

Saving Money in College through the Power of Couponing

“I love to pay for everything full price!” Now, this is something that has never been said. While no one enjoys paying full price, a lot of us either have no idea how to get a good deal, or after trying to find discounts and failed, have given up. However, if you are a college student, you may be missing out on huge savings simply for being a college student! We all know the stereotype. If you are a college student you are usually “broke,” but if you have the right shopping strategies and find some great websites that offer you discounts you may be able to save more money than you ever imagined.

Promo Code Websites

With assignments and midterms weighing heavy on your mind who has time to find online promo codes? The promo code experience for most of us has been accidental. Either we hear about a promo code because a compassionate friend tells you about it or because you have experienced the adrenaline running through your veins as you frantically search for that online promo code before getting to the cashier. I use to experience this all the time! At some point, I stopped bothering to search because I figured online promo codes just didn’t work for me and only the lucky few came across the good promos. I felt destined to always pay full price. But luckily thanks to promo code websites it doesn’t have to be that way!

Nowadays there are many online websites whose main focus is to provide you with the best deals! You can always do a general google search for a specific coupon you need and you may get lucky. However, considering how vast the internet is, it is a good idea to bookmark your top 3 favorite promo code websites to save you the time and extra money. Websites to consider adding are Dealspotr, Honey, and RetailMeNot.

RetailMeNot

When you google for online promo codes probably the first website you will come across is this one. It works pretty well in that it offers a large variety of deals and gives you information on how many people used the coupon. The only problem is you may come across a lot of great coupons... which are expired! Nevertheless, it is still a step up from searching aimlessly using just Google.

Dealspotr

Dealspotr is unique in that not only offer you great deals, but it allows you to connect with others through online coupon codes. This website is very organized and keeps its coupon code information updated in real time, so you don't have to worry about coming across many online coupon codes that are expired. Also, there are benefits and rewards you can get by contributing to their community. Sharing is caring!

Honey

Copying and pasting promo codes one after another can cost you a lot of time and test your patience. However, websites like Honey do all the work for you at the checkout. By simply installing their plug-in to your browser Honey will give you an update letting you know it has found coupons for the company you are purchasing from. Just click "Apply Coupons" and Honey automatically test all the promo codes it found for you. Just lean back, relax, and watch the savings come in! It won't always work but it sure saves you a lot of time and you know what they say, time is money!

Online Textbook Rental Companies

Face it as college students we all need to buy books. A lot of us still buy directly from our school's bookstore or just try to find the cheapest books we can find online. However, by signing up to websites like Chegg, eCampus, and Textbooks.com you may come across many online savings that you would not have known about if you just bought your textbooks the traditional way.

eCampus

eCampus has a rewards program that allows you to get points in simple ways such as by signing up, renting textbooks, and referring friends. You have to buy books anyways so why not enroll in rewards programs like the ones eCampus offers to make the best out of it?

Textbooks.com

By simply signing up with your email you will automatically be sent deals like free shipping offers or discounts off your next purchase. Also, they have exclusive offers for just students such as savings off your next laptop purchase. While their database of offers is not as large as those for promo code websites, the deals they do have are specific to college students.

Chegg

When it comes to companies specific for college student Chegg has to be one of my favorites! It offers great deals when shopping for your textbooks and also provides you with a platform to learn by offering services like solution manuals, tutors, and information on internships and scholarships. If you make sure to be a regular user or follow their Twitter page not only will you come across a meme that will brighten your day, but you may come across big-time savings with an online coupon they may post.

Student Discounts

Oh, the power of being a student! Yes, I know being a college student may be difficult but it can come with a lot of rewards that you may not know about. There are many companies from food, tech, travel, and even insurance who are eager to offer you with a student discount.

Love music?

Apple and Spotify offer their services to students for a low cost. If you use your student email you can get Spotify Premium for half the price, so instead of paying \$9.99 a month you only pay \$4.99. For iPhone users, you can get Apple Music for \$5.00 a month.

Need to eat on a budget?

Many of your favorite food locations such as Chipotle, Subway, and Chick-fil-A may offer a free drink or 10% off by simply showing your student ID. While many of these offers may vary locally it is a good idea to check out the restaurants you visit often and ask if they offer any student discounts.

Want to look great for a low price?

Apparel companies like Levi's offer students a 15% discount on online purchases. Nike also offers a 10% discount for students when they sign up with their student emails.

Want more on student discounts?

It is difficult to list every offer companies have for students because there are so many! The website links below offer more in-depth details on the companies that offer student discounts.

<http://www.bestcollegesonline.com/blog/100-stores-that-give-a-student-discount/>

<http://college.usatoday.com/2017/06/30/the-best-student-discounts-you-can-and-should-get-with-an-edu-email-address/>
<http://www.thisisinsider.com/college-student-discount-brands-2017-1#fashion-1>

Social Media

Social Media does have its advantages. Depending on who you follow on Instagram and Twitter you may come across discount offers and promo codes for your next shopping experience. Also, watching your favorite YouTube creators may actually save you some money on your favorite items. Youtube creators often want to find ways to grow their followers and show them that they appreciate them. They often get offers from companies to promote their products and so make sure to check out their latest videos and see if they have promo codes they want to share with you. Some may offer more promos than others so make sure to do a little of research. It's a great way to watch your favorite content and save some money.

Reward Sites

There are many websites willing to reward you by simply answering surveys and searching online. Websites like Swagbucks offers a wide variety of survey opportunities and if you install their plug-in into your web browser you may get points for some of your searches. You get to shop and search and save! For example, I once searched for a website I need to use for class and was rewarded! As students, working extra hours at our part-time jobs may not be the smartest idea if we want to get good grades. Therefore, websites like Swagbucks may offer you with the opportunity to make a little extra money. Plus, they offer a lot of discount offers if you make your purchases through the Swagbucks website. For a list of other reward sites you might want to try to check out this link:

<http://moneypantry.com/swagbucks-alternatives/>

Be Financially Smart

Getting good deals on your purchases really only makes a difference if you become financially smart. Just because you have all these discounts be careful about going crazy on spending! It is important to become financially smart and do simple things like getting organized, reduce your debt, and save your money. As a college student, you want to do your best to set yourself up for a future after college in which you are not drowning in debt.