

## **A Place for Winners**

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## **Introduction**

Welcome! Do you like entering Sweepstakes, Contests, Giveaways or other types of Promotions? Maybe you are interested in picking it up as a new hobby? Are you trying to promote your Facebook or Twitter Contest? If you can answer "Yes" to any of the above your eye's are looking in the right place.

"A Place for Winners" evolved from blog posts via [Sweepstakes13.com](http://Sweepstakes13.com). Our initial intent was to create good quality content for our directory. At the same time we wanted to share and present the different aspects that surround the Sweepstakes and Contest world. Sweepstakes and Contests are extremely broad as they can involve anything and everything. They also branch off into closely other related area's like Giveaways, Drawings, Competitions, Free Stuff, Freebies, Freebie Jeebies and so on.

This book is an informational education tool to help you become a better "Sweeper" and to increase your chances of winning more Cash and Prizes. Some of this book is repetitive but for a purpose. The goal was to combine and make a collage of our blog posts to drive certain points home. By the end of this book you should have a good understanding of the Sweepstakes and Contests World. Along with a few important tips you can keep in your back pocket for the future.

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## Sweepstakes, Contests, Giveaways, What's The Difference?

### BEWARE SWEEPER When Entering Online Sweepstakes

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#### There are Sweepstakes Out There for Everyone

#### iPhone and Smartphone Apps – Win some Cash

#### Thank you!

### **Top Tips for Sweepstakes and Contests**

Okay, so you want to start entering Sweepstakes. You excited and dream about all the cash and prizes you can win. You spend the next 4 weeks entering everyday and nothing happens? Do not give up though. Many people do give up and that is where you hear "Nobody wins, they are not for real" and so on. To win and win often you need to be patient. Again, we can not stress that enough. Winning your first prize could take months. The only way around that is to keep entering until you win. All those entries will eventually start to pay off sooner or later. Are you guaranteed to eventually win a new house or car if you keep entering Sweepstakes? No, of course not. The excitement and rush you do get from winning even a smaller prize is amazing. If you get bit by the "Sweeps Bug" after your first win, then your hooked for life!

**A good foundation always makes a much better outcome. Being organized when it comes to entering Sweepstakes is a MUST.**

We suggest putting together a spread sheet. Keep track of all your Sweepstakes you have entered and continue to enter. Using the spreadsheet along with setting up a Sweepstakes 13 Free Membership will make things much easier for you. Having the spreadsheet will serve many purposes like knowing what you have won in the past, tax reasons, are you winning more one-time entries verses daily, and so on. You will want the name of the Sweeps, sponsor, contact information, entry page, frequency you can enter, start and end date and dates, plus the dates you have entered already. It is up to you as to the information you want to track but keeping some type of tracking system will help you out in the long run.

Keep the solicitations in check - It is much advised to set up an email to use just for sweepstakes entries. That way you are not plugging up your personal email if that address ends up getting spammed. You know to look to that address only for winning notifications as well. There are a ton of opportunities to get a free email address and we go into that further down in this article.

RoboForm is a MUST for Sweepers. But also for entering any forms. RoboForm saves your entry information so you do not have to keep typing it over and over. If you enter Sweepstakes and Contests everyday RoboForm will be a much welcomed blessing. You can try RoboForm for Free.

**Layout a schedule for entering Sweepstakes, Contests, Giveaways etc. and stick to it.**

Entering consistently means more entries - More entries increases your odds for winning. Set a goal or a minimum amount to enter each day. If you are busy like most of us are, then be selective and only enter the ones you really want to win. A day with only a couple of Sweepstakes entries is a day with no entries. Just make sure you set aside time everyday to make entries. If you happen to miss a day or a couple of days do not sweat it. Just jump back into it as soon as you can and keep plugging away.

**Speed and Rhythm** - The less time you waste with entering forms, the better. That is one big reason why using RoboForm is so crucial. Like the saying "Time is Money". The more Sweepstakes you can enter in the time you have blocked off for yourself, the more you could win. You want to hurry but do not go to fast. Remember, you should read through the rules, especially if you are just starting out. After you have done it for a while you will be able to fly through the rules and know exactly what to look for.

**What type of entry Sweepstakes are the best odds for entering?** - Daily, Weekly, Monthly? If your schedule does not allow you to enter frequently then enter Sweepstakes that only allow one entry per person would be your best bet. If you can actually enter Sweepstakes daily that allow it, you are better off than most people. Most people do not enter Sweepstakes on a daily basis that allow it.

A sweepstakes strategy helps you cut down on wasted time, while avoiding duplicate entries. Here are some tips on setting up a strategy that works for you:

Before you enter a sweepstakes for the first time, be sure to read through the rules first. There is nothing worse than wasting time entering a sweepstake that you can't win because you're not eligible. It would not be a nice feeling knowing that you have been selected as the winner but can not collect the prize because you did not read the rules correctly. Read the rules always, especially if you are new or if it is a Sweepstake you are not familiar with.

Several Sweepstakes will give you the option of receiving more entries if you refer the Sweepstakes to your friends, family, and social media. Using referrals is a great way to increase your odds of winning.

There are always more sweepstakes to enter than there is time to enter all of them. That's why it's a good idea to narrow them down and focus only on the main Sweepstakes you want to enter. When you select a Sweepstakes to enter, you will always look at the prize first. Then take a step back and think, "Do I really want to win it?" Next, you will want to take a look at the odds of winning. Look to see if there is something about the Sweepstake that gives you an advantage. The sweepstakes with the prizes you want to win the most and the ones where the best odds of winning are what you will want to enter first.

Try and not to get hung up on certain Sweepstakes you want to win. Some people get their hearts set on winning one particular Sweepstake. When that does not happen, you feel disappointed and discouraged. Keep in mind there are always plenty of Sweepstakes to enter.

Simply, fill out the entry form and send them in. Forget about what you just entered and then move on to the next one. If you win, you'll be pleasantly surprised and if you don't, you won't feel badly about your entry. Always be looking ahead when you enter sweepstakes. Looking back too much is wasted time. Use that time to move forward.

The key to moving forward is moving forward with a positive attitude. You need to keep entering even though you know the odds are stacked against you. Holding on to an optimistic outlook will keep you

going through the ups and downs. Every Sweeper no matter how experienced they are goes through that.

When it comes to luck you will hear many theories like "You were born with it" or "There is no such thing, it is all by chance". Does it seem like some people are luckier than others, yes it does. However, to change your luck or fate as it may be there are some things you can do to alter the outcome.

A common mistake for sweepers is not providing accurate contact information. If the sponsors can't get in touch with you to tell you about your win, what is the point of entering to begin with? Email: Get an email address just for entering Sweepstakes. Gmail and Yahoo offer them for free as most of us know already. That way, if you move you can always keep it. There is nothing worse than using an email to enter Sweepstakes then having to change it after entering several Sweepstakes. Then you win, but you can not be contacted.

The same goes for a phone number. You can get Google Voice for FREE. You really only need a phone number for inbound calls and for voice mail messages. Messages telling you that you have won of course! Google Voice has other features but focusing on the inbound, you can take calls with your own personal Free number that you have selected along with setting up voice mail to collect messages. The great thing about it is the messages can be emailed to you so you do not have to keep checking the actual voice mail. So your Sweepstakes email and phone all are connected into one. However, you can still have it forwarded to ring into your cell or home phone if you want. It is inbound, so they will never know those numbers it is being forward too. Finally, NEVER EVER use your personal email or cell/home phone numbers when filling out forms. Most of them will say in the rules they will never sell or give your information to a third-party. Unfortunately, that is not always true.

The key is to check your email, phone and snail-mail daily. Really check through because with snail-mail or even email, some winning notifications can look like junk-mail and it is not. Educate yourself and be a smart Sweeper. There are many scams out there that feed off of people like you everyday who have a big thirst for winning. Often scams have some factors in common that will help you distinguish them from real wins.

### **Here are some things to look for:**

**Sweepstakes Scams Require You Pay to Receive the Prize - Legitimate Sweepstakes are always free.**  
Period

**Sweepstakes Scams Use Free E-mail Accounts -** Some smaller Sweepstakes might use free email accounts. However, when you receive a win notice from a larger Sweepstakes like HGTV and they are using a free email address. It is not legit. Delete it.

**Sweepstakes Scams Tell You You've Won - But You Don't Recognize the Contest?-** This is where keeping a good tracking system comes in. A quick glance at your spread sheet will tell if you have entered that Sweepstakes. If you have not entered it before then you know it is another scam.

**Sweepstakes Scams Send You a Large Check with your Notification -** If you have won a cash sweepstakes all legitimate sweepstakes require signed and many times notarized affidavits before sending out any prize valued of \$600 or more. The affidavit is to confirm that the information you submitted on your entry form is correct. The sponsors may also ask and have you confirm that they can publish your name as the sweepstakes winner for publicity purposes.

**Sweepstakes Scams Instruct You to Wire Money** - Again, with a legit Sweepstakes you will never have to pay to enter or accept a win.

**Sweepstakes Scams Pressure You to Act in a Hurry** - Chances are if they want you to act in a hurry is because they want money. Occasionally they might have a question and that is fine to answer. Questions are not fine if they are asking for your bank account number.

**Sweepstakes Scams Require Bank or Credit Card Information to Receive Your Prize** - Legitimate Sweepstakes will never send money through direct deposit or will need to withdraw money from your account. The only other personal information they should ever need is your Social Security number.

**The "Win" is From a Lottery** - To win the lottery you need to buy a ticket. Any lottery will never contact you if you have a winning ticket. You need to contact them with the winning ticket.

**Sweepstakes Scams Often Don't Use Your Name** - If you receive a notice by email or snail-mail that you have won and it is not addressed using your name it is a for sure scam. Scams like that send them out by the thousands. Often from purchased email lists without names.

**Sweepstakes Scams Can Pose As Government Organizations** - Government organizations will not be involved in awarding sweepstakes prizes.

**Sweepstakes Scam Notifications Are Usually Sent Via Bulk Mail** - A legit win notification will often be sent by first class postage or services such as FedEx or UPS. They want to make sure it arrives on your door-step in a reasonable amount of time. Bulk email is always sent the cheapest way possible. The scammers want to send as many out as they can for the least amount of money.

**Sweepstakes Scams Contain Many Typos** - This is a very common red flag. Many Sweepstakes scams originate outside of the US. Typos can happen from time to time. However, most of the time the errors you will see when it comes to a scam are so blatantly obvious. Usually it is not just one but many.

**Network with other Sweepers** - A great way to get to know other Sweepers is visiting a Forum or Chat Room. You can always learn something new and the in's and out's of Sweeping from a different point of view.

**Sweeping can be a very fun hobby** - Have fun playing the games, learning about new products and getting to know other Sweepers like yourself.

If you have not done so already, make sure you sign up and get your [\*\*Sweepstakes 13 Free Membership\*\*](#). You will have access to hundreds of the Latest Sweepstakes and Contests, updated daily 24/7. You can customize your own personal list to keep track of your favorites that you have entered. Your account comes with built in alerts letting you know when they are expiring. Those are a just a few of the features included. All yours to use to make your Sweeping faster and easier.

**Sweepstakes & Speed = WINNING!**

The faster you can enter Sweepstakes the better are your chances of winning. Yes, it is true. Faster sweepstakes entry is crucial if you want to up your chances of winning.

Just to clarify when we say "faster" we do not mean being the very first person to enter a specific Sweepstake. When we are referring to "faster" we are referring to the amount entered. The more sweepstakes you enter the better your chances are to win. It's that simple. With speed, when you enter a large number of sweepstakes on a daily basis, your odds of winning rise tremendously. Time is really the key but no one has an unlimited amount of time to spend entering sweepstakes and contests. It only makes sense to optimize your time so that you can get the most entries possible in the time you have available.

### **Here are some tips that will help you enter sweepstakes faster so that you can increase your chances of winning.**

Roboform is the tool that you must have. It will help you enter sweepstakes much faster. RoboForm stores and saves your entry information so that you can fill out the majority of all entry forms with one click. It saves you from doing a ton of typing and the risks of making a typo that could prevent you from receiving win notifications. Wouldn't that be a bummer knowing you missed out on that \$5000 a week for life when your name is selected for the PCH Sweepstakes. You can even download Roboform and try it for free. However, the upgraded version is totally worth the \$29.95 it costs to use it for a lifetime. They also have downloads for both PC and Mac for your convenience.

Most computers now days are easy to multitask with. Having several screens open on your task-bar at one time is common for most people. Keep in mind that keeping those screens open can and will slow your computer down. That will vary depending on your RAM, Bus Speed and Hard Drive etc. Sweepstakes will load faster if your computer is not slowed down by other programs. Close any unnecessary windows on your computer and task-bar, leaving only the browsers open for entering your selected Sweepstakes. By doing that, your pages will load faster, increasing your speed for entering sweepstakes. If you find yourself dealing with a dragging computer when you have several windows open you might seriously want to think about beefing up your computer. The easiest way is adding more RAM.

Be prepared and have a list ready of Sweepstakes to enter. That way when you are ready to start entering them, you can enter much faster.

We usually open about 6 to 8 Sweepstakes pages at once so that they can start loading. Then it is best to start with the ones that load the fastest, filling out and submitting their entry forms. By the time you get through a couple Sweepstakes entries the other pages will have finished loading. This will shorten on the waiting time, allowing you to have as little downtime as possible during your entry time.

Many Sweepstakes, especially instant wins, will let you play a game to find out if you're the winner. Games can include running a race, spinning a wheel, sinking baskets, or gathering icons for prizes. How well you do has nothing to do with your odds of winning or not. Not to worry, many of them will not force you to participate. You can enter these type Sweepstakes much faster if you look for a link that is something like "Can't see the game?" Clicking that will tell you right away whether you have won or not. In turn, speeding up the entry process.

There are those Sweepstakes that will slow you down every time you try to enter them. It could be



page load time or the length of the entry page. You might want to consider removing these Sweepstakes from your daily Sweepstakes list. If the prizes are really good then it might be worth the effort to enter. If not, replace them with Sweepstakes or Contests that have faster entries. It really boils down to what works for you and what's more important to you.

## **The Benefits of Starting Your Own Cat Contest**

Cat Contest - You can make a living off other people's Cats. Every year, over forty billion dollars is spent on pets. Most people treat their animals like there one of the family and they take really good care for them. Because these animals are so deeply loved, their owners spare no expense for them. Now wouldn't it be great if you could get some of that pet money? If you are an animal lover and want get into veterinarian school, it is tough and would take a while so you might want to cross that option off the list. That is if you are not up for a challenge. Selling your own pet food would also be difficult. You need a moneymaking opportunity that can be set up easily and managed just as effortlessly. What you need is a Cat Contest. Create a Cat Contest and in particular Cat Photo Contest.

### **How to get your Cat Contest up and running.**

The theme of your Cat Contest should be one that pet lovers find attractive. For instance, the idea of having a road kill picture competition would not go over well with most animal fans, but everybody loves a cute Cat Contest. Once this decision has been made, you have to determine if you want participants to pay a fee or not to enter your Cat Contest. A paid Cat Contest will need site maintenance and funding of prizes. Free Pet Contests usually make money through advertisements and affiliate programs. Your website will need to be professionally designed and looking great. Your website for your Pet Contest is your store front. People will look it over briefly and move on if it looks like an amateur did it. That's not to say you have to hire a so-called pro to do it. A simple clean look always goes over well. Your website design for your Cat Contest should be solely based on your theme and get right to the point.

Every good contest has a set of requirements and rules to follow outlining who may participate and what needs to be entered. Those guidelines will set the direction of your Cat Contest and keep order with your entries. Plus, there are legality issues which should be listed in the rules. The rules you decide upon should be clearly visible on your website. Make them easily accessible all over your site. Not having those rules will cause people to question if your Cat Contest is not legit.

People enter contests because of the prizes, so you should take some time and really give your Cat Contest some serious thought. What kind of prizes will you giveaway? The possibilities are endless. You can giveaway cash, gift certificates, vouchers, and various gifts. Whatever prizes you choose for your Cat Contest, make sure they are items of value to pet owners. When it comes to money, you can never go wrong because everybody loves it. If you prefer not to use cash as a gift another option is to offer free advertising to pet supply merchants in exchange for prize donations. This is one of the easiest and most affordable ways to get awards for your Cat Contest.

If people do not know about your Cat Contest, then they will not enter, it's that simple. You will need to work hard to spread the word about your Cat Contest. You will need a marketing plan in place to get the most effective means of promoting your Cat Contest.

**Social media** - Use every social media site you know of to promote your contest. Like Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest.

**Make a screen cast video for your Cat Contest.** Everybody knows that if you are not promoting an event on YouTube, then it really cannot be an event. You can do a search online for "Screen cast". There is a lot of sites where you can make one for free.

**Submit as many articles as you can to directories.** Be sure to include a link back to your contest. That is a must or you are defeating your purpose.

**Issue a press release announcing your contest.** There are many sites online where you can submit releases for free. Keep in mind it can take up to a week or two or more before they show up.

**Tell everyone you know about the contest.** Nothing beats word-of-mouth. Send an email to everyone in your address book and social media lists. Have them forward it on to everyone on their lists as well.

Once the word spreads about your Cat Contest, entries will start to show up in your mailbox. Do not expect to have a large number of visitors right away. Be patient and allow some time for the word to spread. Before you know it your Cat Contest will start bringing in some extra cash. Will you get rich? Well, how much you make that is up to you. There are many pet lovers out there. All you have to do is get your contest up and going.

## **Shoot to Win – Video Contests**

One of the biggest reasons Video Contests have become so huge is because of the cost of camera's.

Plus, the size of the camera's makes it easy to always have one close by. Video Contests are a great way to compete for great prizes and cash. Video Contests get everyone involved through laughter and tears with an emotional connection. Then those viewers tell their friends about it, and they tell their other friends. The trickle down effect. That is the best form of advertising for companies and Video Contests.

**Video Contests have some of the greatest odds if you are going to enter a Contest.**

Here are some helpful tips for entering Video Contests. The more knowledge you have going into it the more you will increase your odds. Read the rules very carefully before you do anything. That is a must when you start planning on entering Video Contests.

**Find out the time frame:** How long you have to create and submit your video?

**Length of Video:** If and what is the minimum and maximum length it has to be?

**Submission:** Do you have to submit a tape or does it have to be in hi-definition.

**Other Considerations:** Do you have to add music? Is there a certain genre it has to be in?  
Video Contests rules and requirements could be varied in many different ways.

**The Judging for Video Contests:** The next important thing to know is how the Video Contest will be

judged. Video Contests like all others will have specific guidelines to go by. The Video Contest rules and judging requirements along with what they are looking for will sometimes blend in together.

**You have read the rules and know how you will be judged.** You have all the requirements and know what the sponsor is looking for and have an idea how the winner will be selected.

You might want to do a little research. Who are the people doing the actual judging? Will it be a panel of judges hired by the sponsor and what is their background? Will the Video Contest winners be determined by voting that's open to the general public? Knowing this ahead of time can sometimes give you that little extra edge.

Once you found out all the details it's time to plug in all that information and come up with an idea? Now there are many suggestions we could throw out there for you to build on but we feel it's better for you to gather the information you have collected so far and build from what comes to mind.

A few basic vague tips we will tell you is you need to get your audience's attention right away. You need to reel them in and keep them there until you decide to let them go. What you really want to strive for is to have them wanting to keep holding on and wishing your piece would not end.

Since this is a Video Contest and there is always at least one sponsor. You will want to impress them especially. Many times some of the judges will include a representative from the sponsoring group or company. If it's appropriate, you might want to mention the Video Contests sponsor(s) in your piece of work. Another option would be to use one of their products as a prop, or even just have it in the background. Example: you have a has seen where a couple is sitting at the kitchen table inside a house drinking some soda. The sponsor happens to be Coke. You might want them drinking a Coke product. Whatever you do, make sure it is not Pepsi.

You have written, shot and edited your video. The final product is in hand but you double-check to make sure that you've followed all of the Video Contest guidelines. Very important. It is very common now a days for Video Contests to have you upload your work. That is the case for this particular one, so you upload your video.

To enter Video Contests you no longer need a super expensive video camera. Technology has changed so much along with the high-end quality of electronics. Now everyone can produce professional looking Video's at an affordable price. Some entries that have won in past have even been made from cell phones.

## **Win a New Ride With a Car Sweepstakes**

You have just won a Car Sweepstakes, it seems too good to be true. You have been entering several Car Sweepstakes and finally you hit. Now what? "Time to pay some Taxes"

**A Car from a Car Sweepstakes is among the most popular Sweepstakes to win.  
What person would not love to win?**

Keep in mind when you enter Car Sweepstakes is the taxes. Winnings from a Car Sweepstakes or other Sweepstakes can be considered a source of income. That is the law for US residents. For other countries different rules may apply.

You are the lucky winner of Car Sweepstakes amongst hundreds if not thousands of entries. You have a new car and your life could not be going any better. However, a new car can be a real pain if the winners don't prepare themselves for the taxes. The amount you will owe depends on your circumstances, but you can estimate taxes around 1/3 of prize value and that is for any Car Sweepstakes. A \$40,000 car for \$12,000 is a great deal, but you still have to come up with the money to pay the taxes.

Once you have confirmed the win and you get the Car, you need to find a good accountant. Anytime you get a large win like a Car or cash amount you should always consult with a tax professional. A CPA or accountant can give you advice that is tailored to your specific situation, which is vital to ensuring that you are properly prepared. Do not hesitate or procrastinate, make sure you get an accountant right away.

### **Winning a Car Sweepstakes is not like winning a gift certificate.**

Remember that your Car Sweepstakes win counts from the day you receive it, not from the date of your win notification. Especially in the case of large wins like a Car Sweepstakes or truck, it can take quite some time for your win to be verified and your prize to be delivered.

Here are your options: You can walk away from the car and wash your hands of it? Are you kidding me! Everyone is saying, "how could you walk away from it?" Again, remember you have to pay those taxes on it. So, unless you have the money for the taxes, that is an option as crazy as it may sound to some people. We know it does not seem right that when you win you have to share it, but you do unfortunately.

Find out the Fair Market Value (FMV) of any Car Sweepstakes and any sweepstakes prize. The FMV could be far lower than the Approximate Retail Value (ARV) listed by the sponsor - especially if it takes a while for you to take possession of the vehicle. Car values drop after the new car models come out each year, so that 2013 model you won might be less expensive when you take possession in 2014. The minute a car is taken off the lot the value drops immediately. Make sure that your taxes are fair and accurate by finding the lowest possible FMV.

So now you know the market value, what its worth and the taxes. You still need to come up with a good chunk of money but do not want to touch your nest egg that you have been working on for years. Again, winning a Car Sweepstakes sounds great but you have to be realistic. It is so easy to get caught up in the moment.

The other option would be to is to sell the car. Look at it this way, no matter what you can get for it, it is all free money. You will still end up with several thousand dollars. Another option is to try to get the car dealer you're getting the car from to buy it back from you. There is a good chance you will get the best rate. Always make sure you get the market value, despite what any car salesman might try to say to you. Just be ready for it because some salesman will do whatever they can to get that extra buck. This way you end up with money in your pocket and the taxes are paid. Some word of advice would be to get the money, and send it out for the taxes before you have time to think about it. There are other possible options like getting a loan for the taxes. Do you really like the car or would you like the cash? As you can see there is a lot to take into consideration when entering a Car Sweepstakes . Winning a Car Sweepstakes can be a blessing but it can also be some what of a curse.

## **Instant Win Contests are for Those Who Lack Patience**

Instant Win Contests - Do you lack patience? Then Instant Win Contests are for you. If you are new to the Sweeping scene they are actually called Instant Win Sweepstakes. However, many people refer to them as Instant Win Contests as well. Either way, they are free, fun and give you immediate gratification. It is kind of like scratching of that ticket. When you win, even just a few dollars, you want to keep on going. With single or daily entry Contests though your going through the same motions, it does not have the same appeal as Instant Win Contests. They will always have a ton of prizes that makes you want to enter more and more - even after you have won.

When you enter most Contests, you usually have to wait until the end and then a winner is finally picked before you know whether or not you will receive a prize. Not with Instant Win Contests, you know as soon as your entry goes through. You will see your winning message come up on your screen if you are the instant winner.

Instant Win Contests winners are determined by the sponsors who will at random hand-pick the winners. Some of them are also chosen by a computer program. They will pick a random winning time for each prize before the Contest begins. Then, the first person to enter the Instant Win Contest after that winning time has passed will end up with the prize. Instant Win Contests are one of the few types of Contests where the entry times make a difference. The majority of Instant Win Contests will have you play an assortment of games before you find out whether you have won or not.

As an example, these are some things they might ask you to do: try spinning a wheel, flipping some cards to match symbols, numbers and pictures, or pick something out of a basket that actually contains some sort of prize like a gift card. Like a slot machine, people think they can increase their odds of winning. Most often by how the wheel is spun, the selections, speed and rate you play and so on. The games main purpose is meant to be fun and add to the excitement of the Instant Win Contests.

Since the winners are chosen randomly, no matter if you play the games or not, that will not have any impact on your chances of winning. On occasion, Instant Win Contests will give you the option to move past the game portion. Look for a link to move you past the games.

Free Instant Win Games are a great source for Instant Win Contests (Sweepstakes/Games) They feature scratch-and-win games, product game codes, pin-and-win games, slot machine and many others. They offer a very comprehensive selection of instant win type of games. Included in their online games selections from major sponsors are Coke, Pepsi, Taco Bell, Kellogg's, just to name a few. They categorize the games and list them by ending dates to keep it all organized. All listings are added by hand, so each one can carefully be reviewed. That way, you can be assured that all of the games are legit.

## **Pursing Online Competitions**

Entering Online Competitions and winning is always a fun, and exciting experience. Now with online competitions becoming so popular, and a wide variety of Competitions to enter, your chance of winning a prize has never been better.

**It can be a little intimidating at first, as you may feel as if you have no way to verify the**

## **authenticity of the Online Competitions you enter.**

This is an unnecessary concern, as most Online Competitions only ask for a name and email address. If you do not win, all you may be stuck with is junk mail for entering a Competition. Here are some tips that will boost your chances of winning Online Competitions, as well as, help give you confidence to enter.

Set up a separate email address, just for this purpose of entering Online Competitions.

This will give you a little bit of extra privacy, and you can keep track of what is happening with Online Competitions and not have to see all the promotional stuff. Make sure you read all the fine print concerning any rules, regulations and eligibility when entering Online Competitions.

You do not want to have any hidden surprises after you win that could take away that prize from you. Often times it is something minor such as location, age group or a specific time frame, of which you were not aware. Carefully reading the Online Competition rules will prevent any unwanted surprises. To maximize your chances of winning Online Competitions, enter as many as you can, and enter Competitions that will give more than one prize. Not all will do that but look for them. If you know what Online Competitions might be good, make sure you let others know by sharing your experience. In turn, it will urge them to do the same. Keep track of all the Online Competitions you have entered. The last thing you don't want to do is disqualify yourself by entering a competition that only allows one chance.

Make sure your competing stays fun. If it starts to make you irritated and upset all the time and takes too much time, take a break and stop entering competitions for a while. Remember, if you are not having fun it is not worth it. It is very possible to walk away with some great gadgets, fantastic holidays and put thousands of dollars in your pocket without spending a dime. The reason's for a Competition is simple. It is a cheap chance for companies to promote their products. Giving away products or services is much cheaper than buying a big newspaper ad. In addition, it gives you a chance to collect valuable information from potential customers. It is easy to see why these Online Competitions can be found everywhere.

What is Comping? It is about hours and hours of work entering hundreds of free competitions as opposed to doing the odd contest. When you look at the odds, statistically you are more likely to win and win big Comping. Not to be confused with Piano Comping let alone Piano Comping Techniques. That is something totally different. It all depends on your work ethic and some luck when it comes to Comping.

The Competition could furnish your house, have you traveling the world and crank up your bank balance all just from Comping. The Competition entry involves filling in an online form or sending a postcard. It can also involve answering a question or tie-breaker. When you enter an Online Competition or several of them, you need to realize that you won't immediately be bombarded with prizes from Comping. It is best to look at Comping as a rewarding hobby and not some part-time job. Hours Comping can be long with poor payouts and your butt might get a little sore from sitting at your computer all day.

Considering all that, it is definitely worth it when you look at all the prizes you can win. Comping is not a sure-fire way to make cash but the more you enter the chances are in your favor to win. Here are rules to go by when Comping: You need to be selective when Comping online - There are some you

will come across that will tell you to enter everything. That is not suggested. Enter to win prizes you want to win. Do not enter just to "win". You can be selective because there are a ton to choose from to enter online and offline. Do not let the size of the prize determine your entry-- Thousands and thousands of people enter competitions, but don't let that turn you away. As a rule of thumb the bigger the prize that will often mean, more entries. Competitions for smaller prizes like CD's and DVDs attract low entry levels, so your chances of winning can be very high.

Don't get disqualified by making silly mistakes - The first hurdles in Comping to get over are reading the rules or getting questions wrong. Make sure you don't get disqualified by these simple tasks. Make sure you read the competition information, check your answers, complete your details and last but not least, make sure you've read the rules. I know it sounds pretty simple but many seem to miss this. Make a Positive out of a Negative - The average of the number of entrants for most Competitions is often between 500 to 5000. The chances of winning a prize are still quite good. The harder a competition is to enter the less amount of entries. When Comping try to avoid the attitude of not entering because you think you can never win. Don't worry about the "What if?" - If you don't enter competitions, you will not win. It's that simple. If you do, then you have a chance of winning. Keep in mind the next time you think you will not win. The fact is, many people do win, so keep that in mind. Do not kill yourself and try to enter every Competition.

With the arrival of all the Social Media comping has spread and changed dramatically. If you can not find the time to do everything then don't worry about it. You can only do what you can. Comping is not a race to see who can enter as many competitions as possible. If you are racing then you will only be competing with yourself. Enjoy, sit back and relax - Again, and we can not say this enough, Comping is all about having fun. It's a great hobby with the added bonus of the chance of winning some great prizes such as cash and travel.

## **Enter a Sweep and Enjoy the Fun**

Sweepstakes are often referred to as a "Sweep" or "Sweeps" amongst "Sweepers". That is a person who enters Sweepstakes a lot. First you need to find a Sweep to enter. Finding a Sweep to enter is actually very easy. You can enter them online, at stores, your bank, fundraisers, at the mall, and just about anywhere. You might even get invitations to enter a Sweep by snail-mail. Entering most of them that you come across. However, if you're really serious about winning, you need to be aggressive and actively seek them out.

Read through your newspaper carefully regardless if you still read the old hand-held or online. Be thorough when you go through your snail-mail a Sweep can sometimes look like junk mail. Keep notes and carry a notepad and pen with you. Write down the details of any Sweep you might see on TV or hear on the radio.

Last but not least search online. There are some large directories online, some are free and some by subscription only. They will give you a good idea of the hundreds rather thousands of Sweeps out there. [Sweepstakes 13](#) is a great place to start where you can set up an account for free! You will have access to the latest Sweepstakes and Contests 24 hours day. Choose which Sweep you want to enter. Not every Sweep is the same.

If you have to buy something to enter and have a chance to win, stay away from it. Any legit Sweep is

Free. The purpose of these opportunities are about gathering personal information to approach you with advertising at sometime down the road. There are many chances to win without having to climb over mountains, wasting your time. What Sweep you decide to enter should be based on your own preferences not what anyone else tells you.

The answer is anything and everything. A Sweep with a smaller prize can be great because you generally have a better chance of winning. On the other hand, don't waste your time entering a Sweep for a prize you don't want or could not easily turn around and sell it on Ebay as an example.

### **Will your private information be protected when entering a Sweep?**

The answer is "no". Even though that may state it in their privacy policy. Is a ton of junk mail, spam, or even sales calls worth the small chance of winning the prize? Yes, of course. Just get an alternate email address and phone number. We cover that and much more in our "Sweepstakes Tips for Winners" featured on our cover page. The fact is all Sweeps are just a way of collecting your information. Regardless what the fine print says in their rules or privacy policy, there is no guarantee's what will happen to your information you give out. Do not just blame a Sweep for collecting and selling your information to third parties. Every-time you fill out a form it could be sold or given away. Think of that Credit Card application, the form at the doctor's office or when you got that oil change. You can't really expect something for nothing, and sometimes you may decide that giving away some information is worth the chance of winning the prize like a new car, house or \$10,000.

### **The odds of winning a Sweep will depend on the number of entries.**

That you will never know but depending on the size and value of the prize can give you an idea. The frequency of entries accepted, like daily or weekly can make a big difference. A local Sweep will tend to have much better odds. Especially if it is a Mom and Pop restaurant giving out a free dinner. You'll also want to consider how many prizes will be given away. If you have a Sweep that receives twenty thousand entries on average but is giving away hundred prizes, verses a Sweep giving away one prize with twenty thousand entries. You can see which has the better odds.

Read the rules carefully and follow every detail. The saying is true "You can't expect to win if you don't play by the rules." Some are very straight forward and simple, but others are not. It sure would be a shame to win that vacation to Hawaii you have always wanted, but you get disqualified on a small technicality because you did not follow the rules. Shockingly, the good news is that many people don't follow the rules or even read them for that matter. That right there increases your chances of winning. One basic rule most Sweeps have is an entry deadline. You would be amazed at how many people miss the deadline. Another instance that will increase your odds is entry frequency. For instance a Sweep that lets you enter daily. Most people will not enter daily. There you can increase your odds tremendously.

If you are filling out a Sweeps form by hand, make sure that other people can read everything you write down. If you have terrible handwriting, type it if you can or have someone fill it out for you. That's if they have good handwriting of course.

Some Sweeps but more so Contests will require that you answer a question correctly. If you do not know the correct answer it is useless to enter.

Getting back to entry frequency, enter as many times as possible. Common sense, the more times you



enter, the better your odds. Before you send in a zillion entries, make sure you know how many entries the rules allow you. If you send in too many, you could be disqualified. The rules should stipulate how many entries allowed during a certain time period. In the old days the only way to enter a Sweep was either in person or by snail-mail. Entering by snail-mail can be pretty costly. Now a days, most, if not all Sweeps can be entered online. If they only accept entries by snail-mail consider what the prize is and if it is really worth spending the money on postage to enter?

There isn't much you can do to distinguish or make your entry stand out if you enter online. If you still like entering Sweeps that accept snail-mail entries, make yours stand out and be creative. Unless the rules specify anything in particular the sky is the limit.

Guess what? You have WON! Once you've won you still have to make sure you get your prize. The next step will most likely have you filling out some affidavits, possibly notarized, or completing some kind of paperwork in a timely fashion. Make sure you follow through on claiming your prize, and make sure you meet any deadlines. Always keep your eye's peeled for scams. To found out more on what to look for on Scams, check out our article "Sweepstakes Scams are everywhere." How to watch your back and be safe."

Some of the Best Online Sweepstakes are Cash Sweepstakes. With cash you can always buy what you want.

## **Cydia Apps - Make that Jailbreak**

Cydia Apps - Cydia is a software application written for iOS (The mobile operating application created by Apple) that enables a user to find and install software packages on jailbroken iOS Apple devices such as the iPhone.

Cydia is jailbreaks "App Store" you could say. A jailbroken device is a device that has been tweaked and altered to work beyond the factory limitations that Apple has set. Some of the software packages available through Some Cydia Apps are free and some are not. Jailbreaking is a term used that means to bypass all the restrictions Apple has placed on their operating system and taking full control of the device. If you have a jailbroken device, you can install apps and tweaks that aren't authorized by Apple, but you also remove the tough security protections that Apple has built into iOS. Thus, revoking your warranty with Apple. That is one of the few down sides to "Jailbreaking".

**Evasi0n is the program that you need to download on your computer to jailbreak your phone and then start installing Cydia Apps.**

When you jailbreak your iPhone, smartphone, iPad or any other device you are basically removing the limitations have been put on those products by the company. Security is one of the more popular comments you will see mentioned across the internet. You will have the ability to choose your own security and lock down your phone the way you want too. An iPhone out of the box, you have no have no control over. Yes, you do have choices but only the choices Apple gives you.

**There a ton of Cydia Apps out there to choose from. Here are few popular Cydia Apps you might want to check out.**

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