Digital Shelf Report Recap - Q2 2024 June 11, 2024





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# Q2 2024 Digital Shelf Report











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Best Buy

Gopu

\*

Instacar







- Q1 coverage started with Amazon, Walmart, Target, Kroger, and Instacart
- Expanded coverage in Q2 to include Albertsons, Best Buy, and Gopuff
- Added three new sales tools, for a total of 41 criteria evaluated
- Deep collaboration with retail partners on capability roadmap visibility
  - Launched in Australia starting this month!

The digital shelf is a dynamic space where people seek information, browse, get inspired, ask questions, and share their experiences.

Compelling shoppers to find and buy your brands requires a deep understanding of their journey.

### CONNECTED

Provides a seamless and relevant shopper experience while being efficient and operating at scale

### COMPELLING

Conveys to the shopper the right message and information for the category and journey

### **COMPETITIVE**

Delivers foundational elements to ensure you can be found and will stand out from your competition

#### COMPLIANT

Meets the individual retailer.com requirements and best practices





# USING THE REPORT

Mars United Commerce has established 41 key criteria for evaluation that can be grouped into 4 key focus areas. The specific criteria in each focus area represent tangible capabilities and tools relevant to self-service and retailer-provided digital shelf touch points that enable shoppers to discover, research, and/or purchase products on a retailer's website or marketplace. Capabilities in each focus area are explained in greater detail in the Glossary at the end of this report.

#### **KEY FOCUS AREAS:**

#### BASIC CONTENT

Basic Content capabilities represent the descriptive information and imagery that define and spotlight a consumer product. Standard components of a product detail page such as product title, carousel images, below-the-fold content, user-generated content. and brand stores are all classified as Basic Content.

#### ADVANCED CONTENT

Advanced Content are enhanced capabilities that move beyond simple product descriptions to enable shopper engagement. This content is used to to keep shoppers on the page longer, teach them more about the product, and inspire emotional connections with the brand. Content types include interactive and 360-degree images and closed-caption video.

#### SALES TOOLS

Sales Tools are levers that amplify the discoverability, shoppability, and convertibility of products sold on the digital shelf. Tools like product badges, shoppable collections, and auto-replenishment are used to more easily engage, convert and retain shoppers.

#### SUPPLIER/VENDOR SERVICES

These services are intended to provide suppliers/vendors with enhanced support to enable and maintain a competitive edge within the retailer's ecosystem. Services such as A/B testing, direct connection syndication, and content scorecards fall into this group.

Don't forget to check out the

at the end of the report



The first product image a page viewer sees on a mobile device, designed to be especially visually appealing.

Product comparison chart

A comparison of features and attributes across products from the same brand or competing brands, designed to simplify the shopping process.

e additional images featured in a PDP's carousel.

Ratings & reviews, testimonials or other content supplied by consumers who have purchased and/or used the product.

A single landing page dedicated to a brand's portfolio rather than a single product.

Product attributes and other keywords added on the back and of a PDP to optimize the product's search visibility.

GLOSSARY ADVANCED CONTENT

The use of hot spots, GIFs and other interactive features on a POP to enhance viewer engagement. A drag-to-rotate 350-degree view of a product from all sides and angles in a single image on the PDP. Advanced brand store

An expanded brand store that spans multiple pages and

Overlaying text onto product videos featured on the PDP to expand engagement opportunities.

More modules and customization tools compared with basic BTF content.

A single landing page dedicated to a brand's portfolio but featuring interactive modules such as unique image and text layouts, rich media, and product comparison charts.

GLOSSARY SALES TOOLS

Providing a consistent, shopping-conducive experience across fesktop, mobile app & mobile web activity.

Call-out designations that highlight key features or selling points about a product (sustainability, non-CMO, gluten-free, plant-based, etc.) Assisting product discovery through the promotion of new product lines, seasonal items, etc.

Helping to convert more shoppers by offering a variety of fulfillment options: ship to home, deliver to home, curbside pickup, BOPIS, robot, drone. unctionality that lets shoppers filter searches by various nodes.

Allowing brands to help shoppers find the right product by answering questions/quizzes.

A set of characteristics that define the physical characteristics of a product (like pack size, style, flavor, etc.).

Allowing shoppers to sign up for ongoing orders through "Subscribe & Save" services. A subscription service that offers members free shipping, early access to sales, special promotions, personalized deals, and various other shopper rewards.

A link on the PDP that directs shoppers to a more complete product assortment for the brand.

# USING THE ASSESSMENT TOOL

Retailers are assigned the appropriate symbol to indicate the level of support they're providing for each capability, service, or feature covered in this report. The key at right defines the five support levels covered in our assessment. (A around the symbol indicates a change in support level since the last report.)



The retailer fully supports this capability.



The retailer does not support this capability.



The retailer provides limited support for this capability.



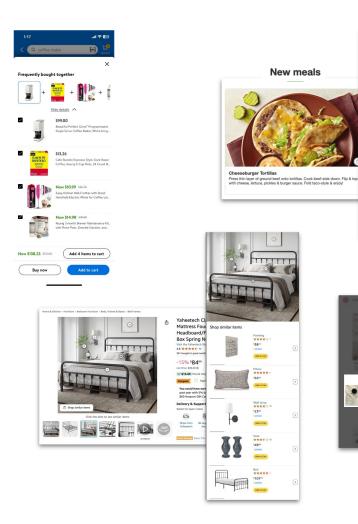
The retailer supports this capability via managed service only.

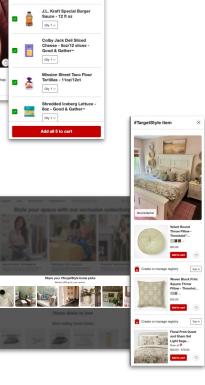


The retailer is testing this capability for future rollout.

Parity across shopper devices Shop by fulfillment type Browse by department & category Additional product attributes Hyperlinked byline to PDP Assisting product Product badges discovery through the promotion of new product Shoppable collections lines, seasonal items, etc., as a themed group Product selector Auto-replenishment options Enroll in brand registry Best Seller badges Digital sampling Live shopping Social Sharing Chatbot/ChatGPT AR/VR Generative AI Virtual try-on

Live Chat Consulting





Mt. Olive Munchies Kosher Dill Chips Pickle Pouch -4.8oz Choose replacement

Beef - 1lb - Good &

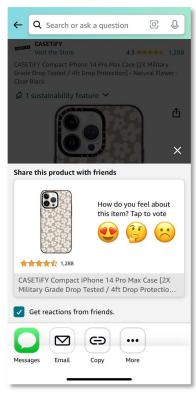
Qty 1 ~

<u>✓</u>



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#### Amazon Consult-a-Friend



#### Walmart Shop with Friends





Parity across shopper devices

Shop by fulfillment type

Browse by department & category

Additional product attributes

Hyperlinked byline to PDP

Product badges

Shoppable collections

Product selector

Auto-replenishment options

Enroll in brand registry

Tools that let shoppers share

products from a PDP

Best Seller badges

Digital sampling

Live shopping

#### **Social Sharing**

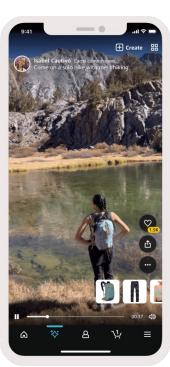
Chatbot/ChatGPT

AR/VR

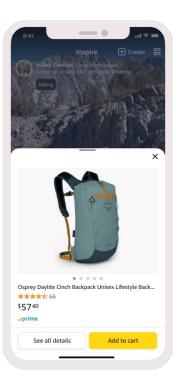
Generative AI

Virtual try-on

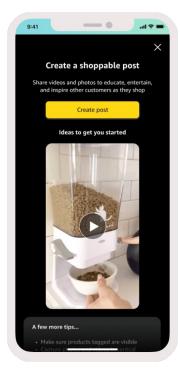
Live Chat Consulting



Products featured in photos and videos are tagged on screen



Tap the product to get details, access reviews, and add the item to your cart



Inspire other customers by sharing your ideas, interests, and favorite Amazon finds



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#### AR/VR

Generative AI

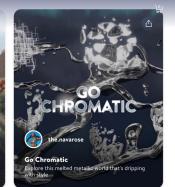
Virtual try-on

Live Chat Consulting

Enhanced shopping experiences using 3D augmentation or simulated virtual environments

















Parity across shopper devices

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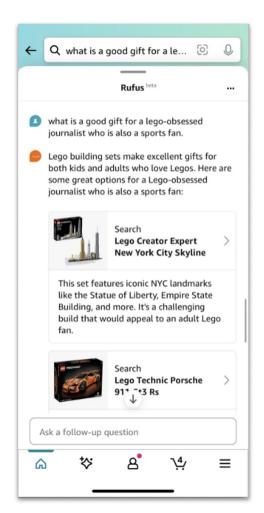
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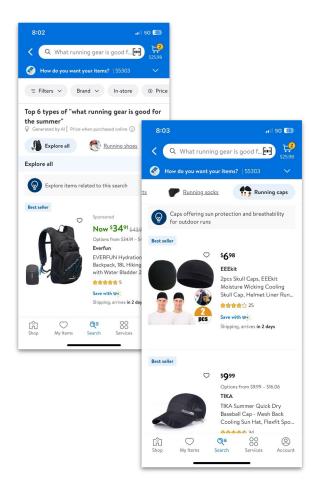
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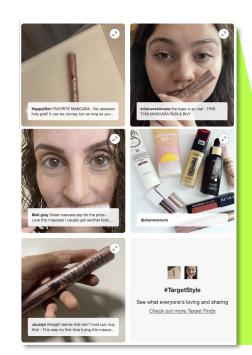


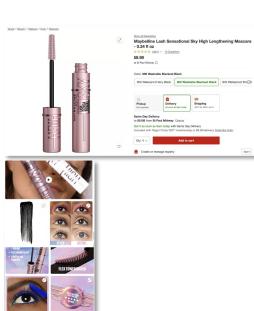


## **Recent Developments**



- Recently updated visual-forward PDPs
- Soon-to-launch functionality will pull in user-generated videos ATF

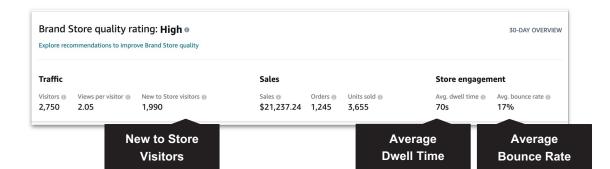


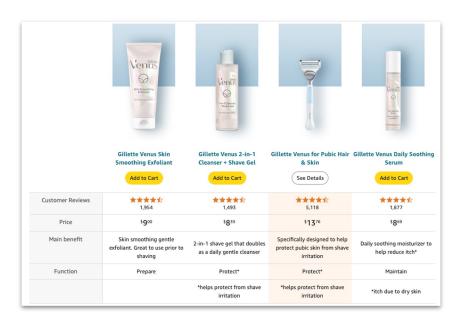


## **Recent Developments**

**a** 

- New brand store metrics
- BTF comparison charts with ATC and Customer Ratings highlights





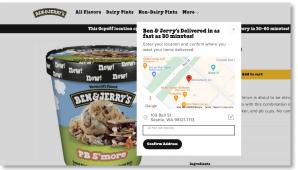
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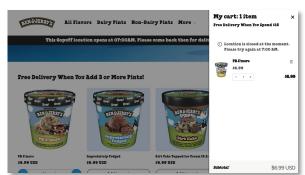
go

DTC storefronts powered by Gopuff









## Content action plan to increase shoppability and boost sales

PRIORITY PRODUCTS



Prioritize where to focus your goals based sales velocity



Determine what needs to be created to make your product pages shoppable and convertible



Ensure product detail pages have complete product titles, product bullets, images & video to increase relevancy and ranking



Get inspiration from top-performing competitor products to understand how they are upgrading their PDPs

MONITOR & MANAGE CONTENT



Work with your brand and/or sales teams to factor in ecommerce photography and video needs for new products



Measure the ROI of content changes to understand what works and where you may want to invest more



Evaluate performance on a regular cadence and apply optimizations to ensure performance is in line with benchmarks



Stay on top of ecommerce trends - new technologies have huge implications for how your product content must evolve



Deploy real-time A/B testing of product visuals with a continuous loop of testing and learning to maximize investments

Unlock the power of your brand by tapping into the right digital shelf solutions! Let's elevate your presence across channels and retailers to drive unparalleled growth together.

Contact us now to embark on your digital shelf journey of excellence!





Download a copy of the Digital Shelf Report