Clarins leverages sampling campaigns to increase sales of key products

Clarins is a French luxury skincare, cosmetics and perfume company, which manufactures and sells products through flagship boutiques, counters in high-end department stores, and selected pharmacies. The company recently choose to emphasize its anti-aging products and showcase these as a real differentiator between them and other brands in the sector. Anti-aging products are some of the company’s most important items, so Clarins recognized the value in validating them with the voice of satisfied customers.

Despite the high quality of the products, Clarins was struggling to collect fresh content from their customers, so the company set out to rejuvenate the consumer-generated content on its site by gathering a large influx of fresh reviews, knowing this would help increase conversion rates and drive SEO success.

**BOOSTING REVIEW VOLUME AND CONVERSION WITH BAZAARVOICE TRYIT**

To increase review volume quickly and easily, Clarins launched a sampling campaign to get products into the hands of consumers in exchange for their feedback. The company accomplished this with Bazaarvoice TryIt, which gave Clarins access to a French community of consumers willing to try the anti-aging products and other items for the first time and share their perspective.

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**SUCCESS STORY**

Clarins

**AT A GLANCE**

**Challenge**
Provide customers with trustworthy content to improve the online sales performance of key products.

**Solution**
Place the product in the hands of customers for real-world testing, especially products with low review volume, no recent reviews, or below-average review content quality.

**Benefit**
A significant boost in review volume and online conversion rate.

**Featured Solutions**
- Ratings & Reviews
- TryIt Sampling
Clarins sent products to a select group from the 1,000 French members of the Bazaarvoice TryIt’s community. The campaign required minimal investment of time and money, as it allowed easy collection of responses through an add-on to the Bazaarvoice system already integrated on its site. The reviews displayed automatically on the site and in compliance with all necessary prerequisites, including GDPR, incentivised badging, and authenticity standards.

Clarins tracked progress of the campaign using the Bazaarvoice solution, which provided data on the number of items shipped, reviews collected, average rating per product, and other key indicators of success. The response rate exceeded expectations. In fact, 91% of those who received a sample submitted a review, an 11% higher rate than the company’s initial response goal. This resulted in 138 reviews in just 36 days.

“We were very pleased with the results. The response rate was much better than we had hoped, and the results show deep engagement. The in-depth reviews that this campaign generated showed people really valued their experience with Clarins,” said Marie Renouard, Digital Director at Clarins France.

Not only did the company amass a high volume of reviews, the ones it received were rich and detailed. As a high-end brand, Clarins needs to communicate the benefits of its products and establish its position in a luxury market rich with competitors. The well-crafted and thoughtful reviews generated by participants in the campaign provided insights into what customers value, in addition to standing as testimonials for the product. “When people care enough to spend that much time on a review, it’s a sign that you’ve exceeded their expectations and they want to share their excitement,” said Marie.
SETTING THE COMPANY UP FOR FUTURE SUCCESS

Giving customers access to so many reviews is paying off. Clarins sees a 111% increase in conversion among visitors to the site who read reviews, which confirms the benefits of constantly collecting more and more reviews and provides the company with additional opportunities.

“We can use sampling initiatives like this during the launch phase for new products, giving us a real boost in generating the content customers are looking for online. It will also allow us to be proactive with products which haven’t been generating reviews or where the reviews may be lower than we expected,” said a member of the ecommerce team at Clarins.

When people care enough to spend that much time on a review, it’s a sign that you’ve exceeded their expectations and they want to share their excitement.

Marie Renouard
Digital Director, Clarins France

COMPANY PROFILE
Health & Beauty
CLIENT SINCE
2010

ABOUT THE COMPANY
Clarins is a French luxury skincare, cosmetics and perfume company, which manufactures and sells products through flagship boutiques, counters in high-end department stores, and selected pharmacies.

COMPANY PROFILE
Consumer brands
CLIENT SINCE
2020

ABOUT THE COMPANY
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