How Supermarkets Differentiate Themselves

Shopping for Grade-A Grocers (Brooke)



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Article Summary

Supermarkets are using CX to differentiate themselves in competitive industry.

Customers have a single favorite store where they do bulk of their shopping.

4 behaviors cause shoppers to look past preferred stores.

- Stock-up strategy.
- Specialty item visits.
 - Unique items/brands specific to one location.
- Pursuit of quality.
- Need it now shopping.



Article Summary

Customer experience is the most important part of any marketing campaign.

"If you put the shopper first in all of your marketing, operations and merchandising efforts, you have the best chance of winning in today's environment." - Karen Sales Former Albertsons VP of Marketing.

Trader Joe's is rated highest on American

Customer Satisfaction Index due to strong
experience, store decoration, staff dress code,
variety of goods.





The Marketing Mix









Product - Creating Value

4 types of visits:

- Stock-up Strategy: Replenish household staples that lasts for 2 weeks to a month.
 - Warehouses or Discount stores (Costco).
- Specialty Item Visits: Unique items and brand in one location.
 - Trader Joe's.
- Pursuit of Quality: Premium produce.
 - \circ Whole foods.
- Need It Now: Basic item from most convenient location.
 - Seven Eleven.



Place

- Friendly.
- Local.
- Personalized.
- Good Value.









Price

- Hard Discounters are seen as the Main Disruptors.
 - Cheapest & no extra services.
 - o Fast & easy check-out.
 - No bakeries or delis.
- Increased private label quality.
 - Retailers operating near Lidl stores
 must drop prices on private labels by
 ~10% to remain competitive.
- Aldi has become the preferred bulk retailer.
 - No membership fees.
 - America's largest grocer by 2022 (2,500 locations).



Promotion

- Games.
- Recipes.
- Influencers.
- Loyalty programs.
- Value-based marketing.
 - o Unique assortment.
 - Extra service.
 - o In-store experience.
 - o Curbside pickup.















Future of the Industry

- Online shopping has yet to meet past projections.
 - Too much of a hassle to find all items.
 - Delivery issues: hard to preserve freshness.
- Biggest game changer over the next few years:
 - Scale provided by technology, cost of equipment and Wi-Fi solutions along with e-commerce.

