What is Digital Marketing? Types and importance of Digital Marketing

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Marketing is the process of creating, communicating, and delivering products or services to

satisfy customer needs and generate revenue.

Digital marketing or online marketing refers to marketing activities targeting consumers using

digital channels. It includes all online marketing tactics implemented through digital channels

like website, landing pages, social media, email, and mobile applications etc to achieve business and marketing goals.

There are 8 types of digital marketing: (A) Affiliate Marketing, (B) Content Marketing, (C) Email

Marketing, (D) Marketing Analytics, (E) Mobile Marketing, (F) Pay-Per-Click (PPC), (G) Search

Engine Optimization, (SEO), (H) Social Media Marketing.

(A) Affiliate Marketing: Affiliate Marketing is a marketing arrangement in which affiliates

receive a commission for each visit, signup or sale they generate for a merchant. This

arrangement allows business to outsource part of the sales process. It is a form of

performance-based marketing where the commission acts as an incentive for the affiliate. This

commission is usually a percentage of the price of the product being sold, but can also be a

flat rate per referral.

Merchants favor marketing because in most cases it uses a 'Pay for performance' model,

meaning that the merchant does not incur a marketing expense

unless results are accrued
(excluding any initial setup cost).

7 ways to succeed at Affiliate Marketing (i) Influencers: Influencer marketing is the top trend in

affiliating marketing. Celebrities like RJ Kibria, Manobic Showkat, Milton Somadder, Amrao

Manush are some pf the most well-known social media influencers of our country. But there

are also a lot of everyday people that have found fame as influencers due to their ability to

create content and interact with their audience. (ii) Affiliate Blogging: Most bloggers specialize

in a niche and share services and products within that niche which they know will grab the

attention of their audience. A blogger may promote things like health trackers, credit card

systems, or customer management systems.

To turn a blog into an affiliate marketing machine, one can include things like: Banners, Video

clips, Pop-ups, Links to products within blog posts. (iii) Referral Links: After we sign up for our

chosen affiliate program(s), we shall have access to our own personal links. These are called referral links.

On social media, it's not best form to directly share affiliate links. However we can share the

links of our published content that includes affiliate links.

(iv) Micro-sites: Mini-sites/Micro-sites

are separate from our main site. The goal of a micro-site is to target a very specific audience. A

brand will use a micro-site to highlight a specific thing such as: an individual event, campaigns,

branded content. (v) Social Media: We can use Facebook, Twitter, and other social media sites

to promote our affiliate links. But we shall have to make sure that the ads we use comply with

each platform's guidelines. (vi) Email List Marketing: Email

lists are yet another way we can

share links with the people who follow us. We can setup an email list of users who have

registered with us by using services such as Awaber, MailChimp. (vii) Videos: Video content is

the best way for busy people to consume content. And it's also perfect for teaching people how

to use products, how they can benefit from those, and for discussing pros and cons of the products we promote.

Affiliate Marketing strategies should avoid: (i) Using hard sells, (ii) Not looking into the

legitimacy of the product we promote, (iii) Misleading our buyers, (iv) Creating content of poor quality.

(B) Content Marketing: Content marketing is a form of inbound marketing that attracts users to

a brand by providing useful or entertaining content—usually in the form of text, video, or

audio. Content marketing is valuable to companies because it helps them build relationship and

trust with their potential customers and existing customers at scale.

Types of content marketing: (i) Blogs: Blogs are written resources that businesses use to

promote their products, discuss to trending topics, or demonstrate thought leadership. Most

business publish blogs for their own websites, but it's also common to create guest blogs for

other websites as a link-building opportunity. (ii) Video: Videos allow to communicate complex

ideas and feelings with their audience in just a few seconds posted on a company's website or

on a platform like TikTok or YouTube. Many businesses use videos to share product demos,

distribute customer testimonials, tell their employees' stories, or announce new features. (iii)

Podcast: Podcast content marketing allows business to reach out to niche audiences through

the power of audio-first content. In branded podcast, businesses primarily offer solutions to

audience pain points, but they also frequently feature customer stories, industry trends case

studies, and other narratives that create an emotional connection with their listeners. (iv)

Social Media: Social media is a beneficial form of content marketing that helps business

socialize and engage with customers wherever they are. Instead of trying to engage with

shoppers via email or website one can share updates and fun content on social media to

engage targeted audience. (v) Infographics: Infographics are a type of content marketing that

complies interesting statistics and facts into a pleasing visual format. Infographics are a

mainstay of B2B content marketing, but they are useful in some B2C applications, especially for

sharing instructions or product features. Infographics are helpful because they distill big

concepts into engaging visuals that are easy to read and share.

(C) Email Marketing: Email marketing is a direct marketing strategy that involves sending

commercial messages to potential and existing customers via email. Business can use email

marketing to promote new products or services, share news, drive sales, and encourage customer loyalty.

4 types effective email marketing: (i) Email Newsletters: Email newsletters often contain news

and updates aiming to keep the audience engaged. At the same time, they are designed to

gently push users towards the conversion. (ii) Transactional Email: A transactional email is a

type of automated email that's triggered by an action, typically a purchase. Transactional emails

are sent automatically to one person to confirm a transaction, communicate important

information, or deliver a specific notification, like a shipping notice. (iii) Email Promotions:

Email promotions are integral components of an email marketing strategy. A business sends

promotional emails to a subscriber list to increase awareness of products and services,

generate sales, convert subscribers into customers and build customer loyalty. (v) Retention

Emails: Retention email marketing is a strategic marketing approach aimed at maximizing the

value of existing customers by forecasting long-term relationships and encouraging repeat

business. It is the practice of engaging with customers beyond their initial purchase and making

them loyal, long-term, and engaged customers. This type of marketing focuses on developing

relationship with customers to increase retention rates, and ultimately boosts sales.

(D) Marketing Analytics: Marketing analytics is the practice of analyzing marketing data from

multiple systems to gain insight and make informed decisions. It helps to evaluate the

effectiveness of marketing efforts, track campaign performance, and understand customer

behavior. By utilizing data-driven insights, one can optimize his marketing strategies and drive business growth.

3 types of Marketing Analytics: (i) Descriptive Analytics: Descriptive analytics uses marketing

data analysis to tell what happened in the past. This information can help to understand past

marketing performance and provide context for a better understanding of what's happing

currently. (ii) Predictive Analysis: Predictive analytics is a type of data science that uses past

data to make predictions about future outcomes. This typically involves large volumes of data

and a machine learning algorithm that can use that data to make increasingly accurate

predictions of customer behavior over time. (iii) Prescriptive Analytics: Prescriptive analytics

focuses on using past marketing data to recommend the most impactful things can be done. It

is often used in tandem with marketing automation to ensure that its recommendations can be carried out instantly.

(E) Mobile Marketing: Mobile marketing is a type of advertising that promotes products and services to people using mobile devices.

8 types of mobile marketing: (i) SMS Marketing: SMS marketing consists of sending short text

messages directly to customers who have subscribed. (ii) MMS Marketing: MMS (Multimedia

Messaging Service) marketing is an extension of text message marketing that allows businesses

to send multimedia content such as images, videos, and audio directly to customers' mobile

phones. (iii) Location-Based Marketing: Location-based marketing takes advantage of users'

real-time geographic locations to send them targeted offers or content in real-time that is

personalized and relevant. (iv) Mobile Search Ads: Mobile search ads are advertisements

specially created for mobile devices for specific products.

(v) App-Based Marketing: App-based

marketing refers to advertising goods or solutions via mobile apps. This strategy allows

businesses to connect with a highly targeted audience. (vi) In-Game Mobile Marketing: In-

game mobile marketing refers to advertising in mobile games in

order entice gamers while they

play. (vii) QR Codes: Quick Response Codes are two-dimensional barcodes designed for

scanning with mobile phone cameras to provide quick and easy access to apps, websites, or

specific contents. (viii) Push Notifications: Push notifications are brief messages sent directly

and instantly via mobile apps that provide instantaneous interactions with users, such as

announcements, reminders, or updates promoting apps.

(F) Pay-Per-Click (PPC): Pay-Per-Click is a type of internet marketing which involves advertisers

paying a fee each time one of their ads is clicked. Simply, one only pay for advertising if his ad is actually clicked on.

9 types of PPC advertising: (i) Search Ads: The effectiveness of search ads lies in their ability to

present any ad copy directly to users who have a high likelihood of converting. (ii) Display Ads:

A display ad is excellent for brand awareness and can be highly effective for remarketing

campaign. (iii) Social Media Ads: Social media ads are displayed on platforms such as Facebook,

Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, and others. (iv) Shopping Ads: These ads display product images,

prices, and details directly in the search results, making them highly effective for driving online

sales. (v) Video Ads: These ads can be placed as pre-roll,
mid-roll, or post-roll videos, meaning

they can play before, during, or after the main video content.

(vi) Remarketing Ads/Retargeting

Ads: Remarketing ads are highly effective because they target users who have already shown

interest in a brand, increasing the likelihood of conversation. (vii) Gmail Sponsored Promotions

(Gmail Ads): Gmail ads are effective for reaching users in a more personal environment and can

be used for various marketing goals, from brand awareness to direct response. (viii) Amazon

Ads: Amazon ads are highly effective for e-commerce businesses looking to increase product

visibility and sales on Amazon. (ix) In-app Ads: In-app ads are advertisements that are

specifically designed to appear within mobile applications, catering various formats such as

banners, videos, interstitials, or playable ads.

(G) Search Engine Optimization (SEO): Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is the process used to

optimize a website's technical configuration, content relevance, and link popularity so its pages

can become easily findable, more relevant and popular towards user search queries, and as a

consequence, search engines rank them better.

9 types of SEO: (i) On-page SEO/On-site SEO: All the measures are taken to make web page

rank higher on search engine results pages (SERP) falls under On-page SEO. (ii) Off-page SEO:

This refers to everything done outside of a site to fare better and feature higher up in Google's

SEROPs. (iii) Technical SEO: It is largely to help Google bots successfully crawl, interpret, and

index all pages of a site for future use. (iv) Local SEO: Focuses on optimizing a business's online

presence to attract local customers through Google search results and Google Maps. (v) Ecommerce SEO: Involves optimizing online stores to improve their visibility and rankings on

search engines, driving more traffic and sales. (vi) YouTube SEO: Optimize video content on

YouTube to increase visibility, attract viewers and like video titles, descriptions, tags, and

thumbnails. (vii) International SEO: Targets global audiences by optimizing websites to work

well in multiple countries and languages. (viii) Mobile SEO:

Ensures websites are optimized for

mobile devices, improving users experiences and search ranking on smartphones and tablets.

(ix) Voice SEO: Adapts SEO strategies for voice search, focusing on conversational keywords and

featured snippets to cater to voice-activation searches.

(H) Social Media Marketing: Social Media Marketing is the use social media platforms to

connect with an audience and promote a brand. It can help increase sales, website traffic, and brand awareness.

7 types of Social Media Marketing: (i) Content Marketing: Content marketing is a strategy

focused on creating, publishing, and distributing relevant and useful content for a target

audience online. (ii) Influencer Marketing: Influencer marketing is a form of marketing that

enables businesses to collaborate with individuals who have following for increased brand

exposure. (iii) Social Media Advertising: Most popular social media platforms for advertising

are Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok etc. (iv) Video Marketing: Video marketing

involves creating a short and informative video that promotes a product and is played before,

during, and after the main video. (v) User-generated Content: User-generated content (UGC) is

a published information that an unpaid contributor provides to a website. (vi) Social Media

Contests or Giveaways: Social media contests or giveaways include tasks such as liking/sharing

a post or commenting on why someone loves a certain products. (vii) Live Streaming: Live

streaming is the process of broadcasting video and audio content over internet in real time or near real-time.

Importance of Digital Marketing: Digital marketing allows

reaching target audiences online in a

variety of ways and on a variety of platforms. It can help spreading brand awareness, reach new

audiences, increase revenue and more. Digital marketing for (i) Reaching new audiences, (ii)

Build better relationship, (iii) Greater brand interaction, (iv) Staying up-to-date and Relevant, (v)

Data-informed decision making, (vi) Versatile and efficient, (vii) Increased trust, (viii) Grow

sales, (ix) Cost effective, (x) Personalized experiences.

Conclusion: As generation evolves and technology develops, the advancement in the field of

marketing and advertisement has been immense. No longer are businesses bound by the

limitations of traditional marketing techniques. The old has been heavily replaced by the new.

One of the newest and most effective strategies has been of online marketing, which is the

topic that this whole e-book was centered on. Online marketing utilizes the internet and its

wealth of resources for promotional, profile-raising purposes.