# 9 Ways to Write **Higher-Converting** Copy

Without Sounding Sleazy

## I'm gonna show you...

#### 1. 4 MUSTS of high-converting copy

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## 4 MUSTS of high-converting copy 3 EMAILS to increase customer LTV

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 4 MUSTS of high-converting copy
 3 EMAILS to increase customer LTV

3. 4 COMMON COPY MISTAKES and how to avoid 'em

# WHAT ABOUT MATH? NO. NOT IMPORTANT.

# **4 Musts of High-Converting Ecommerce Copy**

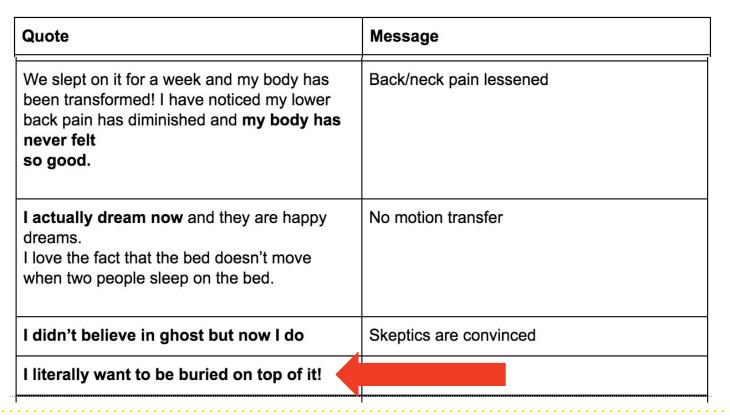
# **1. Pull copy directly from customer research**

- Mine your own reviews + competitor reviews
- Mine support chat transcripts + ask support people what they hear
- Send **surveys** (3 open-ended questions max)



## You're looking for patterns, preferences, + phrases

Sticky/swipeable phrases are bolded.







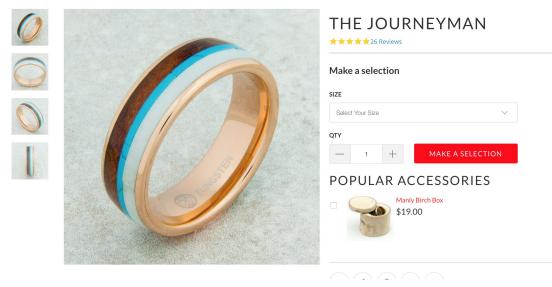
#### **Great survey questions to ask**

- What was going on in your life that led you to consider [PRODUCT]?
- How will [PRODUCT] make your life better?
- What would make [PRODUCT] irresistible to you?
- Who do you think [PRODUCT] is perfect for?

#### 2. Lighten up!



Aim to reduce anxiety + build trust
Give your brand an unmistakable voice
Joke about what you know — e.g. common problems, objections, feelings



#### THE DETAILS

"Grandpa, where did you get that dope ring, and can we have it?" - Your future heirs.

Meet The Journeyman: one of our favorite rings here at Manly Bands.



#### THE DETAILS

We can't legally tell you that John Wayne wore this ring (because it's not true and also he died before we started Manly Bands), but we're pretty sure he would have.

The Cowboy is a Stetson-hatted nod to the good ol' days — when all you needed was a reliable horse, a jug of whiskey, and the starry night sky as your blanket.

It's a little bit woodsy and a little bit dark. It's basically a Bon Iver song in ring form, so you can just wear it instead of having to learn to play guitar.

Smell that? It's the smoldering embers of your love. And it's beautiful.





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#### Add to Cart +196%

**Purchases +20%** 





\$185.00

Or 3 interest-free payments of \$62 with Affirm. Learn more

#### RING SIZE



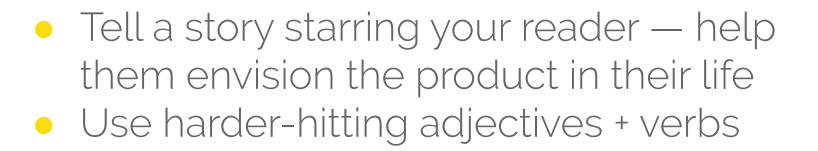
#### POPULAR ACCESSORIES



#### Add to Cart +17%

Purchases +98%

#### 3. Get emotional



#### STORY

Your Wild Side.

If you're feeling a bit summery in February and March it's okay. There are options.

The beauty of a bold item like this in your closet is that it speaks very clearly when bored. It's tempestuous. Impatient. Blunt. It keeps getting you into trouble and forcing you to apologize for its behavior. In some ways it's like a petulant best friend or evil twin. But...

She did get you to the Carnaval des Carnavsles in Seychelles in March.

And the Torquato Tasso in Buenos Aires for a little tango.

She even got you on the red-eye to Los Angeles for Lucha Vavoom.

#### All worth it.

Your Wild Side Skirt (No. 5299). Classic circle skirt in 100% cotton. Mid-calf length. French seam finishes. 4" waistband in a paisley and dot print. 4" fringe at bottom of waistband. Invisible zipper at wearer's left. Hook-and-eye above zipper. 11" border along sweep of skirt with paisley and dot print. Fully lined. Doesn't mind being the bad cop. Imported.





Made in Illinois

#### Not a Creature Was Stirring...

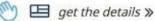
the maker

the story

Once the children are nestled all snug in their beds, enjoy the comforting scent and crackling flame of this candle inspired by the beloved Holiday poem, "A Visit From St. Nicholas." Ariane Scholl and Andy Kenney's soy wax blend features essential oils of cinnamon, vanilla, and woodsy clove for a sugar plum-worthy scent and wood wicks that crackle lightly as they burn for a nestled-by-the-fire feel. They make a great companion to curling up with your favorite book before a long winter's nap. Made in Batavia, Illinois.

details

shipping



Uncommon Goods



## **Use harder-hitting words**

- Instead of \_\_\_\_\_, say \_\_\_\_\_:
  - Great —> Phenomenal
  - Tasty —> Mouthwatering
  - Miss out -> Sacrifice
  - Find —> *Discover*
  - Take advantage of —> Grab

## Don't fake it



#### 4. Pay attention to the details

- Shipping or delivery policies
- 404 pages
- Footer copy
- Photo captions
- Easter eggs

I call these... "copy-tunities" 😎

#### **SHIPPING & RETURNS**

- Real F\*\*\* in Classy Shipping Snugged up in a velvet ring box & delivered insanely fast by rugged outdoorsman and/or USPS
- 30 Day No-Hassle Returns & One-Year Warranty Don't dig it, or need another size? Ain't no thing but a wedding ring. We got you.

• Real F\*\*\*in Classy Shipping – Lovingly bundled in a velvet ring box & delivered insanely fast by nuclear drone and/or USPS

• Real F\*\*\* in Classy Shipping – Snugged up in a velvet ring box & delivered insanely fast by thoroughbred racehorse and/or USPS

Manly Bands

#### THANK YOU!

YOUR ORDER NUMBER IS 5EF4NV46WW64.

The estimated delivery date is **June 19, 2017 - June 26, 2017**. Email us at help@harrys.com with any questions, suggestions, or your favorite Gordon Lightfoot track.

Harry's





## still alive







#### Hi Lianna,

Sorry to hear your password has gone missing. (It happens to the best of us.) Here is a link to reset it: https://www.warbyparker.com/account/reset-password/qycheyvqqaksins98kcrv1zokg10ejiubf5ep1eeai

Thanks!

The Warby Parker team

Warby Parker



## TL;DR — The 4 Copy Musts

- 1. Pull copy from customer research
- 2. Lighten up!
- 3. Get emotional
- 4. Pay attention to the details

# 3 LTV-Growing 🔺 🔪 **Emails That** Virtually No One **Is Sending**

# 1. The preemptive objection-killer

 Send in between shipping & delivery
 Proactively addressing objections can reduce returns AND make customers feel like you're in their head

#### **Outdoor Voices**

2



We wanted to send you a note about your <u>Springs Leggings</u>. Some people think, "WOW, these are tight!" It's true, they are. We designed them to be tight so that they sculpt and shape, and hug you in all the right ways without compromising flexibility. So... they should be tight, but not "I can't breathe!" tight. If they are "oooh I can't breathe" tight, reply to this email and we'll help you out.

Have a good one! Team OV You already know buying and grinding your own beans makes for a better cup of coffee.

And you've probably tried a few different methods (French press, cafetiere, Aeropress, Chemex, even the dreaded Mr. Coffee... we forgive you for that last one). You even time each brew so it never steeps longer than it should.

But if you're not paying careful attention to one seemingly small factor, you *still* might accidentally destroy the flavor you're so painstakingly extracting from those bodacious beans.



Welp, there go all the subtle caramel tones.

Good Life Coffee

2



"The emails you wrote have done a stellar job, the numbers speak for themselves (I've just checked) **our customer lifetime value is up** ~**150%**, orders per customer is up from 2 to 3, the returning customer rate is up 7%."

- Jawad Rahimi, Good Life Coffee

"The emails you the numbers sr checked) **our c** ~**150%**, orders the returning a stellar job, s (I've just **alue is up** from 2 to 3, 7%."

#### Good Life Coffee



## 2. The retiring product offer

Send when a popular product is going away, even temporarily
Include a backup product for late openers





## 3. The personal return helper

Send when an exchange is possible
The personal touch can head off bad reviews Hi Lianna,

This is Liz from the Styling Team at Mott & Bow wanted to reach out personally regarding order #O161F33F.

I noticed you requested to return the Slim Boyfriend - Benson - Light Blue jean because the color wasn't what you expected. I want to help you find the perfect pair of jeans. Were you expecting a lighter or darker color? I ask because I want to help you get the right product in your hands.

Looking forward to your thoughts,

Liz Styling Team Mott & Bow

\* mic drop \*

BOOM

Mott & Bow



# Sample post-buy email flow

- 1. Receipt with cross-sell or upsell
- 2. Pre-empt objections OR educate (keep 'em entertained during shipping!)
- 3. Check in + ask for review
- 4. Offer coupon for next purchase
- 5. If consumable product, follow up when they're running low

# Map dat overlap



- Make sure customers don't get too much email!
- Map overlapping flows (ex. welcome series, cart abandonment, winback)
- Don't forget to take one-off promotions + newsletters into account

# TL;DR — Emails to send

- The preemptive objection-killer
   The retiring product offer
- 3. The personal return helper

# 4 Conversion-Killing \* Copy Mistakes + How to Avoid Them



# **1. Formatting issues**









ALL UNIFORM POLOS 50% OFF





















HES, MARY GLOTHES & MORE

Antique carpets inspired our rug's artful floral pattern, which seems to fade in and out of the hand-knotted pile. A low shear and open knots enhance its vintage sensibility, yet the color palette lends an updated perspective. Its timeless look and soft feel are nearly indistinguishable from wool, yet the high-performance rug is made of finely spun yarns that resist stains, spills and moisture. Suitable for indoor and outdoor use, including dining areas, the rug is easy to clean and care for. Our rugs are artisan crafted and no two are alike. Given their handwoven nature, slight variations in shading and size are inherent to the design. Imported. 100% ultrafine spun PET.

## How to fix a wall of text

- Use bullets for a series of items (and put the most important info in the first + last bullets)
- Break paragraphs after 2 sentences
  Separate out features or materials

- Warm Fabric: Professional water repellent coated, fuzzy lining and durable fabric with 2400 polyester fibre which guarantees the best heat retention. Relaxed-fit style with quick-dry material.
- Waterproof: Water-repellent rain jacket can work under over 10000mm pressure head. Keep your body always dry and comfortable when you are outside, also can fights bad rainy or misty weather.
- Windproof: 1) Adjustable cuffs, stretchable glove with thumb hole help seal in warmth. 2) Inside windproof snap powder skirt, internal drawcord hem, detachable and adjustable storm hood help to keep wind out. 3)
   Wear resisting soft shell is highly wind resistant.
- Multi Pockets: 2 zippered hand pockets, 1 zippered chest pocket (passport or cards stowed), 1 internal pocket, 1 internal secure media pocket. An earphone line fastening and supporting fixture available inside the jacket.
- Size notes: Jacket offers a standard fit. Please choose by US size.
- Best use: Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding, Snowsports and other winter outdoor sports.

## this is not what i meant by "use bullets"





# 2. Using the manufacturer's copy



### Product description

### Star Night Lamp, let you encounter the starry sky every day.

Kids with Star Night Lamp, will Wander around a free and happy world, and enter into fantastic dreamlands. Take them into the space of the universe and let them feel relaxed before going to bed!

Designs for every occasion! Create an instant atmosphere for parties and entertaining Transform any area from ordinary to extraordinary. Your kids will immensely like it.

It will make your house unique and super cool compared to your neighbour.

#### **EXCLUSIVE FEATURES**

Colourful LED bulbs: Yellow, Red, Green, Blue and White

Power by 4 x AAA battery (Not Included) or night light USB cable.

Ideal for decorating wedding, birthday, parties, home, bedroom, children rooms.

As romantic night lamp and decoration light, it is a gift full of sincere.

### Star Night Lamp, let you encounter the starry sky every day.

Kids with Star Night Lamp, will Wander around a free and happy world, a bed!



nlands.

## WOW

### As romantic night lamp and decoration light, it is a gift full of sincere.





### **STARS WHEREVER YOU ARE**

The stars, twinkling in the firmament, are sublime. They remind us how small our existence is with how far separated in space and time they are from us. When we visit national parks, for instance, and can bask in the heavens from horizon to horizon, it makes us reconsider our place in the universe. In a good way.

Unfortunately, we can't all enjoy the stars where we are. You might not have a view of the night sky from your dorm/apartment or your view might be impeded by light pollution or maybe you live in a subterranean city like Ember or Fraggle Rock. We don't know why you can't see the stars when you want to, but we're going to fix that with this lamp. See, the Constellation Lamp brings constellations (and asterisms) to your desktop or your bedside table. Familiar formations glow through the perforated shade, allowing you to see the stars whenever you desire.

### **Product Specifications**

- Constellation Lamp
- A ThinkGeek / GameStop exclusive
- Desk / table lamp lets you enjoy the stars any time
- Comes with 6W LED bulb Pull-chain on base
- Power cord with in-line on/off switch and 2-blade Type A polarized plug
- Materials: Fabric shade lined with clear vinyl, brushed metal base Imported
- Dimensions: 5" diameter base, 7 1/4" diameter shade, 16 1/4" tall, 60" power cord
- Weight: 1 lb.
- Input: 120V 60Hz AC only



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# 3. Sentences trying to do too much

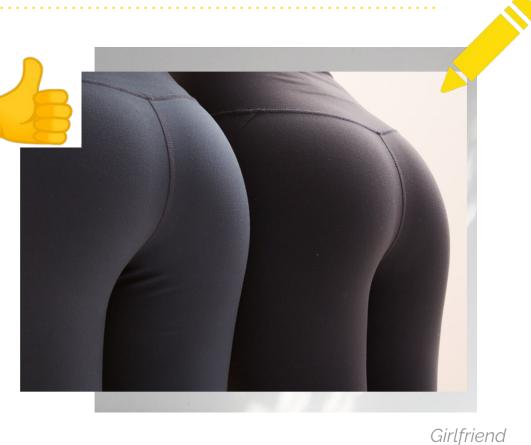
To ask important health questions irrespective of any economic drivers and to develop effective protocols that improve metabolism for those that wish to make themselves impervious to metabolic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular and Alzheimer's disease.

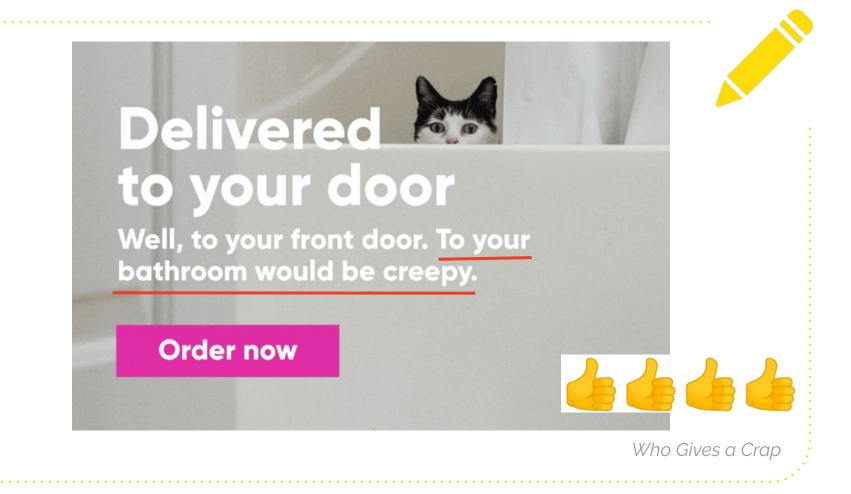


### Butt Tech. No sheering. Quick drying.

Meet your booty's new best friend. And, like a best friend would, they'll never leave you exposed when you're doing the Downward Dog.

#### $\texttt{LEARN MORE} \longrightarrow$







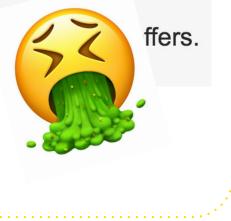
# 4. CLICHEEEEES + nonsense phrases God, the clichés

# WELCOME Lianna

We're excited to share our unparalleled experiences and exclusive offers.

# WELCOME Lianna

We're excited to share our unparalleled experiences a





### Valued Customer, come back Inbox × Swipe File/Bad Swipe File ×



**Overstock.com** <sale@email.overstock.com> <u>Unsubscribe</u> to me -

## The Ultimate Showpiece

Bring home a piece of history with the iconic Cooper chair. Preserving the fluid lines and rich wood elements we know and love from the heydey of Mid-century modern design, this chair is a work of art that you can more than admire. Prepare to unwind in style.

VIEW PHOTO GALLERY >

CREATE YOURS >

Do you dream in chocolate? Then discover LINDOR and enjoy a moment that is yours: When you break LINDOR's delicate chocolate shell, the irresistibly smooth filling starts to melt, gently caressing all your senses and taking you to a place where chocolate dreams come true.

> LINDOR, created by Lindt's Master Chocolatiers.







# Sneaky copy clichés to cut

- "Quick and easy"
- "[VERB] like never before"
- "You'll love how..."
- "Makes \_\_\_\_ a breeze"
- "[ADJECTIVE], yet [ADJECTIVE]"
- "Word. Word. Word."



# TL;DR — 4 big copy mistakes

- **1. Formatting issues**
- 2. Using the manufacturer's copy
- 3. Sentences doing too much
- 4. Clichéeeeees!! + nonsense phrases



# TL;DR



- Pull directly from research
- Get emotional + personal
- Capitalize on details + "copy-tunities"
- Kill cliches + overworked sentences
- Lighten up a little!

# Thanks!

# I'm Lianna Patch,

a big dork who writes copy for SaaS and ecommerce.

Find me at @punchlinecopy + right in front of your face right now

### More fun stuff

punchlinecopy.com/stl-2019