

Your
Buying
Guide
To
eBay

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So you want to buy on eBay? Well you have come to the right place. I have been utilizing e-bay for over 7 years and I love it. You can buy ANYTHING you want and save money. Or you can sell ANYTHING and make money too... It doesn't get any better than that!

The tips and strategies I offer in these guides are priceless. When I started buying and selling on eBay it was a learning process. This book is here to help you get the most out of buying on eBay. Through this e-book you will by-pass the living and learning phase. You will simply learn and learn correctly. It's that simple.

The first step you have already accomplished. You purchased my book. You "wanted" to make the most from buying on eBay. Taking action and wanting to learn is great.

Congratulations!! You truly have to want to learn and practice the tips and strategies I will teach you. That is the key to being successful on eBay.

BUYING ON EBAY

First and foremost, you can find everything and anything on eBay.

If you have not yet set up your eBay account, please sign up through my affiliate link by going to www.toddlers-are-fun.com/ebay-paypal-sign-up-page.html

If you can't click on the link above or cut and paste it, please be sure to type it in exactly like it is above.

Thanks!!

After you register on ebay "investigate". You can do searches for items of interest. You name it or even think about it eBay has it. You may be interested in a certain article of clothing. How about a name brand purse? Video games for the kids or even a car for your husband. Somewhere, somebody is selling what you want.

You know the old saying "**One person's trash is another person's treasure**". Well that saying is 110% true. Someone in North Carolina might not have a need for a certain item. They list it on an eBay auction. So a nice lady in Ohio has been looking for that same item that the person in North Carolina has listed on eBay. She bids on the item and wins it. **YEAH!!!** She is so happy.

Okay, so my scenario may be a little corny, however the concept is there. You can find what you are looking for. I have tips to not only win these auctions but, you can win them for the lowest bid if possible.

So it's a "**win, win**" situation. Literally, you want to "**win**" the auction, but you want to "**win**" it for the lowest price possible. This is called the "**Win Win**" strategy.

Tips and Technique #1

Finding Your Item

First of all do a thorough search of the item you want. Let me explain. Believe it or not the way you type in a title or description of an item matters. Some sellers misspell words when they list their item for auction.

This can be a huge advantage for you. 9 times out of 10 other buyers are not taking the time to type in misspellings. So you can find excellent bargains this way. **For an Example**, I am a fan of Ralph Lauren clothing for my son. I would do a search on **eBay's** home page for

1. boys size 3t Raph Lauren
2. boys size 3t Ralph Laren.

Do you understand where I am going with this? Try mixing up the spellings. If you noticed, the word Raph is misspelled in #1, and Lauren is misspelled in #2.

If you don't find anything then simply do a regular search.

By regular searches I mean just go to e-bay's home page and type in boys size 3t Ralph Lauren. I have however, walked away with several cheap auctions because of misspellings. It doesn't hurt to try.

Now sometimes **eBay** will correct the spelling automatically, sometimes not. Just give it a try. You have nothing to lose. This tip will also help you to get comfortable with doing searches. You can do this with ANY ITEM not just clothes. It's amazing how many things can get misspelled just by accident. Don't spend a lot of time doing this. If you can't find anything just go on to your regular or basic search.

Let's talk more about finding the item. Really do thorough searches, not only with misspellings but the correct words too. Try to type in different ways to word the title. Again, I cannot stress this point enough. **The way you type in the order of the words in the title matters!!!**

For an Example: I would try these different titles when I want to search for a particular item.

1. boys size 3t Ralph Lauren shirts
2. Ralph Lauren size 3t boys shirts
3. 3t boys shirts by Ralph Lauren.

Play around with it. You will get different items every time you search. It's amazing. Again, don't spend a lot of time doing this.

Just play around if you want, then just go ahead and do your basic searches.

****Watching Items****

This is by far the greatest tool on eBay. I love this feature. For those of you "newbies" who do not understand, you can "watch" an item in your account. You can simply "watch" the item without having to bid on it. Allow me to explain.

You can go into your eBay account and check the status of an item. You will see the current bid, or if anyone has even bid on the item. Also you will see how long before the auction ends. Watch as many items as you want. You are going to use this tool to your advantage later on.

I watch many items at once, because it doesn't hurt anything. I may not even have any intention on bidding on them. I just would like to keep my options open. This is what this feature is good for.

Plus when you use my search techniques, you don't want to lose your work. When you find an item and even have a little bit of interest "WATCH IT." I have watched items and then decided I didn't like the item any longer.

If this is the case simply remove the item from your list. It doesn't hurt anything. You can watch as many items as you like. I look at it like "window shopping."

Now let's move on to when you find the item that you must have and want to bid on. This is the Exciting Part.!!!

****Before you bid on your item, you must FIRST accomplish these steps****

1. Make sure that you establish a PayPal account. This is a must have. There are some sellers who will only accept Paypal as a payment method. You will be seeing this more frequently. There are more sellers who accept Paypal only, than those who accept money orders. *SO GET UP TO SPEED!!* You will need a Paypal account to both buy and sell on **eBay** also. If you have not yet set up your paypal account, feel free to do so now. Please sign up through my affiliate link by going to www.toddlers-are-fun.com/ebay-paypal-sign-up-page.html

If you can't click on the link above or cut and paste it, please be sure to type it in exactly like it is above. Also be sure to sign up for the Free paypal debit card. They are free and come in real handy. If you sell on **eBay**, it's a "MUST" to have. This way you will have instant access to your money. Call Paypal and speak to a rep if you are confused about any of this information, or if you have other questions.

2. If you have not yet set up your eBay account, please sign up through my affiliate link by going to www.toddlers-are-fun.com/ebay-paypal-sign-up-page.html

If you can't click on the link above or cut and paste it, please be sure to type it in exactly like it is above. You can buy and sell with the same account. You only need one. You will also need a credit or debit card to set up your account with **eBay**.

FOR SELLING ONLY!! Your card needs to be on file because they will deduct your **eBay** fees once a month from the card you set up the account with. **DON'T** worry. They will e-mail you your billing invoice and deduct your fees 5 to 7 business days after that from your credit or debit card. I have **Never** experienced a problem with this and eBay gives you plenty of time to be prepared to have enough money in your account.

**** Special Tip **** When you receive your Paypal debit card you may even use this card on file to pay your **eBay** fees. I use my Paypal card and my fees are deducted from my Paypal account every month. It's easy and convenient. Again you will only have to pay fees when **You Sell Only!!! No fees occur for buying on eBay. It's free to buy.**

3. I personally Rent a P.O. Box at my local post office. Most eBayers do not have a P.O Box. My husband and I have had one for years, so we use it for eBay. I feel this is safer. Also, if you are not at home during the day your packages will be left on the porch at your house. Go to your local post office and look into this. To rent your own box is fairly inexpensive. Again, this is a personal choice.

Now let's get ready to buy that item!!!

The beauty of eBay is that you can purchase items and often times get them inexpensively. I am here to help you get them as cheaply as possible. You can also find items that you have been looking for elsewhere and couldn't find. Or something you may have never seen before and just want it.

Either way, that is why it's nice shopping with eBay.

Buying Tips and Strategies

Rule #1 Read the item description thoroughly. If the item is not well described then ask the seller questions. The digital pictures of the items may not show every aspect of the item. So make sure you ask questions if the seller did not answer them in the description.

For an example:

When I was new to eBay I purchased a winter coat for my son. Well the seller didn't have in the item description that the item was from a smoke free home. I didn't ask the seller either. So I received the coat in the mail and it stunk like cigarette smoke badly. I was very, very upset. However, it was my fault because the seller never said it was from a smoke free home.

I never asked so I had to deal with it. A lesson learned. Again, ask questions about the items. Do not be afraid. You can ask anything that you feel is important. **Especially if it is a used item!!!** I cannot stress this point enough. If the item is used and you have additional questions then contact the seller and ask!!

There are some sellers who write very vague descriptions. You are making a purchase so you have the right. As a seller, I welcome any questions potential buyers may have for any items that I may be selling.

With New items it may be a little different. However, if the picture isn't clear and you have any questions, don't forget to **ASK ASK, ASK!!!**

***Rule #2** Look for "*newbie* sellers". Yes that is correct. *Newbies* are the sellers with 25 feedbacks or less. You can tell they are new because by their user id name is a number in parenthesis.

This is your feedback score. Your feedback is crucial when buying and selling on eBay. (I will talk more about feedback later on in these books.) The less feedback scores someone has the better for you. 9 times out of 10 these sellers are going through their trial and error process. Their shipping prices are low and their starting prices are low as well.

Most of the time their descriptions are not correctly written, and they may have very little traffic to their items. Also when you find a newbie seller be sure to check out their other items they have for sale also. You can really get some excellent deals if they have more items you like and they offer shipping discounts.

A HUGE advantage for you!!

Look out for these newer sellers and check out their items. You can walk away with some great deals. You also want to look and see what their percentage of positive feedback is. You can click on the seller's id name and look at all of their feedback. Feedback is what a seller leaves for a buyer when they purchase an item from them. A buyer also leaves feedback for the seller after they receive their item. Again, this is your credibility.

Any seller that you purchase from you'll want to check out their feedback score. They may be a power seller or a "*newbie*". Either way, you'll want to look into their feedback and ask these questions.

A few questions to ask yourself when looking at a seller's feedback:

1. Do they have 100% positive feedback?
2. Do they have any negative feedback? And if so when and what happened?
3. What do most of the comments say? Are they positive remarks? Do they ship in a timely manner?

These questions are very important. Again Feedback is your credibility. You want to make sure that who you are going to buy from is credible.

***Rule #3** Watch the shipping prices on the item of interest. Some sellers charge a high shipping rate. You will really need to be the judge for this yourself. If you feel the shipping price is too high for that particular item, then don't bid on it. Keep looking. Trust me, the same item will come along at the price you are willing to pay for it. If you are comfortable with the shipping charges than **BID AWAY!!!**

***Rule #4 Never** bid on an auction immediately. It does get exciting, however please be patient.

Allow me to explain.

When you find an item you would like to have, check and see how much time the auction has left.

You are going to wait until an hour or so before the auction ends to bid on it. **“Watch”** the item until an hour or two before the auction ending. Now if you are not going to be by your computer or at home to wait for the auction to end, then just place your maximum bid. It is no guarantee that you will win the auction because someone could out bid you at the last minute. Believe it or not auctions often go down to the final seconds. It can turn into an auction battle.

*** Bid Assistant ***

Another option you can look into is a new feature that **eBay** is offering. It is called **Bid Assistant**. You have to choose up to five items of interest and this system will bid automatically for you. It is Free and is another option for an item that you would really like to win and you are not going to be able to bid on the item when it ends. You can log into your e-bay account and click on the bid assistant icon to the left in “My Account”. Read how this feature works and whether or not this is an option for you.

If it is an item that you truly want to have, I suggest that you stay by your computer until the auction ends for the best chance to win that item.

***Rule #5** Watch how high your maximum bid amount is. **You cannot retract a bid!!!** Once you bid that’s the bid. Your bid is locked. You cannot go in and lower your maximum bid amount. It is better for you to bid lower and keep increasing your amount as necessary.

For example:

If I am watching a Ralph Lauren jacket for my son and I decide to bid on it. The bid is at \$5.50. I will put in \$7.00 as my maximum bid. If I get outbid, I will bid higher as necessary.

Now, lets say I put in \$20.00 as my first bid and I change my mind. I cannot retract the bid so I am locked into it. I still may not have to pay the full \$20.00 for the jacket. The bid will increase in increments. If no other person outbids me, the item is mine if I win the auction. Lower maximum bids give you the freedom to change your mind.

You can always change your maximum bid higher but you cannot go lower so keep this in mind when you place your bid. Just bid what you feel is necessary and keep your eyes on the auction.

***Rule #6** Window shop and "**Watch Your Items**". We talked about this earlier. If you see an item you may be interested in, "**watch it**" in your **eBay** account. If you are not familiar with how to "watch an item", go to ebay.com and look in the top left hand corner. Click on site map. It is in this category you can learn more about this feature. If the auction has a long period of time before it ends then you should definitely watch it. The reason why you should watch the item first is for this reason.

Allow me to explain.

Bidding can be an addiction. It is really funny how this works. When other people see that a bid has been placed on an item, they want to bid on it too. So the bid gets higher and higher. It starts a cycle.

So just "**watch**" an item until an hour before it ends and then place your bid. Now the item may already have bids placed, but that is Okay!!!

You have to decide how badly you want the item and also how much you are willing to pay for the item. If it is still where you would like it to be then place your bid. **Win that Auction!!!!**

***Rule #7** Determine how much you want to pay for an item and stick by it. You should decide before you bid on the item what you are willing to pay for it. Again, have a set amount and stick to it. Don't get caught up into "**BID MANIA**".

For example:

I decide to bid on a coat for my son. It's a Ralph Lauren, New With Tags. So I tell myself I would be willing to pay \$25.00 total **including shipping**. So I wait until an hour before and see where the price of the coat is at. If the **TOTAL** price with the shipping is well within my budget then I will place my maximum bid. I will take my bottom line bid of \$25.00 subtract the seller's shipping price and that will equal the most I would pay for the coat. That would be my maximum bid. Allow me to repeat this.

***When you are bidding for an item remember that you have to pay for the shipping charges.*

*So include these charges in the bottom line price you would be willing to pay.***

So if the auction for the coat goes above \$25.00 then I will just continue to look for another auction. 9 times out of 10 I will find another coat. I may lose the auction, and will have to move on to the next.

Remember this: People from all over the world are listing items on eBay every second. You will be able to find something else that you are looking for. **UNLESS**, it is a one of a kind rare item. Again, you will know the value and what you are willing to pay for something.

It is important that you be careful with your bidding. Don't allow it to get out of hand. You have to really look at what you want to bid on and decide what the value is worth. Make sure you don't pay full price for a used item that you can go to the store and buy new. Weigh your options carefully. This rule is going to come with practice.

***Rule #8** Do not bid if you do not have the money to pay for it immediately. This really is a big rule to follow. If you decide to sell on eBay, you will really learn to appreciate this rule. It is the same if you were going to go buy an item from a department store.

You are not leaving the store with your item until you pay for it. You should really treat buying on eBay the same way. Set up your Paypal account and try to pay the minute you win your item. It is beneficial to you because the seller is going to leave you positive feedback.

As we discussed earlier, feedback is key to eBay. I will go into more detail about feedback in a few. Also, the faster you pay the quicker you are going to receive your item.

Now in life we all understand that circumstances happen. If you cannot pay immediately **contact** your seller. Let your seller know what is going on at all times. Do not leave it up to them to contact you. That looks terrible on your part, and again will reflect on you as a buyer. This could potentially result in negative feedback. So **COMMUNICATION** is important if for some reason you are not able to pay immediately. Again, I will stress the importance. Don't bid if you cannot pay immediately or in a timely manor. Now if you choose to pay by money order and the seller accepts money orders be sure you contact the seller and let them know when you will be sending your payment. Again try and mail your money order as soon as possible!!!

Special Note: Get Updates at: www.toddlers-are-fun.com/ebay-ebook-updates.html

The password is ebayebook. It's all one word and should be typed in as shown.

*****THE FEEDBACK SYSTEM*****

It is very important that you keep your feedback at 100%. Feedback is the key to **eBay**. There are sellers who will not allow you to bid on their item if you have a feedback of 25 or less and are not at 100%. Feedback is your credibility. Not just as a buyer, but also as a seller. I pride myself on a 100% feedback.

I also worked very hard for it. Build up that credibility. Earn it.

There you have it. My top Tips and Strategies that have worked for me and I know can work for you. It is so much fun to buy on **eBay**. The greatest fun of all is getting your item for the lowest price possible.

Don't be afraid of big bad **eBay** either. Use the tools that **eBay** offer to help you. Always remember that you can go to www.ebay.com and look at the top right hand corner. It says live help and site map. These two tools are Fantastic!!

The Site Map:

This is a fantastic tool that can help you find answers to some of your unanswered questions.

It is basically a map of the site.

You can click on different categories and find tons of information.

Live Help:

Also use this tool as often as you need. Live help is great! It will connect you to a live chat with an **eBay** representative. They will help guide you through any problems you may have. I have used this service more times than I can count and every time it has helped me. So utilize these services and others provided by **eBay**. That is what they are there for.

So Congratulations!! You have completed my buying e-book. So take all of this information and...

GET TO SHOPPING!!!!

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