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12 Setting Product Strategy

Chapter Questions

- What are the characteristics of products and how do marketers classify products?
- How can companies differentiate products?
- Why is product design important and what factors affect a good design?

Chapter Questions

- How can a company build and manage its product mix and product lines?
- How can companies combine products to create strong co-brands or ingredient brands?
- How can companies use packaging, labeling, warranties, and guarantees as marketing tools?

What is a Product?

A **product** is anything that can be offered to a market to satisfy a want or need, including physical goods, services, experiences, events, persons, places, properties, organizations, information, and ideas.

Figure 12.1 Components of the Market Offering

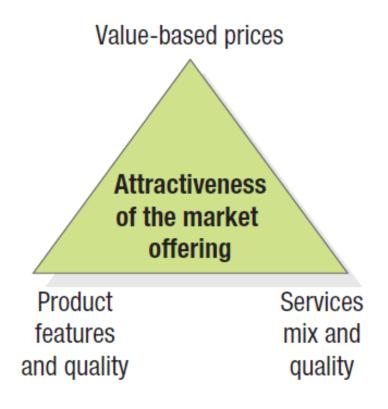
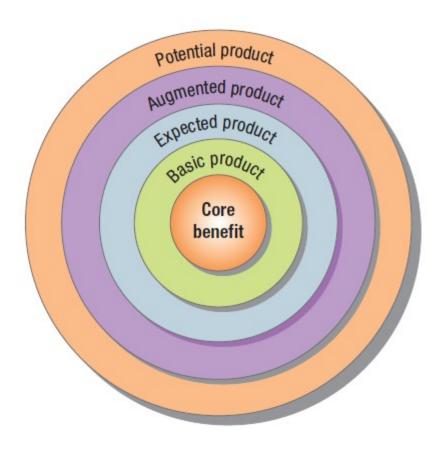
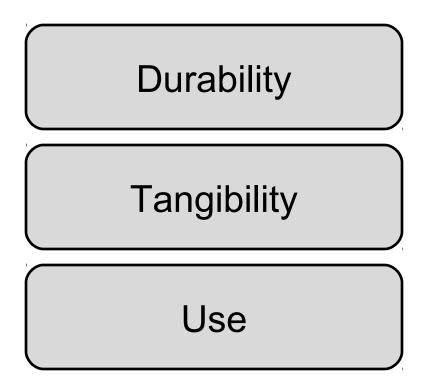


Figure 12.2 Five Product Levels



Product Classification Schemes



Durability and Tangibility

Nondurable goods

Durable goods

Services

Consumer Goods Classification

Convenience

Shopping

Specialty

Unsought

Industrial Goods Classification

- Materials and parts
- Capital items
- Supplies/business services

Product Differentiation

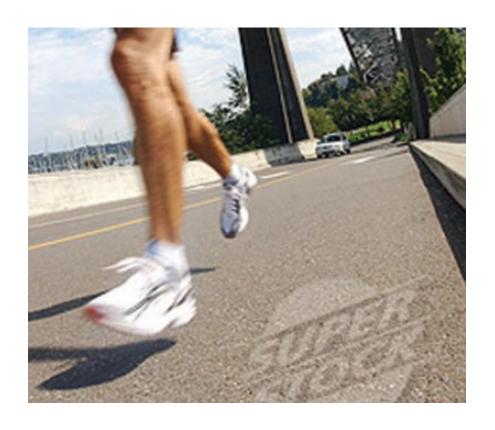
- Product form
- Features
- Customization
- Performance
- Conformance

- Durability
- Reliability
- Repairability
- Style

Service Differentiation

- Ordering ease
- Delivery
- Installation
- Customer training
- Customer consulting
- Maintenance and repair
- Returns

Design



The Product Hierarchy

Item

Product type

Product line

Product class

Product family

Need family

Product Systems and Mixes



Figure 12.3 Product-Item Contributions to a Product Line's Total Sales and Profits

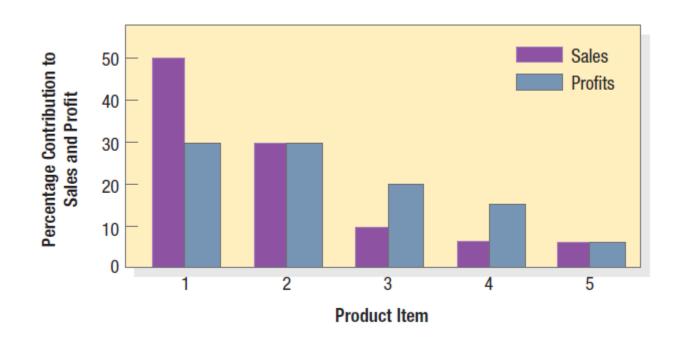
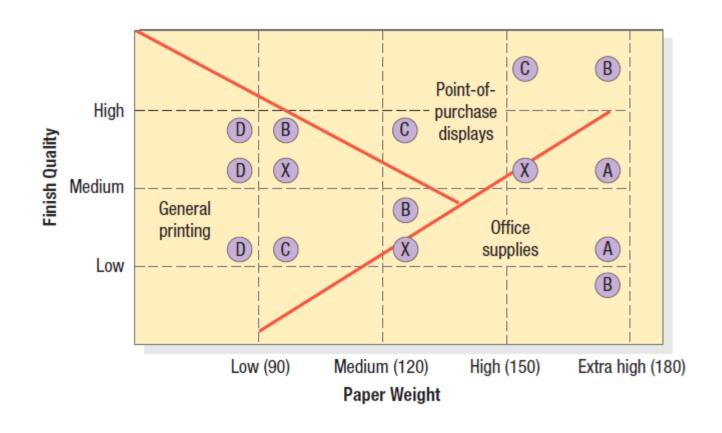


Figure 12.4 Product Map for a Paper-Product Line



Line Stretching

Down-Market Stretch

Up-Market Stretch

Two-Way Stretch

Product-Mix Pricing

- Product-line pricing
- Optional-feature pricing
- Captive-product pricing
- Two-part pricing
- By-product pricing
- Product-bundling pricing

Ingredient Branding



What is the Fifth P?

Packaging, sometimes called the 5th P, is all the activities of designing and producing the container for a product.



Factors Contributing to the Emphasis on Packaging

- Self-service
- Consumer affluence
- Company/brand image
- Innovation opportunity

Packaging Objectives

- Identify the brand
- Convey descriptive and persuasive information
- Facilitate product transportation and protection
- Assist at-home storage
- Aid product consumption

Functions of Labels



For Review

- What are the characteristics of products and how do marketers classify products?
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Also For Review

- How can a company build and manage its product mix and product lines?
- How can companies combine products to create strong co-brands or ingredient brands?
- How can companies use packaging, labeling, warranties, and guarantees as marketing tools?