Explanations of how to use the Deal Equations Sheets

For a Master List, I always start with the matching of Manufacturer Coupons with eCoupons. I put the least amount of quantity needed of each product and see how much it will apply towards the deal (Shelf Price), as well as how much it will cost me out of pocket (TOOP). With all of the awesome deductions in the middle!

Qty – Always is determined from the Manufacturer Coupon, the eCoupon, or the Store coupon. Meaning if one of the coupons is $/2, my quantity would be 2. If they are all $/1 then the quantity will be 1.

Product – Is the name of the item that will be participating in the deal (ex: Cheerio's Multigrain Cereal XXoz, or Dove Advanced Deodorant XXoz.)

(Shelf Price) – Notice the parenthesis, lol, that is the price that will be used towards the calculation in able to qualify for the deal, also known as Pre-Price Plus Price. If the shelf price is the same as the sale price I put the same price in both columns. Just to make it easier for calculations when constructing all the different types of possible scenarios.

Sale Price – That is the price that the register will ring us up at prior to any coupons applied.

MQ – The $ amount on the Manufacturer's coupon for that item. If it's $1/1, then that column is -$1.00. If it is $0.75/1, I list the -$0.75 in this column.

FD - This is the deduction I will get at my store. For me it's Fully Doubled, hence the FD. For my store the $0.75 will be fully doubled, so I would insert a -$0.75 in the FD column. In the case of the $1/1 MQ, the FD column will remain blank.

EQ – That is the column for any eCoupon that I have in my account for that product. I always use a pencil when inputting this because after it's used, it's gone and I can readjust my Master List of equations.

TOOP – "Total Out Of Pocket" – That's the number that matters most to us! After I list the products and their matching MQ's, and EQ's this is where my eye goes to next to see what is the least amount of money it can cost.

Cat & FP – This will be at the very end of my deal idea. I put exactly how much the Catalina or in this week's case the Gift Card will be and what my Final Price is. If I paid $5.60 and received a $5 Catalina, my FP is $0.60. If I paid $4.00 and received a $5 Catalina it will be $1.00MM (Money Maker).

After all fields are filled in, I look at two factors. The TOOP and the (Shelf Price). My goal is to have the lowest TOOP and the highest (Shelf Price) to obtain the maximum amount of savings and in hopes of the largest Money Maker (MM)!! Then I begin with a new sheet that is blank and start grouping my deal ideas together. Absolutely no guarantee this helps to stop head spins. ;)

Provided by LivingRichWithCoupons.com reader Laura D