

Webquest- Shopping for Darkroom Equipment and Supplies

Introduction

Congratulations! Photography Magazine has enlisted our class to help them produce a consumer guide report on buying darkroom equipment and supplies online. Several readers of Photography Magazine have written the editor and asked the following questions: Can shopping on the internet save you any money? Can you buy the darkroom products you want online? Are the brands you want available? How long will it take for the products to arrive? Can you return equipment if you change your mind? Which online store is better? Photography Magazine would like our class to find the answers to these questions, and present the information in a consumer guide report that could be published in the magazine.

Essential Question

Where is the best place to buy darkroom equipment and supplies online?

The Task

As a small group, you will find and evaluate 20 online sources for purchasing darkroom equipment and supplies. You will evaluate each "store" and create a consumer guide report that includes a chart with the name of each site, the URL, the range of products the company sells, the shipping charges, the return policy, and your evaluation on the prices of the products (Indicate whether the prices are high, average, or low when compared to the prices listed on the other sites included in your chart.). The report will also include a short narrative evaluation of each store and a ranking of the stores from best to worst.

The Process

1. Form a group of 3 or 4 students.
2. Use a search engine to locate twenty sites that sell darkroom equipment and supplies (see resources). Look for a variety of sites such as well-known stores, small privately owned shops, and auctions.
3. Evaluate each site by looking for the following information.
 - Name of the site
 - URL
 - Range of products the company sells
 - Shipping options and length of time to ship
 - Shipping charges
 - Return policy
 - Is there a telephone number for customer service or ordering? What is it?

Evaluation on the prices of the products (Indicate whether the prices are high, average, or low when compared to the prices listed on the other sites included in your chart.).

Two other factors that your group deems important

4. Evaluate the information you find, and as a group, rank the stores.
5. Create a consumer guide report (one for the group) that includes an introduction to the report (the purpose of the report, how the information was gathered, how the ranking was determined, etc.), a chart that displays the findings, a short narrative evaluation of each store, and the ranking of the stores from best to worst. Your report should be in booklet form, and it should include graphics for a professional look.
6. Upload your report to document sharing for the class to read.
7. Mail your report (in booklet form) to me at 127 Donette Loop, Daphne, AL 36526

Resources

Internet Search Engines such as-

www.yahoo.com
www.altavista.com
www.dogpile.com
www.ask.com
www.google.com
www.mamma.com

Internet Websites such as-

www.kodak.com
www.darkroomproducts.com
www.fujifilm.com
www.ebay.com

Word Processing program such as Word or WordPerfect or another program to create the consumer guide report

Conclusion

Examine the consumer guide reports posted by the other groups, and visit the site each group chose as the best site at which to purchase darkroom equipment and supplies. Evaluate the sites and compare them to the site your group chose as the best site. Choose your favorite number 1 site, and email your vote along with an explanation to wanchanmichiko@yahoo.com.

Evaluation

Your webquest (worth 25 pts.) will be evaluated on whether or not it meets the following criteria.

Criteria

- _____ Booklet Form
- _____ Introduction
- _____ Includes chart
- _____ Includes 20 sites
- _____ Name of each site
- _____ URL of each site
- _____ Range of products sold indicated for each site
- _____ Shipping charges for each company listed
- _____ Shipping options and length of time to ship
- _____ Return policy for each company indicated
- _____ Telephone number
- _____ Price evaluation for each company indicated
- _____ Two other factors chosen by group
- _____ Short narrative evaluation of each site
- _____ Ranking of stores
- _____ Organized
- _____ Graphics
- _____ Professional Appearance
- _____ Vote and explanation

Summary

Thanks for contributing to Photography Magazine. I know the information you found will help the readers of the magazine, and I hope it will help you too. Knowing where to buy the darkroom products that you need at an affordable price is an important step in maintaining your home darkroom. I have heard many students say that they quit developing film after their course supplies ran dry. I hope you have located several good places to purchase the darkroom products you need so that you can keep enjoying your new hobby!

Objectives (all related to photography)

1. Find websites that sell darkroom equipment and supplies (computer science)
2. compare websites (economics)
3. evaluate websites (economics)
4. create a consumer report with graphics (art/graphic design)
5. Compose a short narrative evaluation (English)

Cognitive Tasks

Critical Thinking
Creative Thinking

Concept Map

