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(An Autonomous Institute)
University Road, Kolhapur - 416004, Maharashtra State, India.
website: www.siberindia.edu.in

E-mail: editorsajmr@siberindia.edu.in

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(An Autonomous Institute)

University Road, Kolhapur - 416004, Maharashtra State, India Phone: 0231-2535706 / 2535707 website: www.siberindia.edu.in E-mail: editorsajmr@siberindia.edu.in

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A Comparative Journey into Luxury Sportswear Online Buying Trends (With a Special Focus on Pune City).

Harshi Garg

Priyank Sharma

Research scholar, School of Commerce and Management, IIMT University, Meerut, Uttar University, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India. Pradesh, India.

School of Commerce and Management, IIMT

Abstract

The purpose of the research is to directly anatomize the vendee's buying conduct regarding online purchasing of sports apparel. Thus, it is valuable to understand the buying behavior of online consumers of sportswear products. Some specified sportswear brand like Nike, Puma, Umbro, Fila, Rebook have added in this study. With an effort to observe this correspondence, the convenience sampling technique was used. The data for this study was acquired from 600 respondents using a structured questionnaire via google form. One-way anova & factor analysis are used to explain the data. The researcher concluded that branded sports apparel influence consumers more and Nike is one brand which shoppers like to buy more. Online purchasing behavior affects consumer mindset. Females are more interested of sportswear brands than males. The study results specified that that there was a true depiction of e-business. The characteristics of sports apparel and varieties were the main significant elements for online buyers to shop sportswear.

Keywords: Sportswear, Sports Apparel, Sports Preference, Consumer Behaviour, Internet Purchasing.

Introduction

As numerous Indians have become fitness freak, Gym bunny, Health fanatic, sports nut involvement in gymnastics, exercise, sport games, yoga, Zumba dance has grown. The expanding on sports apparel has grown ensuing the increase in participation and has made a lavish contribution to this section. (Ghosal & Singh, 2019; Mehrotra et al., 2019; Steffi, 2019)

The great players controlling the Indian sportswear trade include brands like Puma, Umbro, Fila, Adidas etc. the authorization of sportswear by famous VIP and sportspersons have very much influenced Indian community(Jayasubramanian et al., 2015; Al Karim, 2013). Although, today the conduct of vendees regarding sportswear is changing. Shoppers conduct is the controlling procedure and the bodily activities that a buyer is involved in while buying and using a product to fulfil the requirement(Rani and Sripathi, 2017; Verma and Patel, 2017).

Online buying has become famous over the decades, as buyers realize it suitable & appropriate. Digital buying reduces the requirement of wait in queue or find out shop to shop for a specific product. The shopping of articles on the web via digital shopping has extend due to comfort. Currently purchasing online has grown famous as the huge accessibility of web. Myntra and Amazon are very faithful sites for apparel shopping online(Datta and Acharjee, 2018; Lim et al., 2016; S. Santos and Santos, 2020). Millions of items are purchased all over the globe via websites. Buyers are interested to buy digital as finding an item.

There are huge outlets providing choices that can affect the efficacy of a buyer experience and network study that can be used to ascertain the most valuable internet site, content alternatives and items(Anjum and Supervisor, 2022; Chiu and Choi, 2018; Harn et al., 2006). The primary task for supporting online outlets comprises of advertising, certifying, interest raising, conclusive and request processing(Chettri, 2022; Pandey and Parmar, 2019).

A digital shop window is a network that authorizes explorer to observe request and pay for items and commodities. Managing a prosperous store entails becoming competent customers to explore the outlets, supporting them to accept & resolve their problem and creating it uncomplicated Digital shop windows ordinarily add display window, purchasing carts, Payment rectification and order accomplishment process(Lakra and Deshpande, 2020; Niu and Zhang, 2021; Saricam, 2022).

There is separate category of online outlets which add digital mall, e-business hosts, e-trade software. The online store gives many kinds of information to the user like firm depiction, item types, outlet policies and contact details. A purchasing cart provides users to choose and meanwhile store items that they need to purchase.

Literature Review

Mahalaxmi K. R., NagaManikandan P. (2016) Examined the trends in online purchasing of Indian shoppers in sportswear segment. Literature reviews of previous researchers applied for research. Findings showed that young people make a high purchase of sports apparel & the main barrier are safety & trust.

Choong Hoon Lim (2016) Discovered the Factors of buyers shopping motives and eagerness to pay for sportswear brand. Multiple regression, Descriptive analysis used. Findings specified huge impacts of symbolic advantages on shopping motives & the willingness.

Weisheng Chiu, Hwansuk Choi (2018) Observed chinese shopper's conduct to shop sportswear items online. Partial least square model was used. Findings revealed that Desires and number of previous purchased products affected shoppers to buy sportswear online.

Saghar zarinkamar, Vahid Reza Mirabi (2018) discovered customers shopping motives regarding sportswear brands. Findings revealed that Promotion influences the consumer intention to shop sportswear in Tehran city. Percentage analysis, Bar graph, chi-square test.

IJoseline Steffi, S. Shrilakshmi, R.S Kirthanna (2019)explored the elements which increase online buying conduct. Percentage & Ranking analysis were used to analyse the data. The study identified that digital shopping comfort and ease is a prime element in operating the online purchasing.

Arpita Mehrotra (2019) focused to inquire the influence of some particular demographic elements. ANOVA Method was applied to interpret the data. The outcomes shows that degree of knowledge has a major impact on digital purchasing.

Kim Edward S. Santos, Angelo R. Santos (2020)explained the elements influencing users' satisfaction to digital shopping. Likert scale responses were adopted by the researcher in this study. The study curiously reveals an interesting characteristic each for the type of male and female.

Zhen Niu, Rongbo Zhang (2021) Investigated what elements in social sites will influence shoppers purchase conduct regarding sportswear. The outcomes showed that social networking sites will be prime element in the future.

Canan SARICAM (2022) determined Whether service attributes performance has a significant effect on buyers' satisfaction. CFA & SEM analysis applied. Findings revealed that buyer's satisfaction has an influence on the buyer's loyalty.

Need of the Study

This study is conducted to advance awareness of how shopper's focuses on internet medium for purchasing sportswear. The literature review that has been completed discloses that considerable studies are being done in the scope of online purchasing context. Until now, most of the studies has condensed best-selling items listing as cosmetics, accessories, electronic devices etc. even if there are various types of studies being carried out regarding the apparel segment. Barely, any have been anxious with online purchasing for sports apparel. Not many studies have been done on Luxury sportswear.Research is therefore required when buying sportswear in the garment market in order to benefit both the seller and the buyer.

Statement of the Problem

For firms to remain competitive, it is imperative that they comprehend the changing demands of digital shoppers when it comes to luxury sportswear. Comprehensive studies contrasting different purchasing patterns in this specialized sector are, nevertheless, lacking. Because of this knowledge gap, firms are unable to properly adjust their digital marketing tactics to satisfy consumer demands. It is imperative that brands in the luxury sportswear industry take action to resolve this issue if they want to optimize their online visibility and revenue.

Objectives of the Study

- To determine the influence of age on online buying behavior.
- To observe the factors affecting the shopper's choice regarding online shopping of sportswear.

Hypothesis of the Study

 H_{01} : There is no significant difference between the factors influencing online purchasing of Sportswear via websites.

Research Methodology

It directly points out to the actual "How" of a study. More concretely, its regarding how a scholar comprehensively plan a study to confirm sound and authentic outcomes that directs the research purpose. The researchers used convenience approach for the response collection via an online questionnaire. The respondents are shoppers who buy sportswear online via websites. Reliability testing was not used, but a pilot test was regulated on 50 respondents to ensure if the questions were appropriate or not. After pilot testing and making some minor changes, the questionnaire was put forward for research. The survey form was converted into online Form and sent to the contributors online so that maximum responses could be obtained. A Sample of 620 respondents was taken for this research, out of which only 600 respondents responded. Demographic variables were ignored as the respondent did not want to disclose the same. The approach used by the researchers are Frequency, & Factor analysis.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Demographic Profile of the Respondents

Variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	247	41.2
	Female	353	58.8
Age	15-25	177	29.5
	25-35	287	47.8
	35-45	116	19.3
	45-55	15	2.5
	Above 55	5	.8
Marital Status	Married	327	54.5
	single	273	45.5
Education	Professional degree	75	12.5
	Post graduate	256	42.7
	Graduate	230	38.3
	Schooling	2	.3
	others	37	6.2
Occupation	Salaried	112	18.7
	Professional	271	45.2
	Business	125	20.8
	Homemaker	24	4.0
	others	68	11.3
Family Income	Below 250000	10	1.7
	250000-500000	95	15.8
	500000-750000	186	31.0
	Above750000	309	51.5

Source: Authors' calculations based on primary data

The data elucidated that out of 600 contributor, 41.2% (247) were male shoppers, while 353 (58.8%) were female vendee of sportswear. Women were keener in web purchasing of sportswear. It is transparent that only 29.5% (177 contributors) of the 600 contributors in this survey were in the age-range of 15-25, followed by 47.8% (287 contributors) were 25-35, followed by 19.3% (116 participants) were 35-45, while 2.5% (15

respondents) were 15, and above 55 years old belong to .8% (5 member) only. The survey unveiled that 54.5% (327 members) among 600 contributors were unmarried & 45.5% (273 members) were single.

The facts acquired after carrying out a survey of 600 participator revealed that the salaried segment was passionate concerning internet purchasing of sportswear, the figure was 18.7% (112 member). Professional group was highly wholehearted to shop sportswear online, the figure was 45.2% (271 contributor). While the figure of business group was only 20.8% (125 members) only. Followed by homemaker 4.0% (24 participants) only. Some participants belonged to some other profession, which was 11.3% (68 contestant) only. Individual whose earning was less than 250000 RS, they were not so interested in purchasing of Sportswear online, the figure was such individual was 1.7% (10 members) only. The number of persons whose money was 250000-500000, was 15.8% (95 members). Followed by 500000-700000 were 31.0% (186 participator) only. The respondents who were earning above 750000 per annum were 51.5% (309 contributors).

Table 2: Favourite Brands of Sportswear

		Frequenc y	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Vali d	Adidas	53	8.8	8.8	8.8
u u	Nike	200	33.3	33.3	42.2
	Reebok	171	28.5	28.5	70.7
	Puma	99	16.5	16.5	87.2
	Umbro	38	6.3	6.3	93.5
	Fila	39	6.5	6.5	100.0
	Total	600	100.0	100.0	

Source: Authors' calculations based on primary data

In the data mentioned above clarifies that number of participants who bought from Adidas was 8.8%, and the number of participants who bought from Nike was 33.3% only.

most of the participants were attracted by Umbro 6.3%, fewer people were impressed by Fila 6.5%.

Factor Analysis

Table 3: KMO & Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Me	asure of Sampling Adequacy.	.734
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	3106.525
Sphericity	df	91
	Sig.	.000

Table4: Total variance explained

Comp	Comp Initial Eigenvalues		Extraction Sums of Squared			Rotation Sums of Squared			
onent				Loadings			Loadings		
	Total	% of	Cumula	Total	% of	Cumul	Total	% of	Cumula
		Variance	tive %		Varianc	ative		Varianc	tive %
					e	%		e	
1	3.282	23.446	23.446	3.282	23.446	23.446	2.93	20.989	20.989
							8		
2	2.518	17.988	41.434	2.518	17.988	41.434	2.15	15.368	36.357
							2		
3	2.060	14.717	56.152	2.060	14.717	56.152	2.12	15.147	51.503
							1		

Comp	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
Onent	Total	% of Variance	Cumula tive %	Total	% of Varianc e	Cumul ative	Total	% of Varianc	Cumula tive %
4	1.422	10.160	66.312	1.422	10.160	66.312	2.07	14.809	66.312
5	.818	5.842	72.154						
6	.734	5.246	77.400						
7	.617	4.407	81.808						
8	.490	3.502	85.310						
9	.453	3.235	88.545						
10	.417	2.978	91.523						
11	.365	2.607	94.130						
12	.341	2.437	96.566						
13	.320	2.283	98.849						
14	.161	1.151	100.000						

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Source: Authors' calculations based on primary data

Table5: Rotated Component Matrix^a

	Component						
	1	2	3	4			
Availability of variety & brands of product	.874						
Product specifications	.899						
Product pictures	.855						
Convenient Delivery	.685						
Advanced searching options		.757					
Branded Products		.867					
Terms & conditions		.773					
Cash on Delivery				.762			
Competitive pricing				.804			
Delivery process				.787			
After sale service			.640				
24*7 services			.798				
Website language			.691				
Website navigation			.699				

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis.

Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

Source: Authors' calculations based on primary data

This is an approach that is applied to minimize a vast number of variables into a small number of factors. As an indicator of all variables, researchers can apply this score for additional evaluation. The value of KMO is .734 & Bartlett's test is appreciable. This shows that Factor analysis is acceptable with specified data 14 variables have been reduced to 4 factors which depicts for 66.312% of the difference in the figure. Factor 1 consist of variety, product specification, product pictures, Convenient delivery, factor 2 consist of advanced searching options, Branded products, Terms & conditions, factor 3 consist of After sale service, 24*7 services, product return, website language, website navigation. factor 4 consist of cash on delivery, competitive pricing, delivery process, Factor 1 is titled as Simplicity, Factor 2 is specified as Branded Apparel, Factor 3 is termed as website navigation, Factor 4 is specified as Economic Pricing.

Findings

- Findings showed that Women are highly interested in online shopping of sports apparel (58.8%), while Men are interested in sports, games and outdoor activities. Nevertheless, this difference was found in the matter of web purchasing of Sportswear, which is quite interesting. Among the favourite brands of sportswear, people liked Nike brand (33.3%) the most.
- After this, people also liked the PUMA brand (28.5%) a lot. People also bought a lot of Reebok brand (16.5%) sports apparel, but Fila and Umbro brands (6.3%), (6.5%) still need a lot of advertising. The researcher examined online shopping behavior, including the frequency of sportswear purchases and consumers' payment method, and how much money people spend on purchasing sportswear in a month, and people's favourite shopping websites for sportswear.
- Findings disclosed that Online sportswear websites have to change their perception regarding trendy business. Now times have changed & people do online shopping of sportswear so that they can get more variety and favourite goods at one store in less time.
- Online sportswear sellers should always be in the good list of shoppers & they should present their product in such a way that the buyers do not find it overpriced and the sellers do not find it underpriced.
- Sportswear owners should adopt such strategies to influence more & more shoppers in selling their goods by giving more offer, discounts. So that buyers become more interested in purchasing sportswear online. Sportswear sellers of online stores should adopt such an approach that their existing customer switches to online mode, and they should also establish tie-ups with sellers on other e-commerce platforms to gain more customers and profits.

Suggestions

- The Online sportswear industry should also focus on teenagers, presenting offers that attract teenagers to buy Sportswear. Furthermore, the e- commerce company should also target the Female consumers. E-commerce companies like Puma, Adidas, Umbro should do universal promotion and marketing and embrace some technique that effect buyer's perception in a serious way.
- these websites are especially performing their trade in sportswear categories. Nike is still the best choice for most costumers.
- E- commerce companies should adopt word of mouth technique so that their promotion and advertisement is maximum and people start shopping online from their website.
- Internet based websites are actually for industries, seller, and shoppers with their rapidly growing creative highlights. Accordingly, alliance must spread outstanding sites that give a higher online experience to pull in and hold their customer in the e- retail trade hub.

Conclusions

Online purchasing has become a systematic act in people's everyday life; expansion of e-merchandise is a necessary condition to magnify the consumer understanding, answer to the unpredictability of shopper requirement and inspire other future buyers like internet explorer. Negative consequences may result in losing buyers forever and the impression of the store may be affected. The evaluation disclosed that in general, the standard of information and the diversity regarding conveyance options, between others, are the numerous key consideration that affect buyers in their buying selection of sportswear.

The research contemplates that brand inclination given for sportswear by the 600 respondents. It can be concluded that female participate more often in sports activities. Sports apparel is not bought regularly both online and conventional stores. Nike and puma were the most favoured brand for sportswear. Females are

continual online buyers when it comes to sports apparel. Elements that affect most when buying sportswear are comfort, Brand, customer service and pricing. Activewear can be bought in any season.

Limitation & Scope For Future Research

This research emphasized on the consumer behavior of purchasing sportswear product via online medium. Limited Sample Size, Temporal Scope, Cultural context was the limitation of the study. This study is carried out only on Pune city, future study can be conducted on other Geographical area. This study considers only sportswear segment. Future research can consider on other segments like Ethnic wear, Formal wear, Casual wear, Western wear, post purchase conduct and& so on. Future research can focus on other products or goods in place of sports apparel, which are easily available online now a days like electronics, cosmetics, accessories etc. Future study can consider the influence of online purchasing on conventional purchasing and the sustainability of conventional Stores.

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