Special Management Series

How to Conquer Common Sales Objections in 6 Steps

This is a series of Training for your Management TEAM

Presented by J.W. Owens



A Management Perspective 303 Series







Are members of your sales team having trouble closing deals because of the objections your prospects raise?

Objections are a natural part of the sales process.

When you and the prospect are taking the steps to move forward in the sales process it's natural that objections will arise.

They are questions about whether it's a fit, it will work, it's affordable, valuable and if it's the right choice.



What are Objections?

- Objections usually arise because either you or the prospect don't have a full understanding of something important. People want to feel good about their purchases whether business or personal. They want to be sure they made the right decision. So sometimes an objection is really the prospect saying, "Tell me why your product is so great, so I can feel good about my purchase."
- Most objections are legitimate and should be treated that way. Many salespeople talk about having to overcome objections. I always use the term "handle" instead. If I have an objection, I don't want to "overcome." I want to know how you will handle that objection and make sure the purchase is a good solution for me.
- As a prospect, this will tell me a lot about how you will respond in the future if I become a customer.

4 Categories of Objections

- Objections usually fall into one of 4 categories: price, timing, product or something the prospect will not disclose to you. The 4th is something like,
- "My brother sells the same product and I need three quotes but I'm going to buy from him." Or,
- "I don't like you, but I'm not going to tell you that so I will throw out some other objections."
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- No doubt, you have come across all the common objections; the next step is to make sure you have a process for handling them.
- The following exercise will help you:
- Make a list of the objections you commonly hear.
- Write several solutions that are appropriate for those objections.
- Craft questions that will help you understand the objections.



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Here's an Example:

- Objection: The price is too high.
- Possible solutions: Provide financing, develop a payment plan, explain the return on investment, help them work it into the next budget, discuss the value.



Possible questions (you wouldn't ask all of them):

- What have you discovered in comparing our product to the competition?
- How much were you planning on spending?
- What is your budget for this purchase?
- Would financing make the purchase possible?
- What features and benefits would make the price work for you?



Don't Get Stuck on Price

- Price may be the most frequent objection, but it is only one type of objection and often a price objection masks other types of objections.
- Prospects will have objections about timing, features, service, shipping and a myriad of other things but sometimes instead of explaining those to you, they object to the price.
- Being prepared and asking good questions helps you get past the price objection.



Be Prepared

- Handling objections is something you will always need to be prepared to do.
- New objections come up, but typically we hear the same objections and need to come up with good solutions to handle those.
- It is good to do the above workshop several times
 a year and remember to use the process for
 handling objections below.



6 Steps for Handling Objections

- Listen: Listen carefully to the objection.
- Validate: Make a statement of validation to show you listened.
- Ask: Confirm your understanding of the objection by asking a clarifying question.
- **Solve:** Answer objections with the appropriate solution.
- Confirm: Confirm that your solution covers their objection.
- Move on: If the customer is open to the solution move on to the next step in the sales process.



Most salespeople skip from step 1 to step 4.

This often leads to them offering the wrong solution and getting another objection.

Use all 6 steps to be sure the prospect is satisfied that you can handle their business and deliver what you promise.



In conclusion, handling objections is something you need to review with your team frequently.

Your team should be able to handle objections with ease. If they use the 6 steps, not only will it be easier, they will provide the right solutions, making the prospect feel confident and the sale will progress more quickly.

Objections are a natural part of the sales process.

Prepare your team to be naturals at handling them.

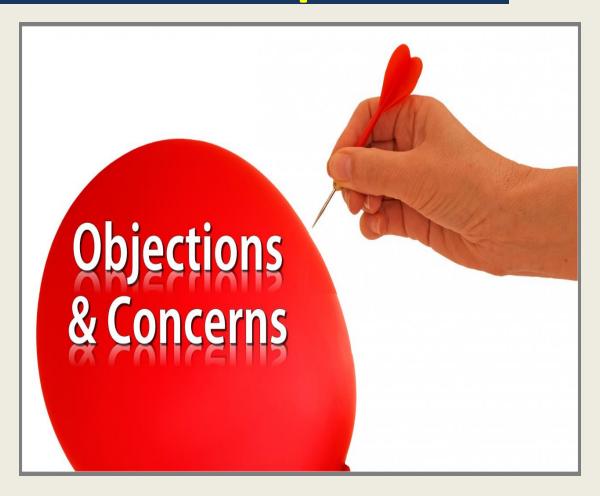


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Good Selling!

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