Newsletter Checklist

Formal requirements



Before you send your next newsletter, check it according to the following points.

1. Company clearly recognisable as sender

The reader should immediately recognise which company is sending her/him an e-mail.

The company name is recognisable within the first 15 characters

One fix e-mail address (e.g. newsletter@company.com or info@company.com) is used

Or a personal name (e.g. Jane Greenfield) is used as sender

2. Subject with current information

The subject line should reveal why it is worthwhile opening this newsletter.

The subject line refers specifically to the contents of the current newsletter ("Meiko invites you to virtual expo IDX")

And/or it is personalised ("Meiko invites you to virtual expo IDX, Ms Greenfield")

Benefits are pointed out, thus encouraging people to open the newsletter

Icons are included to attract attention (Use them modestly) (\rightarrow | \bullet | \bigcirc | \bigcirc | \bigcirc | \bigcirc |

Important words are placed at the beginning, length: 40-50 character (mobile 35)

No spam words, words in capital letters and too many punctuation marks ("Meiko")

3. Header with recognition value

The header should create brand awareness and provide functionality.

Paid attention to recognition value: company logo displayed and linked to website Link to web version included

4. The intro with personal salutation

Newsletter marketing is relationship marketing - many readers want to be addressed by their name.

There is a personal salutation ("Dear Ms Greenfield", "Dear Jane")

And there is a fallback salutation for users without name ("Dear ladies and gentlemen", "Dear partner", "Dear customer")

Person addressed has given his/her consent to be contacted by us by agreeing to GDPR data usage via the website or he/she is a current customer

Editorial with brief overview

If newsletter is long: table of content with anchor links to jump to the subjects of interest

5. Main section

One main goal per newsletter (main topic) that is easy to grasp, accompanied by a few well-structured sub-topics.

Less is more: ideally three to five articles

Multipart format used (mailing software sends newsletters in HTML format as well as in text format)

Layout used according to corporate identity

Appropriate fonts/sizes/colours used and attention paid to contrasts and legibility

The most important information placed within the top 600 pixels

Set up a layout with a maximum width of 600 pixels

Files linked and not embedded (mailing size is under 150 KB)

Deep links to specific landing page if it is a specific offer/topic or directly to the product page etc., rather than links to the main home page on the website

Key features/key benefits easily recognisable having used sub headlines, bullet points, bold

Meaningful images used

6. Footer with imprint and unsubscribe option

Newsletter must be labelled with all contact details and contain a convenient unsubscribe function.

The imprint includes the postal address, telephone number and the sender e-mail address

The imprint is stated in full in the newsletter and not via a link to the website

The newsletter can be easily unsubscribed via an unsubscribe link and a reply e-mail

Or at minimum the newsletter can be unsubscribed by either of the two options or by sending a specific keyword to a specific e-mail address

7. Final check

Newsletter test mailing was sent to myself and at least one more colleague

Improvements are all made

Second newsletter test mailing was error-free