

Why Didn't They Think Of This?

This is not exactly an article; just some thoughts...

Delivery Date

It has now been almost ten years that I have been ordering on line and it was only today that it dawned on me that the simple process of shipping is somewhat backwards.

I was placing an order on a site and it asked me if I wanted overnight, two day or regular shipping. What if I wanted none of the above? In this case, it was a Friday that I was placing the order. I knew that I would be traveling on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the following week and only really available to receive the shipment on Friday. Yet, my only choice was to receive it on one of the days that I would not be home!

Clearly, the cost to UPS to come an extra 3 days to try to deliver is not inconsiderable. Yet, if I was simply given the choice to select when I wanted to receive the item, end of problem! I would have chosen Friday, and the company could have then scheduled the pick, pack and ship to coincide with this arrival date, saving me, UPS and the company I was buying from a lot of cost.

How difficult would this be to implement??? Obviously, this would be a great negotiation point when talking with UPS, FedEx or any other shipping company as their rate of non delivery would decline significantly using this system.

Gift Giving

Has it ever happened to you that you bought something online for a common friend and not all the people who had originally committed to contributing remembered to do so? And, of course, you felt uneasy reminding them? Wouldn't it have been better if you could have just signed up to get the gift for the common friend (let's say flowers), made your contribution and then waited for everyone else to contribute individually and then purchase the item based on the total of everyone's contribution?

This would not only benefit you, the person who offered to buy the gift on behalf of everyone else but didn't feel comfortable reminding all to pay for it. It would also benefit the seller which would be able to gather e-mails and contact information of not just the purchaser but all the friends and people who took part in the purchase.

This could also be created so that if five or more people contribute then the price drops for all of them. Kind of a reverse auction process for gift giving!

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