

The Ultimate Guide to Delivery Delay Emails

What to say to turn a negative moment into a positive experience for your customers



Brought to you by

Wonderment

A transactional communications platform built for Shopify brands

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Founded by Ecommerce experts in 2020

Team comprised of Klaviyo, Shopify, Attentive, Drizly, Hubspot and Wayfair alumni





__underscore.vc

defv.

Works with hundreds of leading brands to track millions of orders

Featured Shopify App



The Wonderment Method

Proven by Hundreds of Leading Brands

"With Wonderment, it's always about performance and here's how we can make it perform better. It's **the only way to practically** focus on the post-purchase shipping and delivery experience."



JONES ROAD

Eli Weiss, Sr Director CX & Retention

"Customers want to either track their package or return something, but a lot of ecommerce brands ignore the opportunity to build a relationship with that customer. Having [Wonderment's] branded landing page to send customers to has helped.."



latico[®] Ben Schreiber, Head of Ecommerce "It's also **the level of personalization** that I could get with Wonderment; personalization for the customer and for the external experience, as well as the internal experience."



feastables.

Jess Cervellon, Head of CX

"The first goal of any eCommerce brand after an initial transaction is to eliminate buyers remorse and deliver an exceptional onboarding to the customer. Wonderment achieves both these goals, **building anticipation during the post-purchase experience that leaves customers in a euphoric state**, while reciprocating the goodwill that the consumer has given to the brand to build lifelong relationships."



"We were having issues with packages getting delayed and customers thinking they were lost. Now we can **monitor shipments and avoid having to re-ship as many orders**. This has been the only app we've found that can do this."



Michael Parker, Director Sales & Marketing

"Setting the right shipping expectations is critical for any eCommerce company. **This app solves a huge, huge need**."



Jeanne Hopkins, Chief Revenue Officer



Overview

- Why Delivery Delay Emails Are Crucial
- What To Say To Your Customers
- Examples From Top Brands
- How to Identify & Communicate Delivery Delays



Why delivery delay emails are crucial





Regardless of whose fault a delivery delay is, your customers gave you money in exchange for receiving your product, and they expect you to make things right if something goes wrong.

You can either wait for them to notice a delay and get angry, or you can proactively reach out to them and make them happy you have their back.



Angry customers = bad word of mouth.



mhay @mewhosoever

WTF is going with very long delivery delay also customer support is really bad @AJIOlife my 3 orders are not delivered yet

9:24 AM · Aug 15, 2022 · Twidere X Android

This can translate to negative comments on your Facebook ads, low ratings on product reviews and higher customer acquisition costs.

...



Happy customers = more sales.

According to Gorgias, the #1 ecommerce helpdesk on Shopify, brands with a Customer Satisfaction Rating of 5 see a 43% increase in repeat purchase rate.

"How are brands getting to a 5 CSAT? They build automation and processes around trends in their negative ratings."

- Jeremy Horowitz, Gorgias



Why delivery delay emails are crucial

And, believe it or not...

Delivery delay emails can drive revenue!



Jack Rubin @JackRubin1

...

Wonderment stalled shipment flow is genius. A great customer experience and amazingly customers with delayed orders are ordering more product 😂

5:55 AM · Jul 7, 2022 · Twitter Web App



That's pretty awesome.



If an order is delayed in transit, @itsJoanneCoffey set up an email through @hiwonderment to let the customer know.

Chatted with @bwhalley this AM and learned that aside from this email having a wildly high open and CTR, we're actually doing quite a bit of revenue from it.



9:56 AM · May 9, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 3 Quote Tweets 54 Likes



What to say to your customers when a delivery delay occurs





No matter what you say, be open and be honest. Own up to the delay and reassure them that you'll make it right.

Customers want to feel like you care.





What to say to your customers

1. Acknowledge the issue

EXAMPLES:

"We wanted to send you an update on the recent order(s) you placed with us. We've just learned that there has been a carrier delay in your delivery area due to very high parcel volumes, and as a result some packages may arrive a few days later than the estimated date we gave you when we shipped your order. You may also find that tracking information is unclear, or isn't updated right away."

'Due to the impact of COVID-19 on the workforce, we're experiencing extended processing and shipping times."

"Typically boxes are shipped within 3 days of ordering, and our customer care team replies to inquiries within 1 day. But the overwhelming popularity of our Welcome Box created a far greater wait time than we had anticipated."



What to say to your customers

2. Apologize

EXAMPLES:

"We're very sorry if you experience this delay, and we wanted to let you know as soon as we learned about it."

"We wanted to say thank you for your recent order -- and let you know that the extended shipping ETA you were provided isn't how we normally like things to work."

"If you have already been waiting for a few weeks for your Welcome Box we're so sorry."

"I'm so sorry for this—I know that there have already been many technical issues as a result of our sale and that this process has been incredibly frustrating. This is not the customer experience we promise."



3. Outline what steps you're taking to fix it

EXAMPLES:

"We are working directly with the carrier to minimize the impacts, but we don't want you to worry -- your order is still on its way!"

"Fast, easy shipping is something we pride ourselves on, and we're working hard to get your product(s) to you as soon as possible."

"We are doing everything we can to expedite things. We are also growing our customer care team quickly so that we can get back to emails more promptly -- and provide the best and most meaningful membership imaginable."



OPTIONAL: Provide a special offer

EXAMPLE:

"As a small token of our appreciation for your patience, we've added a credit to your account for use on your next order anytime in the next 12 months. To view or use your credit, simply log in to your account."

OTHER IDEAS:

- Reply to this email for expedited shipping
- Take 15% off your next order with promo code SORRY2022
- We're throwing in a free gift with your replaced shipment



4. Thank them for their continued support

EXAMPLES:

"We so deeply appreciate your patience as we navigate these challenges alongside you."

"Again, thank you for bearing with us, and please reach out if there's anything else we can help you with. We'll be here."

"Thank you for your understanding, we hope you get your chocolate soon!"

"Your order means a lot to us."



5. Wrap it up with contact information or next steps

EXAMPLES:

"If you wish to see the latest tracking of any of your orders with us, visit our order status page here at any time. Thank you for your patience during this time. If you have additional questions, please contact us at our Customer Service portal. We're here to help!"

"Please reach out if you're worried about receiving your order in time."

"Here's your shipping info so you can access it: [tracking number]"

"Once your order(s) ship(s) from our warehouse, you'll receive a confirmation email and tracking information."



Delivery delay examples from top brands







Hi there,

Thank you so much for your recent order(s) with Away.

I wanted to reach out to let you know that due to high order volume from our sale, we have some delays at our warehouse and your order(s) will take longer than usual to ship out. Your order(s) is currently being processed and you can expect your order(s) to ship by 10/1/20.

I'm so sorry for this—I know that there have already been many technical issues as a result of our sale and that this process has been incredibly frustrating. This is not the customer experience we promise. Please know we're doing everything we can to get your order(s) out as soon as possible.

Once your order(s) ships from our warehouse, you'll receive a confirmation email and tracking information. If your order(s) will now arrive too late for any upcoming travels, please let us know and we're happy to process a full refund for the order(s).

Again, thank you for bearing with us, and please reach out if there's anything else we can help you with. We'll be here.

- Direct
- Honest
- Outlines next steps
- Gives reassurance
- Offers full refund



Your box is expected to begin shipping by October 25

. . .

Typically boxes are shipped within 3 days of ordering, and our customer care team replies to inquiries within 1 day. But the overwhelming popularity of the original Fall Box caused the Welcome Box to go on sale earlier than expected — and it created a far greater wait time than we had anticipated.

We are so grateful to have you in the CAUSEBOX Community and if you have already been waiting for a few weeks for your Welcome Box we're <u>so sorry</u> — we are doing everything we can to expedite things, and this is not normal at all for us. We are also growing our customer care team quickly so that we can get back to emails more promptly — and provide the best and most meaningful membership imaginable.

We can't wait for you to receive your box — it is filled with details that we know you'll love!

> With Gratitude, CAUSEBOX Team

- Clearly outlines the issue
- Expresses gratitude
- Communicates steps

they are taking

• Builds anticipation



FROM Melissa at Hydrant

SUBJECT An update on your Hydrant order

Hi Mark,

We're watching your shipment too and noticed that the status hasn't been updated in a few days. Rest assured that the carrier has your order and it's on the way to you. We'll keep you updated if we think there's a shipping error, but please reach out if you're worried about receiving it in time.

Happy Hydrating, Melissa Burgin Customer Experience Manager, Hydrant

- Short & sweet
- Shows the brand is

aware

• Invites a reply



ARTICLE.

Hi Stephanie,

We wanted to say thank you for your recent order — and let you know that the extended shipping ETA you were provided isn't how we normally like things to work. Fast, easy shipping is something we pride ourselves on, and we're working hard to get your product(s) to you as soon as possible.

As a small token of our appreciation for your patience, we've added a credit to your account for use on your next order anytime in the next 12 months. To view or use your credit, simply log in to your Article account.

As always, feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.



- Acknowledges the problem
- Offers some

compensation

Invites a response





It may be delayed, but it's coming!

Hi Pashmina,

I've just gotten word that your shipment for your order is behind schedule. I know you must be excited to receive (or gift) your package and am sorry for the delay! We're working to get this resolved asap.

Here's your shipping info so you can access it:

Tracking Number:

This has been a pretty common occurrence during COVD-19 and bouts of extreme weather shutting down many carrier shipping hubs. (We wish we could hand deliver these with our own space machines.)

Thank you for understanding, we hope you get your chocolate soon!

Bar & Cocoa

- Empathizes with customer
- Provides tracking info
- Expresses gratitude



How to identify and communicate delivery delays





How to identify delivery delays

Whether your warehouse is slow to fulfill items, or weather delays are impacting particular regions, Wonderment lets you **automatically notify customers** about stalled shipments.

- Supports 60+ domestic and international carriers to give you up to the minute shipment reports
- Integrates with Klaviyo and Postscript to automate delivery delay notifications via email and SMS
- Customers have seen a ~40% Reduction in "where is my order" support tickets





How to identify delivery delays

Give your ops team one central view for all your shipments without having to jump around to different carrier websites.

Identify daily and monthly shipping trends & make informed decisions on what carriers to work with.

Report on orders by their fulfillment status, carrier, region, and more.

Send data into spreadsheets or a data warehouse for extra slicing and dicing.





When you combine robust shipping data with the power of Klaviyo email flows, your customers are always in the loop.

Wonderment sends over 30 line-items to Klaviyo that you can use to trigger notifications, including:

- In transit, Out for delivery, and Delivered events
- Delivery errors (return to sender or lost)
- Stalled shipments
- Product data (SKU, image, price)

Today 1:24pm	klaviyo	
Hi Jill, we noticed your package is stuck in transit, sorry about that! We're going to overnight a new package to you now.	Trigger When Shipment Stalled	
Awesome, thanks!	Wait 3 hours	
	Email #1 An update on your Hydrant order	
ype something	Draft	1



Spot problem shipments before the customer does and proactively notify your CX team through email, Slack, or Gorgias:

- Improve your post-purchase customer journey
- Increase in-transit and delivery transparency for customers
- Deflect "where is my order" (WISMO) tickets
- Respond to customers more quickly and confidently, armed with the latest delivery updates





Not Using Wonderment Yet but Want to Learn More?

Book some time with us to learn how we can turn your delivery delays into a positive experience for your customers (and revenue for you!).



