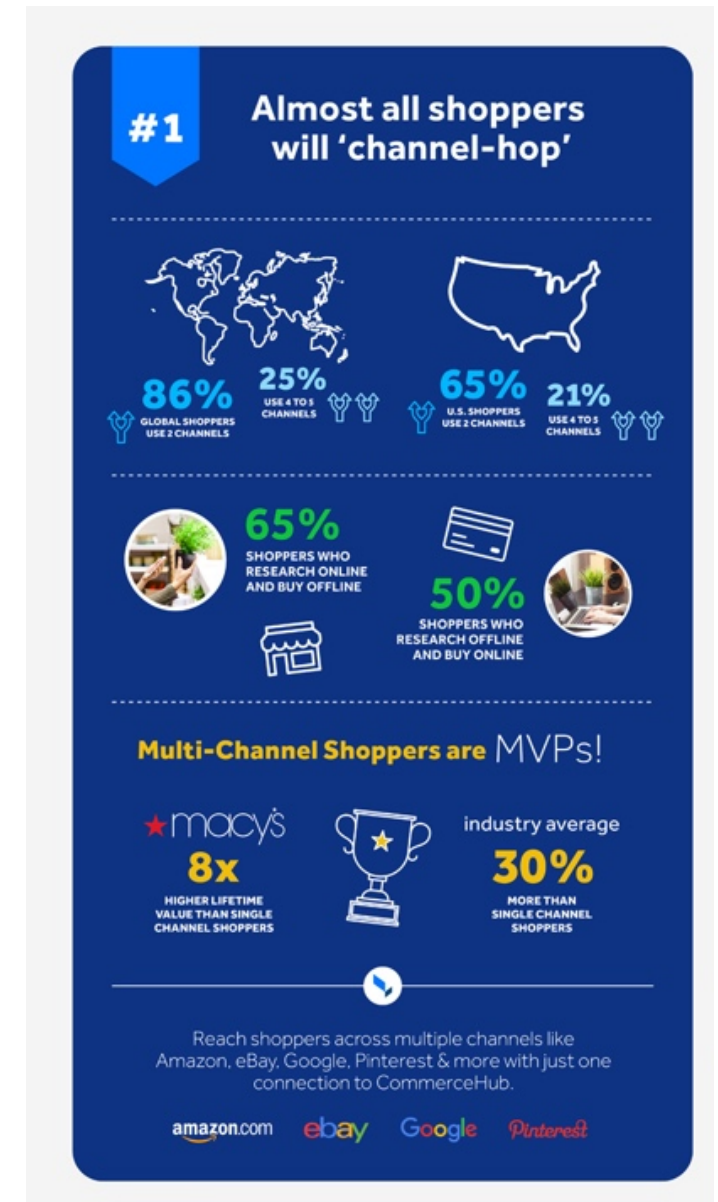
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#### 4. Supply chain

- Different channels require different organizations at each level → Difficult to provide seamless experience
- Today retailers try to integrate all operations under the same organization, e.g., same distribution center for online and offline

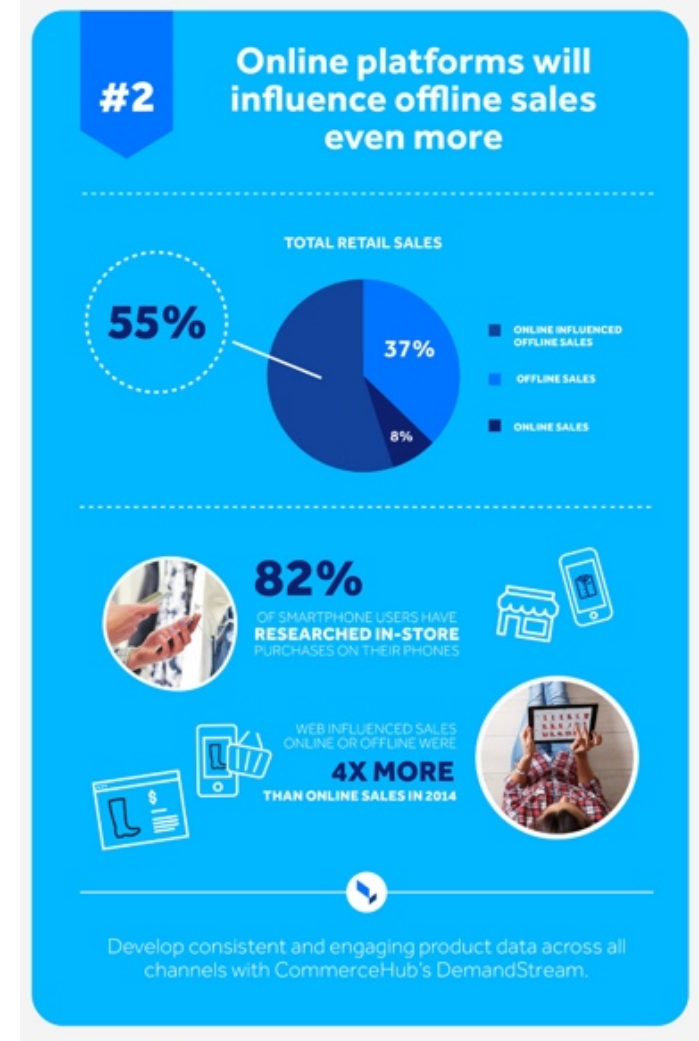
**GOAL: Unified commerce**  
multiple retail channels will work with each other to provide users a seamless, friction-proof shopping experience.

Almost all shoppers will **channel-hop**  
– 86% of shoppers around the world shopping on at least two channels now



Online platforms and social networks will influence offline sales even more

- Ads should **mirror your product catalog**, which should **reflect the actual inventory** your stores carry
- In other words, **consistent, clean, and updated product data** is a necessity



## Shipping Innovations

- Same day delivery (Amazon now)
- Drone delivery
- Distributing inventory geographically (Amazon anticipatory shipping)

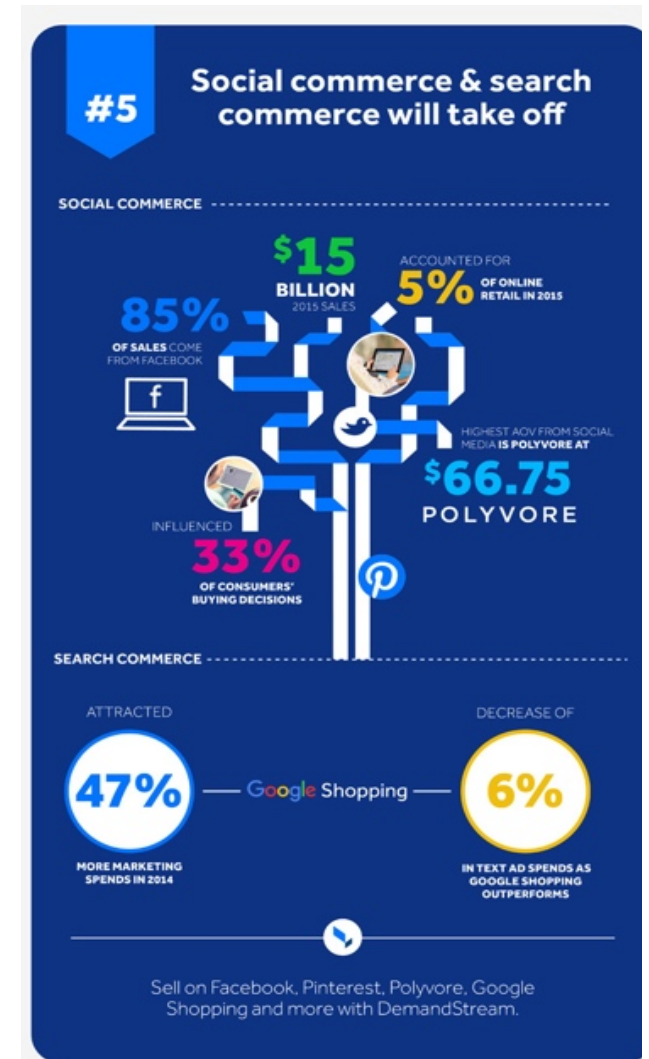




- **Mobile traffic is booming**
  - More conversions from mobile commerce
    - Apple/Samsung/Google pay
    - Paypal
    - Etc.



- **Social commerce** and **search commerce** take off
  - Online shopping no longer restricted to retailers' websites or marketplaces
  - **Social networks** like Pinterest, Facebook, **search engines** like Google are getting in on the retail action



- Offline
  - Personal service
  - Can use cash
  - Immediate gratification
  - Touching/feeling
  - Risks reductions (test/try)
- Online
  - Wider selection
  - Easier search
  - Personalization
    - Offering
    - Discounts/promotions
    - Customer service

<https://www.wsj.com/video/digits-ebay-to-buy-gsi-commerce/EDAD494D-8293-4E0C-B796-45C82E144066.html>

GSI Commerce is a technology and services company that provides e-commerce, multichannel, and interactive marketing solutions to hundreds of brands and retailers in the U.S. and internationally.

<https://www.wsj.com/video/digits-ebay-to-buy-gsi-commerce/EDAD494D-8293-4E0C-B796-45C82E144066.html>

## Why did eBay acquire GSI Commerce?

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## Why did eBay acquire GSI Commerce?

It will help eBay compete better with Amazon.

- Improve shipping
- More products/selection
- Improve/revamp image
- Better payment service

# Recap

