# Vaping Retail Strategies: Creating Engaging In-Store Experiences for Customers

Discover how to create an engaging in-store experience with these tips on retail strategies to keep customers coming back through your doors day after day.

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Customers are spoilt for choice with a wealth of different ways that they can shop. With the internet allowing customers to shop anywhere they like from the comfort of their sofa, any product they're after is just a few clicks away. This presents challenges for in-store retailers who want to attract customers to purchase products from their shelves. Not only this, but there are more physical stores than ever, which can make it hard to stand out from the crowd.



Photo by E-Liquids UK on Unsplash

With vaping increasingly growing in popularity, it has become crucial for vape retailers to focus on creating engaging instore experiences that not only attract customers but also keeps them coming back. This article will delve into effective strategies for vape retailers to create a fun and engaging instore experience to keep customers coming back time and time again.?

## **Product variety**

One of the reasons that vapers love to shop in-store is the opportunity to have a wide range of products available at their fingertips. By offering a wide range of vaping products, including vape kits, accessories, and vape juice flavours, vapers have the chance to see with their own eyes exactly what these products look like, rather than having to stare at them

through a screen. Ensure that your stock is regularly updated with the latest and most popular items to attract customers and encourage repeat visits.

#### Interactive product displays

There is so much variety when it comes to vaping, from the different flavoured <u>e-liquid</u> to an assortment of devices that it can be hard for vapers, especially those that are new to it, to narrow down the right products for them. To help them, vape shops can set up interactive displays that allow customers to test and experience different vaping products. Provide sample stations where customers can try various e-liquid flavours or try out different devices to see what best suits them. This hands-on approach helps customers make informed purchasing decisions and enhances their overall shopping experience.

### Providing knowledgeable and approachable staff

Well-trained and knowledgeable staff members are crucial for delivering exceptional customer service. They should be well-versed in product knowledge, able to recommend suitable vaping options based on customers' preferences, and offer guidance on maintenance and troubleshooting. Approachable and friendly staff members build trust and establish long-lasting relationships with customers, encouraging them to come back again and again.

## **Customisation options**

One way that vape shops can encourage footfall is by offering customisation services to personalise vaping devices and accessories. This could include engraving or custom paint jobs on devices, or allowing customers to mix their own e-liquid flavours. Customisation options make the shopping experience more unique and tailored to individual preferences.

## **Educational workshops**

Host regular workshops or classes to educate customers about vaping, including safety precautions, device maintenance, and how to create the best vaping experience. This positions your store as a trusted source of information and fosters a sense of community among customers.

#### Loyalty programs

Consider implementing a customer loyalty program to reward frequent shoppers. Offer incentives such as discounts, exclusive access to new products, or special events. This encourages customer retention and creates a sense of belonging and appreciation.

#### Comfortable and inviting environment

Create a welcoming atmosphere in your store. Pay attention to lighting, music, and store layout to make customers feel comfortable and relaxed. Provide seating areas where customers can socialise or try out products. Consider offering complimentary beverages to enhance the overall experience. Some vape shops, such as <a href="Vaping101">Vaping101</a>, based in Aberdeen, offer a chill-out area where vapers can sit down, socialise and talk about vaping. This can help to provide a relaxed atmosphere which encourages customers to feel more comfortable and engaged.?

## **Engage with social media**

Leverage social media platforms to engage with your customer base. Share educational content, product updates, and promotions. Encourage customers to share their experiences and tag your store in their posts. Engaging with customers online helps build brand loyalty and generates buzz around your store.

## Special events and collaborations

Host special events, such as product launches, themed parties,

or collaborations with local influencers for brands. These events can attract new customers, generate excitement, and create memorable experiences. Collaborating with other businesses or hosting guest speakers can also bring in new perspectives and increase foot traffic.

### **Continuous improvement**

Regularly seek feedback from your customers and adapt your strategies based on their preferences and needs. Conduct surveys, read online reviews, and engage in conversations with customers to identify areas for improvement. By continually evolving and providing an exceptional customer experience, you can differentiate your store from competitors and build a loyal customer base.

#### Conclusion

With more people choosing to shop online than ever, it can be a challenge for many vape shops to create an engaging in-store experience. However, by understanding the importance of instore experiences, vape stores can create an experience that will keep vapers coming back time after time for all their vape-related queries, questions and purchases. By designing a welcoming store layout, providing knowledgeable staff, organising events and having a wide variety of products onhand, retailers can differentiate themselves and cultivate a loyal customer base.