**Google's Omnichannel Customer Experience Review** 

# Creating seamless retail experiences

Businesses that succeed in the future will be the ones that figure out how to meet consumer expectations for seamless omnichannel experiences. To help businesses understand the best examples of these types of experiences, Google partnered with Practicology to review 145 retailers across seven European countries. Here we summarise the findings for the UK, where we reviewed 40 retailers.



## 1 SEAMLESS CUSTOMER EXPERIENCES ARE CRITICAL



**82%** of smartphone users consult their phone on purchases they are about to make in-store<sup>1</sup>



**6 in 10** internet users check whether a product is available in a local store before visiting a retail location<sup>2</sup>

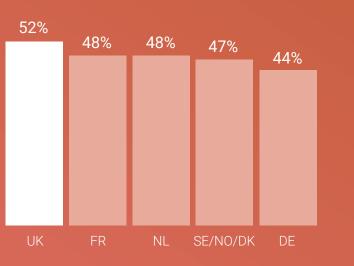


**72%** of businesses name improving customer experience their top priority<sup>3</sup>

## 2 EUROPEAN RESULTS

Average omnichannel CX score - by country (% of CX principles and criteria passed)





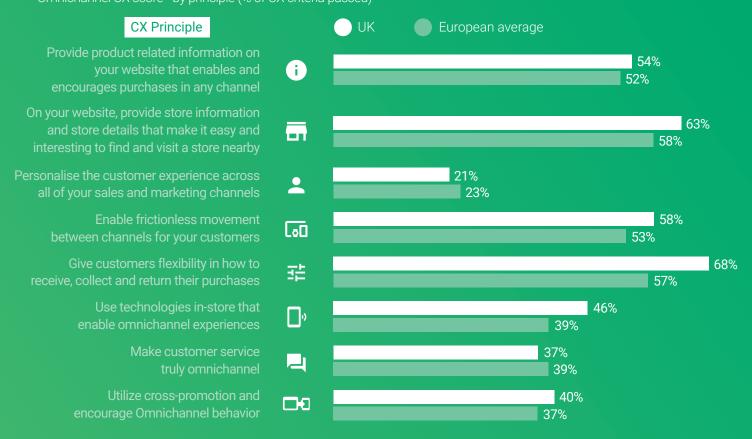
The UK is top of the list, with retailers scoring particularly well in terms of offering flexible fulfillment options and providing relevant store details on their website. Average omnichannel CX score in the UK - by retail category (% of CX principles and criteria passed)



UK department store retailers offer the best experiences, particularly by usaging in-store technology, providing flexible fulfilment options and running promotions across channels.

## 4 PERFORMANCE BY CX PRINCIPLE

UK retailers excel in offering more flexible fulfilment options than retailers in other markets. In terms of offering omnichannel customer service, there is still room for improvement. Omnichannel CX score - by principle (% of CX criteria passed)



## 5 OMNICHANNEL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE: EUROPEAN AND UK TOP 10

## Omnichannel Customer Experience: **European Top 10** (% of CX principles and criteria passed)

| Bever           | Netherlands | 68% |
|-----------------|-------------|-----|
| Magasin Kiabi   | France      | 67% |
| Schuh           | UK          | 67% |
| NetOnNet        | Sweden      | 67% |
| House of Fraser | - UK        | 67% |
| De Bijenkorf    | Netherlands | 66% |
| Decathlon       | France      | 66% |
| MediaMarkt      | Germany     | 64% |
| Conrad          | Germany     | 62% |
| Cyberport       | Germany     | 62% |

Bever (NL) offered the best omnichannel customer experience out of all the retailers we reviewed.

Omnichannel Customer Experience: **UK Top 10** (% of CX principles and criteria passed)

| Schuh            | 67% |
|------------------|-----|
| House of Fraser  |     |
| New Look         | 62% |
| Evans Cycles     | 62% |
| Nike             | 62% |
| B&Q              | 61% |
| Marks & Spencer  | 59% |
| Debenhams        | 59% |
| Urban Outfitters | 58% |
| John Lewis       | 58% |

House of Fraser and Schuh top the ranking in the UK, well ahead of other retailers

## 6 BEST PRACTICES

#### Product Information

| Highest scores in Europe |      | Highest Scores in | Highest Scores in the UK |  |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Leroy Merlin (FR)        | 100% | PC World          | 83%                      |  |
| NetOnNet (SE)            | 100% | Curry's           | 83%                      |  |
| Power (NO)               | 100% | House of Fraser   | 83%                      |  |

#### Case study: LEROY MERLIN (FR)



Leroy Merlin provides customers with all the product related information they need.

- Product availability online and in-store precisely indicated on product pages.
- Lists of products can be filtered based on availability in a specific store.
- All possible fulfilment options clearly listed on product pages.

#### Personalisation

| Highest scores in Europe |     | Highest Scores | Highest Scores in the UK |  |
|--------------------------|-----|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Adidas (DE)              | 83% | Adidas         | 67%                      |  |
| Adidas (UK)              | 67% | Hobbycraft     | 67%                      |  |
| G-Sport (NO)             | 67% |                |                          |  |

#### Case study: ADIDAS (DE)



## Adidas personalises the customer experience across channels.

- Customers can set personal style and sports preferences within their account and select their local store.
- Website content and product recommendations update based on browsing and on-site shopping behavior.
- Adidas sends customers a 'happy birthday' email with a special and personal birthday offer.

### ∃ Flexible Fulfillment

| Highest scores in Europe |     | Highest Scores | Highest Scores in the UK |  |
|--------------------------|-----|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| PC World (UK)            | 94% | PC World       | 94%                      |  |
| Schuh (UK)               | 88% | Schuh          | 88%                      |  |
| BCC (SE)                 | 88% | Boots          | 81%                      |  |

#### Case study: PC WORLD (UK)



PC World (UK) received the highest score in Europe for offering Flexible Fulfillment options.

- Customers can choose between click-and-collect and reserve-and-collect.
   Products bought online can also be returned in-store.
- Next day delivery is available for customers to choose. Standard delivery is free for all orders.
- Staff can place orders online for customers for home delivery and check stock at other stores.

#### 🖬 Store Details

| Highest scores in I | Europe | Highest Scores in the |  |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|--|
| Sephora (FR)        | 83%    | B&Q                   |  |
| Specsavers (UK)     | 83%    | Specsavers            |  |
| Mio (SE)            | 83%    | New Look              |  |
|                     |        | JD Sports             |  |

#### Case study: SEPHORA (FR)



Sephora makes finding store information quick and easy.

- Mobile optimized store locator that utilizes a user's geo-location.
- Relevant information like opening hours and contact details clearly listed.
- Allows users to filter results based on services offered in-store and book appointments.

#### **Frictionless movement between channels**

| Highest scores in Europe |      |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|------|--|--|--|
| Leroy Merlin (FR)        | 100% |  |  |  |
| NetOnNet (SE)            | 100% |  |  |  |
| Power (NO)               | 100% |  |  |  |

| Highest Scores in | the UK |
|-------------------|--------|
| Urban Outfitters  | 100%   |
| Toys R Us         | 100%   |
| House of Fraser   | 100%   |

e UK 83% 83% 83% 83%

#### Case study: NETONNET (SE)



NetOnNet enables frictionless movement between channels.

- Wish-lists and shopping baskets are synced to a customer's account and immediately available across devices.
- Gift cards can be bought and redeemed both online and offline and card balance can easily be checked and increased.
- NetOnNet's loyalty program allows members to claim offers in-store and online.

#### In-store Technologies

| Highest scores in Europe |      | Highest Scores in | Highest Scores in the UK |  |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Nike (UK)                | 100% | Nike              | 100%                     |  |
| Bever (NL)               | 100% | Topshop           | 75%                      |  |
| Magasin Kiabi (FR)       | 100% | Dorothy Perkins   | 75%                      |  |
| Ikea (FR)                | 100% |                   |                          |  |

#### Case study: DECATHLON (FR)



Decathlon makes use of in-store technologies to offer an omnichannel customer experience.



- offer an omnichannel customer experience.
  NFC technology used at kiosks and fitting rooms:
- customers can view product details and reviews, variations, related products and order products online.
- Free wifi offered in-store and used to promote offers.
   App can be used to discover additional product details (via NFC / Barcodes).
- Products ordered via click-and-collect can be collected quickly from click-and-collect lockers.

#### Omnichannel Customer Service

| Highest scores i | n Europe | Highest Scores | in the l |
|------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Bever (NL)       | 100%     | Schuh          | 100      |
| Schuh (UK)       | 100%     | New Look       | 83       |
| Jula (SE)        | 100%     | Evans Cycles   | 83       |
| Bauhaus (DK)     | 100%     |                |          |

#### Case study: BEVER (NL)



- Bever is the top ranking retailer in our study of 145 retailers.
- Bever offers multiple ways to get in touch, catering to different customer preferences.
- Live chat is available on all pages of the mobile website to quickly answer customer questions.
- Bever provides quick and accurate answers to questions about their stores via email, live chat and phone.

#### **Cross-Promotion**

| Highest scores in Europe |     | Highest Scores in t | Highest Scores in the UK |  |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Globetrotter (DE)        | 88% | Smyths Toys         | 75%                      |  |
| Boulanger (FR)           | 88% | B&Q                 | 75%                      |  |
| Smyths Toys (UK)         | 75% | Selfridges          | 75%                      |  |

#### Case study: BOULANGER (FR)



Boulanger actively uses cross-channel promotions.

- Email newsletters contain store specific promotions, like new store openings, special opening hours, and in-store events.
- Store detail pages include news specific to each store and customers can book a consultation meeting in-store.
- Online shop and store specific social media channels are actively promoted in-store.

## **7** NEXT STEPS

Are you spending enough time thinking about the experience your customers have with your brand? To optimise the omnichannel experience for your customers:



#### CONDUCT AN OMNICHANNEL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE REVIEW

- Assess your current customer experience, by using Google & Practicology's set of 8 omnichannel customer experience principles or engage a CX consultancy.
- Identify customer pain points and prioritise areas for improvement.



#### START IMPROVING CUSTOMER EXPERIENCES

- Most urgent changes often concern the digital channel, where the customer can get a much more customised experience.
- Review Google's omnichannel solutions available to you today that help create demand and drive omnichannel revenue.

#### METHODOLOGY

Google commissioned in-depth reviews of the omnichannel customer experience offered by 145 retailers in seven European countries to help businesses understand the best examples of seamless experiences across channels. We then benchmarked and ranked the retailers.

To generate an independent list of retailers to be reviewed, Google used SimilarWeb's publicly available data to identify the top retailers within the Shopping category in each country (UK, Germany, France, The Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Sweden) based on website traffic volume. That list was then filtered to only include retailers that have physical stores.

Google commissioned Practicology, recognised experts in omnichannel customer experience and omnichannel strategy, to independently review and benchmark retailers.

<sup>1</sup> https://www.thinkwithgoogle.com/marketing-resources/micro-moments/consumer-i-want-to-buy-micro-moments/

- <sup>2</sup> https://www.thinkwithgoogle.com/data-gallery/detail/comparison-shopping-on-mobile-which-ones-best-moments/
- \* https://www.forrester.com//2+0f+Businesses+Name+Improving+Customer+Experience+Their+Top+Priority/-/E-PRE910

