

## [Mystery Shopper Companies - What You Need to Avoid](#)

While most mystery shopping companies have solid reputations, there are a few that don't. The mystery shopping industry has skyrocketed with the consumer demand constantly on the rise; there are over 400 mystery shopper companies within the US alone. The best mystery shopping companies will have the customer's interests at the top of mind and will ensure that their mystery shopper experiences provide true value. Over the past few years, the amount of mystery shopper companies has grown over 11% per year, making this industry sector a \$600 million per year business.

While it is important to know what to look for in good mystery shopper companies, it is also important to know what to avoid. So here you will find the main things that you should avoid in your search for the right company to suit your needs. For example, some of the fraudulent companies will pay their shoppers with bogus checks and they will provide a fairly horrid service. So you need to know as much as possible how to stay clear of these companies.

One of the main ways to tell fraudulent mystery shopper companies is through advertisements that are sent to you through the post or through email. They make mystery shopping sound too good to be true and they promise to make you a lot of money quickly. One of the main types of fraudulent mystery shopper companies are the ones which require you to cash checks. They will basically ask you to wire the money to an address which is usually in a different country. You should stay clear of any company which asks you to do this as you could get into serious trouble if you take part in it.

The way that these mystery shopper companies get you to cash the checks involves telling you that you get a percentage of what the check is worth. However you will usually find that a couple of days after you have cashed the check, you will get confirmation from your bank that the check bounced and you will owe them quite a lot of money - usually thousands of dollars. If you take a look on one of the top mystery shopping companies known as GFK, you will see that they are trying to let people know about this type of crime as they want to ensure that people know that they can be trusted.

Another one of the top mystery shopper companies is called MSPA. In fact, this company is the largest, professional trade association, one that has a true dedication to improving customer relations and satisfaction. Using mystery shoppers has proven to be a significant tool in accomplishing this goal. With a shopper, customers will have an opportunity to see the customer's experience in an entirely different way. However, illegal schemes are being exposed by MSPA too.

Some of the tips provided by the executive director of MSPA include never paying a fee, even a small one, to become a mystery shopper. If you are asked for anything more than \$10, red flags should be raised. The real, mystery shopper companies are happy to hire on quality shoppers free. Additionally, mystery shopping companies that make a promise to pay for services using money transfer or some type of check cashing service, run! As with GFK, the professionals at MSPA have worked diligently in building their 200-member base company, servicing the world and they will work just as hard to stop fraudulent attempts on customers and shoppers alike.

### About the Author

There are literally hundreds of [mystery shopper companies](#) willing to pay for your shopping time. Act today and be the next one cashing a check for mere minutes of work. [Free Mystery Shopper](#)

Source: <http://www.onlineearnings.net>