

EXPERIENTIAL MARKETING

How To Get Customers To Sense, Feel, Think, Act and Relate To Your Company and Brands

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MAIN IDEA

Experiential marketing is a new way to look at the goal of marketing.

Traditional marketing is features-and-benefits oriented -- that is, consumers are assumed to be rational decision makers who seek to maximize the number of benefits they derive by comparing different products that offer different sets of features. In this context, branding is used to create awareness and attention.

Experiential marketing, by contrast, suggests that consumers want to be stimulated, entertained, educated and challenged by the products or services they buy. Thus, they are looking for brands that provide them with memorable experiences. The central activity of experiential marketing is to develop efficient ways to create and deliver experiences.

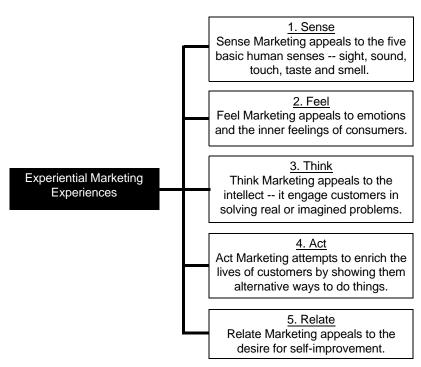
As business leaves the last century and enters the new, many companies have reengineered and acquired new assets, new strengths and new competencies. At the same time, the information revolution is creating additional opportunities for organizations to grow, expand and evolve. Experiential marketing -- which has at its heart the ability of a company to create and deliver a desirable customer experience -- holds the key to leveraging those new assets, strengths and competencies to achieve growth.

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Today's consumer wants to buy products and services that dazzle their senses, touch their hearts or stimulate their minds. They respond best to marketing that delivers an experience they enjoy rather than simply provides a shopping list of features and benefits.

Section 2 -- The Five Types Of Experiential Marketing Experiences

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Section 3 -- The Structural, Strategic and Organizational Issues of Experiential Marketing

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From a structural perspective, experiential marketing can be used to build holistic marketing programs which are hybrid combinations of two or more different types of customer experiences.

From a strategic perspective, most attention focuses on which customer experiences are appropriate for the circumstances, and how these efforts can be linked together for corporate branding and global branding programs.

From an organizational perspective, building an experience oriented organization won't require special structures or processes -- just an ability to innovate, take a top-down perspective and a willingness to collaborate with others.

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