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Sweepstakes!



Getting Started



Tip #1

You **will** need to give out your email so use a separate account only for sweeps entries from free providers such as hotmail, gmail or Yahoo.



Tip #2

You **may** also need to give out your phone number. Consider buying a pre-paid phone that you only use for sweepstakes entries.



Tip #3

Always read the sweepstakes privacy policies to make sure the company will not sell your contact information. This helps cut down on spam.



Tip #4

Opt-out of newsletter and/or third party offers unless you must receive one to enter the sweepstakes. Once you receive the first newsletter you can unsubscribe.



Finding Sweepstakes



Check out your local **grocery store**. In just 10 minutes of shopping, we found about a dozen items offering \$730,000 in sweepstakes grand prizes.



Read **magazines**, clip **coupons** for your favorite brands. Watch your favorite **TV** show or listen to your favorite **radio** station.



Go online. Visit the website of your favorite retailer or product. **Be social**. Follow your favorites on Twitter or join their facebook pages.



Sign up for **sweepstakes pages** that alert you when new sweepstakes appear. We've listed a few of our favorites at the end of this newsletter.



Improving Your Odds



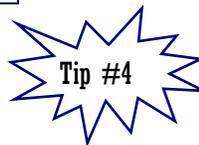
Enter **daily sweeps** every day.



Look for offers that run for **shorter** periods of time.



Look for offers with **many prizes**.



Look for offers that **limit entries** by factors such as where you live, your age, your job.



Enter your sweeps early in the morning between **3 a.m. and 6 a.m.**



Staying Organized

Tip #1

Keep track of your sweepstakes entries by using a **calendar** such as those available through your browser or internet service provider.

Tip #2

Include information about how often the sweepstakes can be entered, the date it ends and the date the prize will be awarded.

Tip #3

Quickly find new sweepstakes that become available by using **bookmarks** or **RSS feeds** to keep up with any recent additions.

Tip #4

Use a program such as Microsoft Excel to log each time you win a prize, no matter how small for tax purposes. **You will have to pay income taxes on what you win.**

Tip #5

Good tax rule of thumb: be ready to pay one-fourth to one-third of the Approximate Retail Value (ARV) of the prize you won. If you can't afford that amount, don't try to win the prize.

Tip #6

Enter sweepstakes faster by using an **autofill program** available through your browser or free programs such as Roboform. These programs automatically input your name, address, email address, etc. This is how people enter dozens or hundreds of sweeps each day.



Avoiding Scams



You **never** have to buy something or pay someone to enter a legitimate sweepstakes.



Do not call a **900 number** to claim a prize. You may be charged for that call.



Read the rules. They should be easy to understand, clearly list the prizes and offer a contact to reach if you have questions about the sweepstakes.



If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!



If you suspect fraud, report it. Contact your Better Business Bureau, your postmaster or the Federal Trade Commission.



WWW.SWEETIESSWEEPS.COM
WWW.CONTESTS.ABOUT.COM
WWW.SWEEPSADVANTAGE.COM

WWW.SWEEPSHEET.COM
[WWW.FTC.GOV/BCP/MENUS/CONSUMER/
PHONE/PRIZES.SHTM](http://WWW.FTC.GOV/BCP/MENUS/CONSUMER/PHONE/PRIZES.SHTM)