THE INFLUENCE OF DIGITAL MARKETING STRATEGIES ON CONSUMER PURCHASE DECISIONS WITH REFERENCE TO AMAZON PLATFORM

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the influence of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions, with a specific focus on the Amazon platform. As e-commerce continues to grow rapidly, understanding the impact of digital marketing on consumer behavior becomes increasingly crucial for businesses to effectively target and engage their target audience. This case study will primarily explore the digital marketing strategies employed by Amazon, one of the world's largest online retailers and it analyze their impact on consumer purchase decisions. Various digital marketing techniques such as social media marketing, search engine optimization and personalized recommendations will be examined in relation to their ability to influence consumer decision-making processes. This research will employ a mixed-methods approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative analysis. Qualitative data will be gathered through in-depth interviews with Amazon customers, focusing on their experiences and perceptions of digital marketing strategies. Quantitative data will be collected through online surveys to measure the extent to which digital marketing influences consumer purchase decisions on the Amazon platform. The findings of this study will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of digital marketing strategies employed by Amazon and their impact on consumer purchase decisions.

Keywords: digital marketing, consumer purchase decisions, Amazon platform, social media marketing and search engine optimization.

1. INTRODUCTION

In today's digital era, digital marketing has become an integral part of business strategies, especially for e-commerce platforms. With rapid growth of online shopping, understanding the influence of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions has become crucial for companies aiming to effectively engage and convert potential

customers. This case study aims to explore the impact of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions, with a specific focus on the Amazon platform. Amazon, recognized as one of the world's largest online retailers, has mastered the art of leveraging digital marketing to attract and retain customers. The platform utilizes various digital marketing techniques to enhance its visibility, engage with its target audience and ultimately drive conversions. By studying the digital marketing strategies implemented by Amazon, we can gain valuable insights into their effectiveness and their influence on consumer behaviour.

The objectives of this case study are threefold. Firstly, we aim to identify and analyze the key digital marketing strategies employed by Amazon. This may include but not limited to social media marketing, search engine optimization (SEO) and personalized recommendations. By examining these strategies, we can assess their relevance and effectiveness in the context of consumer purchase decisions on the Amazon platform. Secondly, we seek to understand the impact of these digital marketing strategies on consumer behavior. Consumer purchase decisions are complex process influenced by various factors. The digital marketing plays a significant role in shaping consumer perceptions, preferences and intentions.

By investigating the relationship between digital marketing strategies and consumer purchase decisions, we can uncover the extent to which these strategies drive customer engage with Amazon platform. Understanding the factors that contribute to consumer purchase decisions can help companies optimize their marketing efforts and enhance their overall performance in the digital marketplace. This case study will contribute to the existing body of knowledge in digital marketing by providing insights into the influence of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions. The findings will have practical implications for companies seeking to maximize their digital marketing efforts and capitalize on the growing e-commerce landscape.

1.1. DIGITAL MARKETING STRATEGIES

Digital marketing strategies refer to the plans and tactics used by the companies to promote their products or services through online and achieve their marketing objectives. The effectiveness of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions can vary based on several factors, including the product category, target audience, competition and overall marketing approach. Conducting specific case studies focused on the Amazon platform can provide more detailed insights and measurable outcomes for companies operating on the platform.

***** Content Marketing:

The company need to create and share the valuable content to attract and engage the target audience. It includes articles, blog posts, infographics, videos and the social media posts.

Social Media Marketing:

The social media platforms can build brand awareness, drive website traffic and engage with the audience. Develop a social media strategy, create compelling content, and engage with the followers.

Pay-Per-Click Advertising (PPC):

Running paid advertisements on search engines (like Google Ads) or social media platforms (like Facebook Ads). The company will pay only when someone clicks on the ad, making it a cost-effective way to drive targeted traffic.

***** Email Marketing:

Create an email list and send mails to the targeted subscribers will improve the sales. Personalize messages, provide value, and nurture leads through the sales funnel.

! Influencer Marketing:

Collaborating with influential individuals in the industry to promote the products or services. Their endorsement can help to increase brand visibility and credibility.

❖ Video Marketing:

Creating and sharing videos to engage with the audience. Platforms like YouTube and TikTok offer great opportunities to showcase the products, share tutorials and tell stories.

1.2. CONSUMER PURCHASE DECISION

Consumer purchase decision refers to the process that individuals go through when making a buying decision. It involves several stages and factors that influence the final choice. Consumers assess the available options based on various criteria such as price, quality, features, brand reputation, and personal preferences. They compare and contrast the alternatives to determine the best fit for their needs. After evaluating the alternatives, the consumer makes the decision to purchase a particular product or service. This involves selecting a specific brand, making the final purchase choice, and deciding the quantity and location of purchase. Once the purchase is made, consumers evaluate their satisfaction with the product or service. They compare their expectations with the actual performance and consider the factors like quality, value for money, and customer service.

Positive experiences can lead to brand loyalty and repeat purchases, while negative experiences can result in dissatisfaction and negative word-of-mouth. It's important to note that consumer purchase decisions can be influenced by various internal and external factors. Some of these factors include personal preferences, past experiences, cultural and social influences, marketing messages, peer recommendations, and price considerations. Marketers should understand these factors and tailor their strategies to effectively influence consumers at each stage of the decision-making process.

1.3. AMAZON PLATFORM

Amazon is one of the world's largest online marketplace and it is a multinational technology company. This company was founded by Jeff Bezos in the year 1994. Amazon was started as an online bookstore. Over the years, Amazon has expanded its offerings and now sells a vast range of products, including electronics, clothing, home goods, books, and much more.

Amazon operates as an online marketplace where sellers can list and sell their products to a global customer base. The platform allows businesses of all sizes, from small independent sellers to large brands, to reach millions of potential customers. Amazon offers an extensive product selection across various categories. Customers can find a wide range of items, including new and used products, from different sellers. The vast product catalog ensures that customers have numerous options to choose from.

One of Amazon's distinguishing features is its customer review system. Customers can leave feedback and ratings for products they have purchased, providing valuable information for other shoppers. Reviews help to build trust and influence purchase decisions. FBA is a service offered by Amazon that allows sellers to store their inventory in Amazon's fulfillment centers. Amazon handles order processing, packaging, shipping, and customer service on behalf of the sellers. This service enables sellers to leverage Amazon's logistics capabilities and reach customers with fast and reliable shipping. Amazon Prime is a subscription-based service that offers various benefits to its members, such as free two-day shipping, access to streaming services like Prime Video and Prime Music, exclusive deals, and more. Prime members are a significant segment of Amazon's customer base, and sellers can tap into this audience.

Amazon provides advertising solutions for sellers to promote their products and reach a targeted audience. Sponsored Product ads, Sponsored Brands, and Amazon DSP (Demand-Side Platform) are some of the advertising options available to sellers to enhance their visibility and drive sales. Amazon's voice-controlled smart assistant, Alexa, is integrated into various Amazon devices, such as Echo speakers and Fire TV. This integration opens up opportunities for sellers to connect with customers through voice-enabled shopping experiences. Amazon has revolutionized e-commerce with its vast product selection, efficient logistics, customer-centric approach, and innovative services. The platform offers immense opportunities for sellers to reach a global customer base and leverage Amazon's infrastructure to grow their businesses.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Abid Haleem, Mohd Javaid, Mohd Asim Qadri, Ravi Pratap Singh, Rajiv Suman (2022), stated that artificial intelligence (AI) has revolutionized the field of marketing by providing innovative solutions and enhancing various aspects of the marketing process. AI algorithms can analyze large volumes of customer data and segment customers based on demographics, behavior, preferences, and other relevant factors. AI-powered predictive analytics can analyze historical data to forecast customer behavior, trends, and preferences. Marketers can leverage these insights to make informed decisions, such as predicting customer churn, optimizing pricing strategies, or identifying potential leads.

Salma Jahan (2022), examined that the advent of the internet and digital technologies has transformed the way companies operate and interact with their customers. E-marketing, also known as digital marketing or online marketing, refers to the use of digital channels and platforms to promote products and services, engage with customers, and drive sales. E-marketing encompasses various strategies and tactics, such as search engine optimization (SEO), social media marketing, email marketing, content marketing, and more. One critical aspect of e-marketing is its impact on consumer purchase behavior. The online environment provides consumers with unprecedented access to information, options, and convenience, influencing how they make purchase decisions.

According to **Shruti Gulve** (2021), Digital marketing has revolutionized the way companies connect with consumers and promote their products and services. With the widespread use of digital technologies and online platforms, businesses now have a range of tools and strategies to engage with their target audience and influence consumer buying

behavior. Digital marketing encompasses various online channels and tactics, including search engine optimization, social media marketing, content marketing, email marketing, pay-per-click (PPC) advertising, influencer marketing, and more. These strategies leverage the power of the internet and digital platforms to reach and engage with consumers at various stages of their buying journey.

Challa, Anute (2021) brands are using Instagram to drive engagement and connect with the targeted markets and audience. Each and Every company is coming up with unique content, by using quality images, Videos. Though some companies are unable to create post quality content, having a strong fan base in their social media platforms.

Bahadir Murat Kandemirli (2018) Amazon.com, is one of the world's largest e-commerce platforms, has employed a range of digital strategies to establish itself as a dominant player in the online retail industry. Amazon utilizes advanced algorithms and machine learning to provide personalized product recommendations to its customers. Amazon.com has leveraged various digital strategies to disrupt the retail industry. Through personalized recommendations, customer reviews, streamlined ordering processes, and cross-channel integration, Amazon has transformed the way consumers shop online.

Indrajit Ghosal (2018) ascertained that consumer buying behavior on e-marketing refers to the actions and decision-making processes that consumers go through when making purchases in the online environment. E-marketing, which includes various digital marketing channels and tactics, has a significant impact on consumer buying behavior. The consumers seek information about features, specifications, prices, reviews, and comparisons. E-marketing provides detailed product information, user reviews, and other relevant content to influence consumers' information search process.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify and analyze the key digital marketing strategies utilized by Amazon.
- To examine the influence of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decisions.

4. HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

- ✓ H1: Digital marketing strategies employed by Amazon have a significant influence on consumer purchase decisions on the Amazon platform.
- ✓ H2: Digital marketing strategies induced the customer to take purchase decision, have a stronger influence on consumer purchase decisions compared to other strategies on the Amazon platform and age of the respondents.

5. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- This study is concentrated only on digital marketing strategies and purchase decision related with amazon platforms.
- This information was collected from the Chennai city respondents only.

6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Primary and secondary data has been used for this study. The researcher has used 150 questionnaires to collect data from the consumers. The received questionnaires is 140 but the

usable questionnaires is 133 only. So the sample size of this study is 133. Secondary data is collected through website, e-journals, articles and Textbooks.

7. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS:-

a. RELIABILITY STATISTICS

Table: 1

Reliability Statistics					
Cronbach's Alpha N of Items					
.932	9				

Source: Primary Data

The Cronbach's Alpha value of the factors of digital marketing strategies on consumer purchase decision is 0.932, which is more than 0.7. Thus, the reliability of the question is proved.

b. KAISER-MEYER- Olkin (KMO) AND BARTIETT'S TEST

Table: 2

KMO and Bartlett's Test
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling .884

Adequacy.

Bartlett's Test of	Approx. Chi-Square	945.393
Sphericity	df	36
	Sig.	.000

Source: Primary Data

KMO and Bartlett's test is used to measure the sampling adequacy of the variables. The KMO test value is 0.884 which is more than 0.5, therefore it can be considered as acceptable and valid to conduct the data reduction technique.

The Bartlett's Test of Sphericity helps the researcher to decide whether the results of factor analysis are worth considering and whether we should continue the research work. The Bartlett's Test of Sphericity significant at the level of 1% which shows that there is a high level of correlation between the variables, which make it adequate to apply for factor analysis.

c. ANOVA

Table: 3

ANOVA						
		Sum of		Mean		
		Squares	df	Square	F	Sig.
Digital marketing strategies induced	Between Groups	10.522	3	3.507	4.454	.005
the customer to take purchase	Within Groups	101.569	129	.787		
decision	Total	112.090	132			
Digital marketing strategies are	Between Groups	3.223	3	1.074	1.762	.158
relatively fast and easy	Within Groups	78.657	129	.610		
	Total	81.880	132			
Digital marketing strategies are	Between Groups	1.060	3	.353	.480	.696
highly flexible and configurable	Within Groups	94.910	129	.736		

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	Total	95.970	132			
Very much satisfied about the	Between Groups	1.340	3	.447	.674	.569
product descriptions, blogs, websites	Within Groups	85.472	129	.663		
reviews in the amazon platforms	Total	86.812	132			
The availability of information	Between Groups	3.024	3	1.008	1.228	.302
motivate the customer to buy the	Within Groups	105.908	129	.821		
product through amazon platforms	Total	108.932	132			
The platforms influences the	Between Groups	7.742	3	2.581	3.075	.030
customer to buy more	Within Groups	108.258	129	.839		
	Total	116.000	132			
Take buying decisions accompanied	Between Groups	2.752	3	.917	1.288	.281
by overwhelming feelings of	Within Groups	91.880	129	.712		
generosity	Total	94.632	132			
The digital marketing strategies are	Between Groups	2.285	3	.762	1.045	.375
easy for the customer to find out	Within Groups	94.000	129	.729		
what they need	Total	96.286	132			
The amazon platform has a good	Between Groups	1.697	3	.566	.793	.500
collection which helps the customer	Within Groups	91.987	129	.713		
to take purchase decision	Total	93.684	132			

Source: Primary Data

The P value of the variable digital marketing strategies induced the customer to take purchase decision is less than 0.01 @ 1% level of significance. Thus, null hypothesis was rejected for the above variable. It is found that there is a significant relationship between digital marketing strategies induced the customer to take purchase decision and age of the respondents.

d. Post Hoc Tukey HSD Test

Table: 4

Multiple Comparisons							
		Tukey HSD					
						95	5%
						Confi	dence
						Inte	rval
			Mean	Std.		Lower	Upper
Dependent Variable	(I) Age	(J) Age	Difference	Error	Sig.	Bound	Bound
Digital marketing strategies	Below 30	30-40 years	.149	.230	.915	45	.75
induced the customer to take		41-50 years	.538	.230	.094	06	1.14
purchase decision		above 50 years	.916*	.296	.013	.14	1.69
	30-40 years	Below 30	149	.230	.915	75	.45
		41-50 years	.389	.296	.555	38	1.16
		above 50 years	.767	.350	.131	14	1.68
	41-50 years	Below 30	538	.230	.094	-1.14	.06

		30-40 years	389	.296	.555	-1.16	.38
		above 50 years	.378	.350	.703	53	1.29
	above 50	Below 30	916 [*]	.296	.013	-1.69	14
	years	30-40 years	767	.350	.131	-1.68	.14
		41-50 years	378	.350	.703	-1.29	.53
Digital marketing strategies	Below 30	30-40 years	.113	.202	.944	41	.64
are relatively fast and easy		41-50 years	.224	.202	.685	30	.75
		above 50 years	.557	.261	.147	12	1.24
	30-40 years	Below 30	113	.202	.944	64	.41
		41-50 years	.111	.260	.974	57	.79
		above 50 years	.444	.308	.475	36	1.25
	41-50 years	Below 30	224	.202	.685	75	.30
		30-40 years	111	.260	.974	79	.57
		above 50 years	.333	.308	.701	47	1.13
	above 50	Below 30	557	.261	.147	-1.24	.12
	years	30-40 years	444	.308	.475	-1.25	.36
		41-50 years	333	.308	.701	-1.13	.47
Digital marketing strategies	Below 30	30-40 years	.245	.222	.688	33	.82
are highly flexible and		41-50 years	033	.222	.999	61	.55
configurable		above 50 years	.123	.286	.973	62	.87
	30-40 years	Below 30	245	.222	.688	82	.33
		41-50 years	278	.286	.766	-1.02	.47
		above 50 years	122	.338	.984	-1.00	.76
	41-50 years	Below 30	.033	.222	.999	55	.61
		30-40 years	.278	.286	.766	47	1.02
		above 50 years	.156	.338	.968	72	1.04
	above 50	Below 30	123	.286	.973	87	.62
	years	30-40 years	.122	.338	.984	76	1.00
		41-50 years	156	.338	.968	-1.04	.72
Very much satisfied about	Below 30	30-40 years	.102	.211	.963	45	.65
the product descriptions,		41-50 years	176	.211	.837	72	.37
blogs, websites reviews in		above 50 years	.246	.272	.802	46	.95
the amazon platforms	30-40 years	Below 30	102	.211	.963	65	.45
		41-50 years	278	.271	.736	98	.43
		above 50 years	.144	.321	.970	69	.98
	41-50 years	Below 30	.176	.211	.837	37	.72
		30-40 years	.278	.271	.736	43	.98
		above 50 years	.422	.321	.555	41	1.26
	above 50	Below 30	246	.272	.802	95	.46
	years	30-40 years	144	.321	.970	98	.69
		41-50 years	422	.321	.555	-1.26	.41

The availability of	Below 30	30-40 years	.291	.235	.602	32	.90
information motivate the	Below 30	41-50 years	153	.235	.914	76	.46
customer to buy the product		above 50 years	.369	.303	.616	42	1.16
through amazon platforms	30-40 years	Below 30	291	.235	.602	42	.32
unough amazon platforms	30-40 years	41-50 years	444	.302	.458	-1.23	.34
		above 50 years	.078	.357	.996	85	1.01
	41-50 years	Below 30	.153	.235	.990	46	.76
	41-30 years	30-40 years	.133	.302	.458	40	1.23
		above 50 years	.522	.357	.464	41	1.45
	above 50	Below 30	369	.303	.616	-1.16	.42
		30-40 years	078	.357		-1.10	.85
	years	41-50 years	522	.357	.996 .464	-1.01	.41
The pletforms influences the	Dalaw 20	•					
The platforms influences the	Below 30	30-40 years	.439	.237	.255	18	1.06
customer to buy more		41-50 years	.328	.237	.514	29	.95
	20. 40	above 50 years	.761	.306	.067	04	1.56
	30-40 years	Below 30	439	.237	.255	-1.06	.18
		41-50 years	111	.305	.983	91	.68
	41.50	above 50 years	.322	.361	.809	62	1.26
	41-50 years	Below 30	328	.237	.514	95	.29
		30-40 years	.111	.305	.983	68	.91
	1 70	above 50 years	.433	.361	.628	51	1.37
	above 50		761	.306	.067	-1.56	.04
	years	30-40 years	322	.361	.809	-1.26	.62
		41-50 years	433	.361	.628	-1.37	.51
• •	Below 30	30-40 years	.205	.219	.784	36	.77
accompanied by		41-50 years	.261	.219	.633	31	.83
overwhelming feelings of		above 50 years	.449	.282	.385	28	1.18
generosity	30-40 years	Below 30	205	.219	.784	77	.36
		41-50 years	.056	.281	.997	68	.79
		above 50 years	.244	.333	.883	62	1.11
	41-50 years	Below 30	261	.219	.633	83	.31
		30-40 years	056	.281	.997	79	.68
		above 50 years	.189	.333	.942	68	1.06
	above 50	Below 30	449	.282	.385	-1.18	.28
	years	30-40 years	244	.333	.883	-1.11	.62
		41-50 years	189	.333	.942	-1.06	.68
	Below 30	30-40 years	.027	.221	.999	55	.60
strategies are easy for the		41-50 years	251	.221	.668	83	.32
customer to find out what		above 50 years	.338	.285	.637	40	1.08
they need	30-40 years	Below 30	027	.221	.999	60	.55
		41-50 years	278	.285	.763	-1.02	.46

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		above 50 years	.311	.337	.792	57	1.19
	41-50 years	Below 30	.251	.221	.668	32	.83
		30-40 years	.278	.285	.763	46	1.02
		above 50 years	.589	.337	.303	29	1.47
	above 50	Below 30	338	.285	.637	-1.08	.40
	years	30-40 years	311	.337	.792	-1.19	.57
		41-50 years	589	.337	.303	-1.47	.29
The amazon platform has a	Below 30	30-40 years	.126	.219	.938	44	.70
good collection which helps		41-50 years	262	.219	.628	83	.31
the customer to take		above 50 years	174	.282	.927	91	.56
purchase decision	30-40 years	Below 30	126	.219	.938	70	.44
		41-50 years	389	.281	.513	-1.12	.34
		above 50 years	300	.333	.804	-1.17	.57
	41-50 years	Below 30	.262	.219	.628	31	.83
		30-40 years	.389	.281	.513	34	1.12
		above 50 years	.089	.333	.993	78	.96
	above 50	Below 30	.174	.282	.927	56	.91
	years	30-40 years	.300	.333	.804	57	1.17
		41-50 years	089	.333	.993	96	.78
*. The mean difference is significant at the 0.05 level.							

Source: Primary Data

The Post Hoc- Tukey HSD test is used to test the significant difference between groups based mean difference. Below 30 age group respondents have more mean difference as compared with 30- 40 age group, 41-50 age group and above 50 age group respondent. It concludes that below 30 age group respondents are more involved with the factors such as digital marketing strategies induced the customer to take purchase decision, digital marketing strategies are relatively fast and easy, the platforms influences the customer to buy more and take buying decisions accompanied by overwhelming feelings of generosity.

41 - 50 age group respondents have more mean difference as compared with below 30 years, 30 to 40 age group and above 50 age group respondents of the factors such as digital marketing strategies are highly flexible and configurable, very much satisfied about the product descriptions, blogs, websites reviews in the amazon platforms, the availability of information motivate the customer to buy the product through amazon platforms, the digital marketing strategies are easy for the customer to find out what they need and the amazon platform has a good collection which helps the customer to take purchase decision.

e. CONFIRMATORY FACTOR ANALYSIS Chart: 2

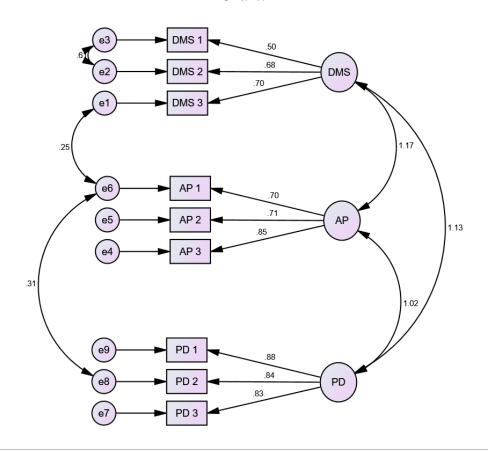


Table: 8
Model fit summary

Measure	Recommended value	value
CMIN/DF	Between 1 and 3	2.518
Goodness of fit (GFI)	≥0.90	0.925
RMR	< 0.05	0.026
Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	≥0.90	0.966
Normed Fit Index (NFI)	≥0.90	0.946
Incremental Fit Index (IFI)	≥0.90	0.967
The Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	>0.90	0.942

Source: Primary Data

It was clear from the above table the model fitness like CMIN/DF= 2.518, Goodness of fit =.925, RMR= 0.026, Comparative Fit Index = 0.966, Normed Fit Index = 0.946, Incremental Fit Index = 0.967 and The Tucker-Lewis Index = 0.942. It shows that the model fit is good.

8. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

❖ Implementing effective digital marketing strategies can increase the visibility of products on Amazon's search results.

- Optimized product titles, descriptions, and backend keywords can help to increasing the potential customers.
- ❖ Positive customer reviews and high product ratings significantly impact purchase decisions on Amazon.
- ❖ Digital marketing strategies that encourage satisfied customers to leave reviews and ratings can enhance the credibility and trustworthiness of products, leading to higher sales.
- ❖ Amazon offers advertising solutions like Sponsored Product ads, which appear in search results and product detail pages. These ads increase the visibility of products, making them more likely to be noticed by customers and influencing their purchase decisions.
- ❖ Engaging content, contests, giveaways, and influencer partnerships on social media can generate interest, leading to increased sales on the Amazon platform.
- ❖ Promotional offers, personalized recommendations, and exclusive discounts can influence purchase decisions and drive traffic to Amazon listings.
- Amazon utilizes various digital marketing strategies, such as product recommendations and bundling options, to encourage the customers to buy more products or higher-priced alternatives. These strategies can increase the purchase decisions of consumers.

9. CONCLUSION

By implementing effective search engine optimization techniques, leveraging product reviews and ratings, utilizing sponsored product ads, engaging in influencer marketing, leveraging social media platforms, employing email marketing campaigns, utilizing cross-selling and upselling strategies, and optimizing for mobile devices, companies can enhance their visibility, credibility, and engage with potential customers on Amazon. The specific impact and effectiveness of these strategies may vary depending on the product category, target audience, competition, and marketing approach. The companies adopt digital marketing tactics on the Amazon platform to increase the chances of influencing consumer purchase decisions.

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