

# Trigger Emails That Hit the Mark and Drive Revenue

February 27, 2014

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**FMGWebinar** 



#### **Today's Speakers**



Reggie Brady President Reggie Brady Marketing Solutions



Debra Ellis Founder Wilson & Ellis Consulting

**#TMGWebinar** 





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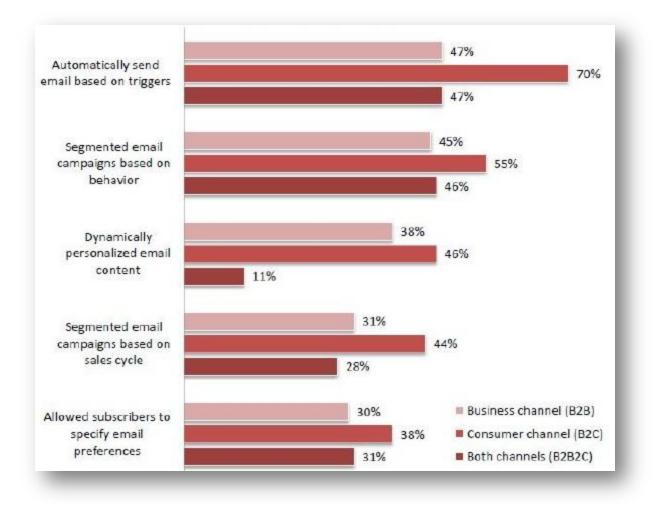
# **Trigger Emails** That Hit the Mark and Drive Revenue for Consumer Marketers

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#### **What Marketers Use**

#### **Relevancy Improvement Tactics rated Very Effective**



## **Triggers improve results**

	Trigger Opens	All Opens	Trigger Clicks	All Clicks
Business Products & Services General	<b>40.7</b> %	30.8%	6.6%	<b>3.1</b> %
Business Publishing / General Media	23.4%	<b>18.2</b> %	<b>9.7</b> %	<b>2.9</b> %
Consumer Products CPG	<b>49.3</b> %	<b>17.9</b> %	<b>14.7</b> %	<b>5.4</b> %
Consumer Products Pharmaceutical	<b>57.9</b> %	<b>30.9</b> %	<b>10.9</b> %	<b>4.9</b> %
Consumer Publishing / General Media	<b>50.4</b> %	<b>18.7</b> %	<b>16.9</b> %	<b>5.9</b> %
Consumer Services General	<b>43.8</b> %	<b>24.8</b> %	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>3.9</b> %
Consumer Services Telecom	34.2%	<b>18.2</b> %	6.1%	<b>2.6</b> %
Financial Services CC/Banks	<b>65.1</b> %	<b>41.6</b> %	6.6%	<b>4.1%</b>
Financial Services General	<b>57.9</b> %	<b>29.5</b> %	6.4%	<b>4.3</b> %
Retail Apparel	<b>43.7</b> %	20.5%	<b>16.2</b> %	<b>4.8</b> %
Retail General	<b>61.8</b> %	<b>41.8</b> %	<b>15.7</b> %	<b>5.9</b> %
Retail Specialty	<b>48.6</b> %	22.0%	8.2%	3.3%
Travel/Hospitality	<b>71.4</b> %	<b>29.8</b> %	<b>11.8</b> %	<b>3.6</b> %

### Triggered Messaging makes your emails more relevant

5 powerful triggers based on consumer activities that will make your cash register ring

- Upsell in order confirmations
- Cross-sell after the order
- Post purchase review requests
- Browsed specific products but did not purchase
- Abandoned a cart



#### Average Revenue per Email

•Source: Experian – The Transactional Email Report 9-8-10

- People open these emails
- Transactional messages generate an average 47% open rate and 20% click rate, according to several industry studies.

- Additional selling in message
- Like top navigation & "You May Also Consider"
- Dynamic population of items that complement purchase
- Observes 80/20 rule with most of the message referring to transaction

0	·			Order# 0928578554;
Customer Serv	ice		Customer	Service: 1.800.541.12
Dear Lisa F Harmon,				
Thank you for shopping v	ith Williams-Sonoma. We have receiv	ved your orde	r, and it is cum	ently being processed.
	tus of your order as each item is ship oma.com. Simply enter your order of			
If you ordered multiple ite	ms, some items may be shipped sep	arately at no	additional charg	ge.
SHIP TO NAME AND ADD Lisa F Harnon (To protect your privacy, the s Seattle, WA 98101	RESS treet address has been omitted.)			You May Also Consid
ITEM DESCRIPTION	STATUS	QTY	PRICE	
Glass And Ss Bread Box Item # 43-7117096	Available for immediate shipping	1	\$99.95	
	Mercha Shipping and Processing Cha Gift Wrap Cha	argest	\$99.95 \$16.50 \$5.00	1
		Tax: stal*:	\$11.54 \$132.99	Wusthof Classic Bre Knife, o'
*This line denotes the tot were divided between gift Thank you for your order. Williams-Sonoma Custon 1.800.541.1262 7 days a week, 4:00 am	ner Service	ndicate how t	he charges	Ateco Cake Stand,

# Transactional messages now account for 15% of company's email sales

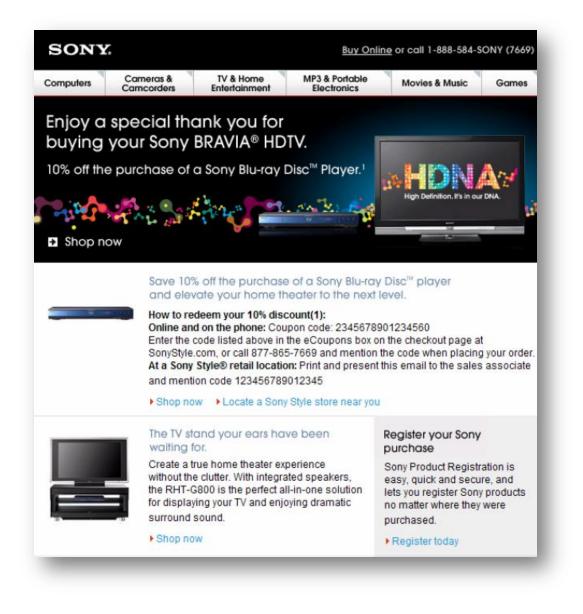
100 C	our LEG	O° order way!		Discover more gr LEGO collections
Regina,				CREATO
		The tracking number nd you may check the		
Order Sum	nary			
Shipping Addre IAN DEMIAN BR 108 N. ALFRED ALEXANDRIA, V	ADY ST		Order Number: U4345765	View all LEGO CREATOR
QTY ITE	M	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	Apparel, Hom & Outdoors
1 7945	39 FIRE S	TATION	59.99	
	la dis			Accessories
Ŵ	Need Help?	Customer Servi     Contact Us     Your Satisfactii     Shopping See     Shipping A Ha     Return Policy     Request a Cata     LEGO Store Lo	en unty ndling	SHOP NOW View all Individual Bricks & Building Accessories

### 2. Cross-sell after the order

Open rates double Sony regular results

CTRs 8x higher

Revenue per email 10x industry average



#### 2. Cross-sell after the order

Amazon is a master at this. I ordered one season of Futurama as a Christmas gift

Subject line: 60% Off "Futurama: The Complete Series"



Your Amazon Today's Deals Gift Cards

#### Dear Amazon.com Customer,

Customers who have shown an interest in TV deals might like to know that they can save 60% on *Futurama: The Complete Series* in our TV Deal of the Week

This offer ends 11:59 p.m. Pacific time, January 4, 2014.



Learn more

#### More to Explore See all





PPD Provide Pissi store collection

Other Comedy TV

Comedy Best Sellers New and Future Releases

Deals of the Week

#### Save on Today's Deals in Movies & TV Hearn more

#### Find Great Deals on Millions of Items Storewide

Electronics	Toys & Games	Home, Kitchen & Dining
Video Games	Baby	Office & School Supplies
Cell Phones & Accessories	Clothing	Home Improvement
Computers & Software	Shoes	Grocery
Sports & Outdoors	Jewelry	Patio, Lawn & Garden
Automotive	Watches	Health & Personal Care
Industrial & Scientific	Beauty	Amazon Mobile Apps
Prime	Magazines	Gift Cards
Musical Instruments	Pet Supplies	Fine Art
	Video Games Cell Phones & Accessories Computers & Software Sports & Outdoors Automotive Industrial & Scientific Prime	Video Games Baby Cell Phones & Accessories Clothing Computers & Software Shoes Sports & Outdoors Jewelry Automotive Watches Industrial & Scientific Beauty Prime Magazines



Connect

#### 3. Post purchase review request

- Reviews are altering how consumers make purchase decisions
- Reviews will increase conversions
- Online shoppers are often willing to spend more for highly rated products
- Plus, page views increase and customers say they feel more satisfied with their shopping experience when it includes customer reviews

A study by Weber Shandwick shows the average buyer consults 11 reviews on the path to purchase.



#### **Customer Reviews**

- Conversions go up
- SEO traffic goes up
- Returns go down
- Customer satisfaction and brand trust increase



### 3. Post purchase review request

#### **Purchases featured**

Sent 3 weeks after purchase

# Nice way to drive site involvement

 Zappos
 Couture
 Rideshop
 Running
 Outdoor
 Blogs

 Zappos
 FREE Shipping Both Ways · 365-Day Return Policy<br/>CUSTOMER SERVICE 1-800-927-7671 · 24 Hours & 365 Days A Year

 Shoes
 Clothing
 Bags And Handbags
 New Arrivals
 Clearance
 Brands
 More Departments

#### Help Others! Write A Zappos.com Review!

Hello Darrah!

We hope you have a moment to review a product you recently purchased at Zappos.com! When you take the time to <u>Write A Review</u>, you help millions of Zappos.com customers make a better buying decision! If you've ever read a customer review, then you know how helpful they can be when deciding to place an order! Please take a moment and <u>Write A Review</u>. You never know who you are helping in the process!



Please <u>Contact Us</u> if you have suggestions on how we can improve the site! We value feedback from our customers and would like to thank you for taking the time to write a review for the entire Zappos.com community! You are helping millions of customers make the best possible decision! With Love,

Your Customer Loyalty Team at Zappos.com

### 3. Post purchase review request

I liked the last line: Were any of these gifts? If so, please forward this message on to the gift recipient.

#### patagonia

Shop Clething & Gear | Environmentalism | Video & Music | Elog

Review Your Gear on Patagonia.com



### **Customer Reviews**

- Then feature top reviews in your emails
- Subject line: Shop Dell's Toprated Products
- Consider highlighting reviews in your subject line.
- Dell found if a shopper spent time with site reviews, conversions doubled. (BazaarVoice)



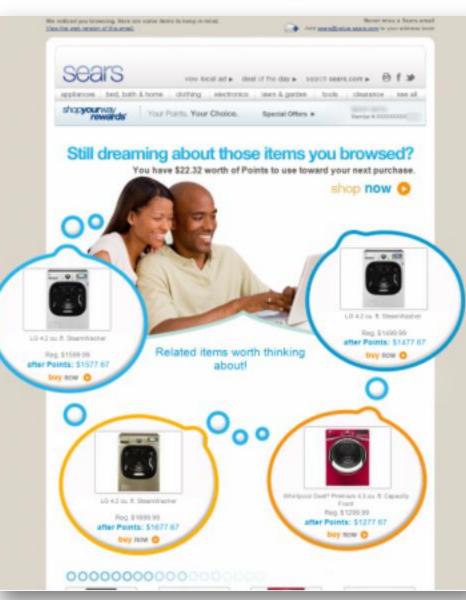
# 4. Browsed but didn't buy

- Trigger sent if customer views at least 3 products but does not buy.
- Incentive to purchase
- Address possible customer service issues
- 30% open rate and 6% CTR along with increase in live chat usage



# 4. Browsed but didn't buy

 Subject line: We noticed you browsing. Here are some more great deals we know you'll like!



# 4. Browsed but didn't buy

- American Airlines sent an email within 24 hours to those who had searched for a flight, but did not book.
- Tested "lower rate" and a "flexible booking" option
- Results:
  - 300% higher open rates
  - 200% higher click through rates



### 5. Abandoned cart emails

#### **Typical abandoned cart rates:**

• A recent study by SaleCycle cited 75% for Q2 2013

#### Make sure you know your abandoned cart rate

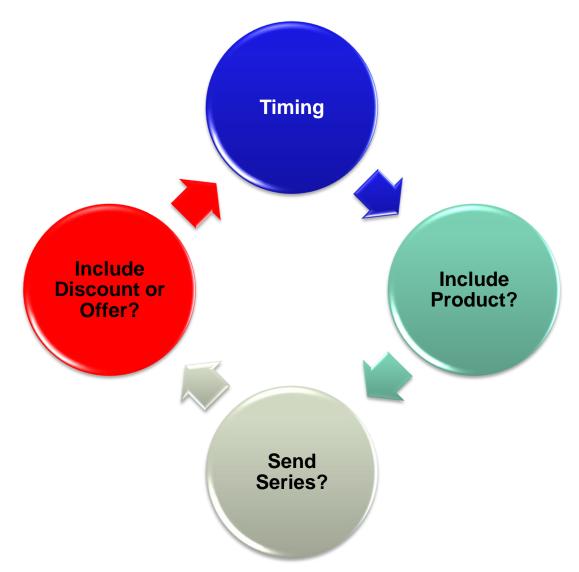


### **Abandoned cart emails work!**

August '08– July '09	Total opens	Click to open	Total clicks	Trans. to click	Percent trans.	Revenue per email	Average order
Abandoned- cart	62.9%	39.9%	20.9%	15.0%	1.9%	\$3.20	\$175.76
Bulk mailings	17.5%	18.8%	3.6%	5.0%	0.1%	\$0.13	\$192.23
Abandoned- cart lift	2.6x	1.1x	4.7x	2.0x	20.0x	22.8x	-0.1x



#### **Factors to Consider**



## **Considerations - Timing**

An email that is sent soon after the cart is abandoned reaches customers when they are still in the consideration stage.

It can prompt them to take immediate action to complete the sale.

#### ESP Lyris has found:

- Those sent within an hour have higher CTR
- Those sent within 6 hours have a higher AOV (average order value)
- You might wait 3 hours

## **Considerations – Timing Test**

SmartFurniture.com

Control – 3 emails sent over 4 days 4 hours after abandon 1 day later 4 days later

Test – 3 emails sent over 7 days: 24 hours after abandon 3 days later 3 days later

#### Results

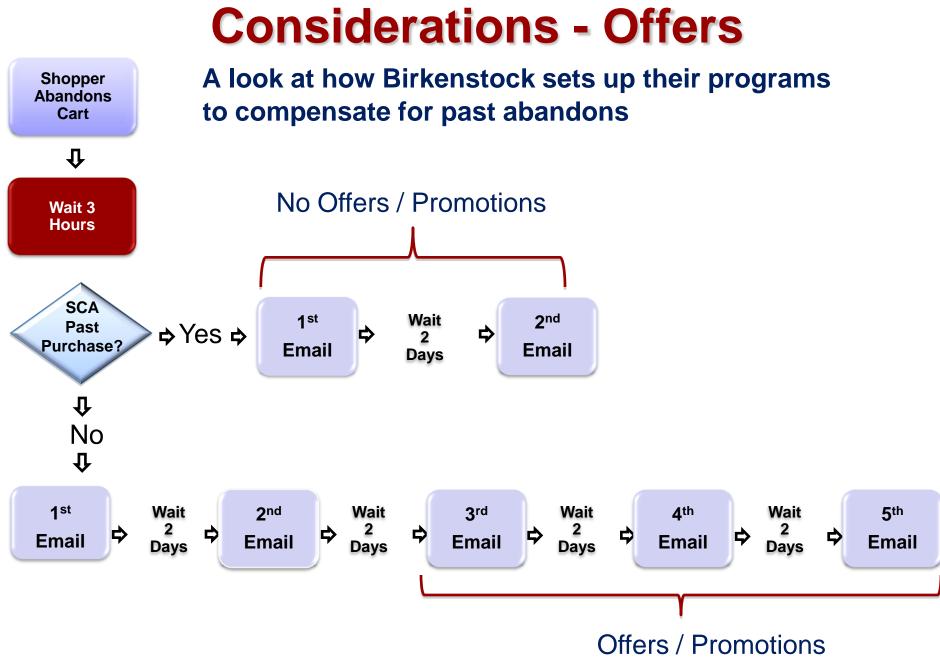
- Conversions 22% for control; 21% for test
- Revenue for campaign 58% for control; 42% for test

### **Considerations – Offers and a series**

# A big question is whether to include an offer to sweeten the deal

- Many marketers do not include in their first email
- The concern is that offers will alter behavior, increase abandoned rates and forwarding of offers to friends
- You can always suppress an offer for 90 days after abandon. Don't train repeat abandoners!
- Or, offer incentives like free shipping <u>only</u> if purchase amount is over \$75

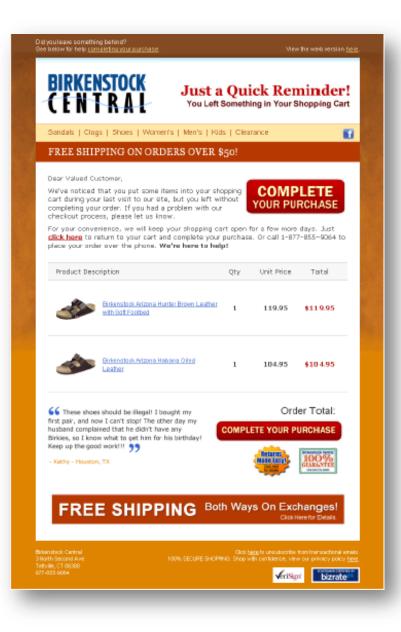
	Opens	Clicks	Conversion %	Revenue per email
No offer	15%	12%	1.8%	\$3.20
Offer	17%	13%	2.9%	\$3.29



How to execute a winning trigger-based email strategy presentation 3-12

#### **Abandoned cart**

# Birkenstock first email in a series of 5



### **Birkenstock Results**

	Personalized Messages	Offer	Open Rate	Click Thru Rate	Conversion Rate
1	Thank you, Joe, for stopping by Birkenstock Central! Your items are waiting for you	No	41.5%	19.1%	17.2%
2	Joe, just a reminder: you still have items in your shopping cart	No	30.1%	14.5%	12.3%
3	Joe, complete your order within 24 hours & receive 5% off!	5%	28.3%	13.1%	17.4%
4	Time is Running Out! Save 10% Off when you complete your Purchase Today!	10%	22.4%	9.3%	21.1%
5	Last Chance to Save! Your Birkenstock Central Cart is about to Expire!	10%	21.8%	8.4%	15.9%

### **Considerations - send a series**

Should you send more than one abandoned cart email?

According to Forrester Research \*

- 46% overall conversion
- 1<sup>st</sup> e-mail sent within 30 minutes gets an 89 percent open rate and a conversion rate of 28%.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> e-mail sent one week later to those that did not respond to the first, gets an open rate of 60% and a conversion of 25%.

With a series you have the opportunity to include inducements

- First could show items left in cart
- Second could offer a discount or free shipping
- Third could say cart is about to expire

## **Considerations – include product pix**

# Another issue is whether to dynamically include an image of the product abandoned

- Showing an image of the product will give the best results
- Make it easy to complete the purchase don't require log in

	Opens	Clicks	Conversion %
Product shown	63.8%	28.8%	2.9%
No product but link to cart	53.5%	24.9%	1.4%

### Include a product picture

Sent 1 day later

**Product shown** 

Links to:

Customer service The site Store locator

#### THANKS FOR STOPPING BY .... EBYBABN FURNITURE ACCESSORIES GIFTS REGISTRY SALE RUGS & WINDOWS BEDDING BATH LIGHTING TABLETOP Thanks for Stopping By... If you need any help completing a purchase, let us know. Call, click or visit us at your local Pottery Barn store. DUPIONI SILK POLE POCKET DRAPE LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS ITEM > VIEW THIS CATEGORY > WE'RE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD: 100 Greyrock Place, Stamford, CT 6901 Phone: 203-324-2035

#### Include a review

#### Incorporate reviews in abandoned cart emails

#### Vintage Tub & Bath

Need assistance in placing your order? call toll free: 1.827.868.1369 (\*)

If you have already placed your order, thank you. Please disregard this email.

#### Thanks for Stopping By...

During a recent visit to Vintage Tub & Bath, you left one (or more) items in your shopping cart. This is just a reminder that we clear inactive carts periodically.

RETURN TO CART

There's still time to complete your order today, plus you'll receive FREE SHIPPING on your order. If you need help completing your purchase, let us know, call 1.877.868.1369 3 and we'll be happy to help!

#### Your Saved Shopping Cart

1



### Include a product pix – and cross-sell

Product shown

No incentive

Subject line: Finish your shopping fast and save!



### Include a product pix – and cross-sell

#### Dungarees.com

No incentive, images included along with other suggested purchases

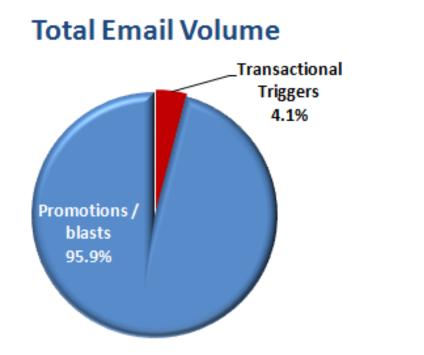
Included name of abandoned product in subject line

#### **Results:**

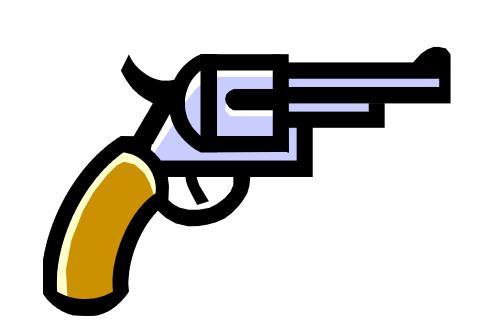
- Opens 56%
- Conversions on clicks 18.4%
- Generated 490% more revenue per session than other site traffic sources



### Closing thoughts to drive the point home







#### Targeted, Relevant, & Effective

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### The Fear

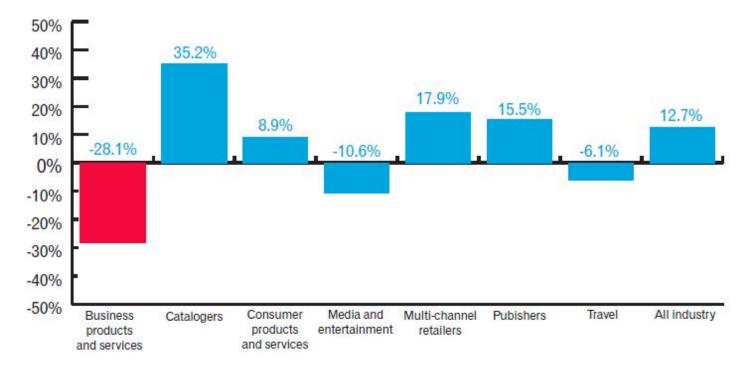


#### **Email Overload**

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### The Reality

Volume variance by industry - Q3 to Q3 (2013 versus 2012)



#### **B2B Email Volume is Declining**

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#### > Welcome

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#### > Welcome

> Lead Nurture Drip

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- > Welcome
- > Lead Nurture Drip
- > Transactional Messages

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- > Welcome
- > Lead Nurture Drip
- > Transactional Messages
- > Inactive or Dormant Leads/Customers

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- > Welcome
- > Lead Nurture Drip
- > Transactional Messages
- > Inactive or Dormant Leads/Customers
- > Repurchase or Renewal

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- ➤ Goal
- > Objectives
- Strategy
- Contingency
- Scorekeeping

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#### Goal

#### - Increase Profitability 5%

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- > Objectives
- Increase Response Rate 15%
- Increase Average Order 10%
- Reduce Service Costs 10%

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- Strategy
- Identify Target
- Plan Content
- Create Sequence
- Schedule Timing
- Test & Revise

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#### Contingency

#### What if...

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#### Scorekeeping

#### Measure results relative to objectives

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#### Verify Lead Generation Email Addresses

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- Verify Lead Generation Email Addresses
- > Choose a Top Performing Segment

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- > Verify Lead Generation Email Addresses
- Choose a Top Performing Segment
   Create and Test a Small Campaign

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- > Verify Lead Generation Email Addresses
- Choose a Top Performing Segment
   Create and Test a Small Campaign
- > Optimize Existing Emails

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- > Verify Lead Generation Email Addresses
- > Choose a Top Performing Segment
- Create and Test a Small Campaign
- > Optimize Existing Emails
- > Develop Educational Content

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### Takeaways



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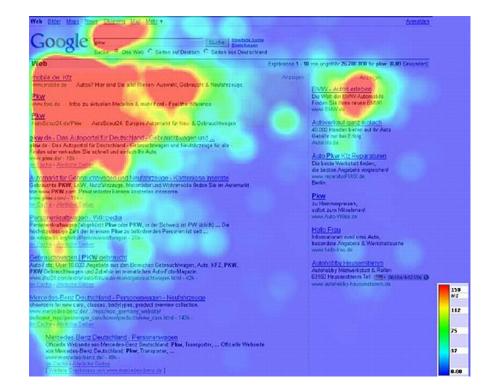
### K.I.S.S.



#### Keep It Simple & Strategic

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### Readability



### Put Key Content in Hot Spots

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### Relevancy



#### Speak Directly to Recipients' Needs

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### Consistency



#### **Steady Wins**

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### Timing



#### Test, Test, & Test

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### Debra Ellis dellis@wilsonellisconsulting.com

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