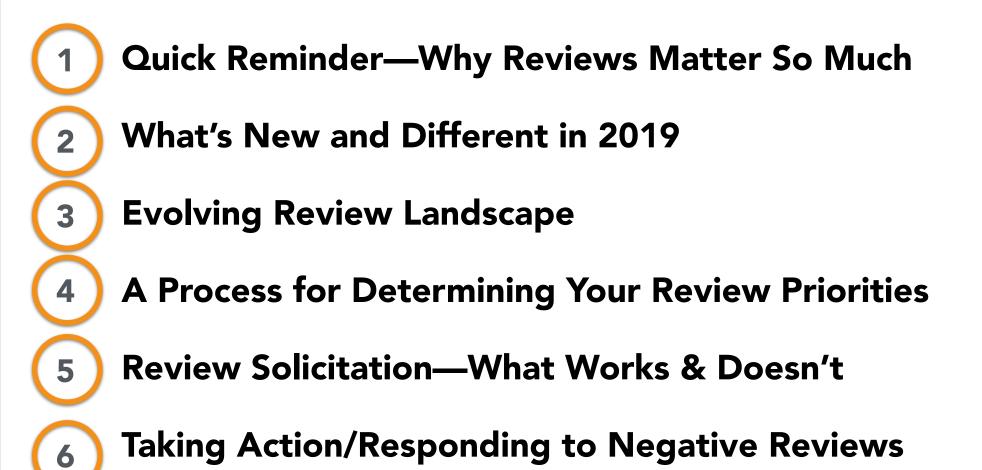


Third Party Reviews in 2019: New Rules, New Priorities

Energy Circle Webinar Series Peter Troast, Energy Circle January 9, 2019

What We'll Discuss







BRIEF SUMMARY: WHY THIRD PARTY REVIEWS MATTER SO MUCH

What We've Known for Years:

- People now trust third party reviews more than first person endorsements
- Just about everyone uses third party reviews to make local business decisions
- Few people write reviews online, but that's evolving
- If your star average is less than 4, you're in dangerous territory
- Reviews are important for ranking in search
- Reviews are everywhere



Reviews: Increasingly Accessible

Google building doctors los angeles

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News Maps Videos Shopping More - Search tools

About 11,000,000 results (0.73 seconds)

Building Doctors

buildingdoctors.com/ -

Building Doctors provide comprehensive home energy audits and energy efficiency upgrades such as: insulation, air sealing, heating & air conditioning and ...

Meet the Building Doctors Team | Los Angeles, CA

Dan is also certified though California Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services (CHEERS) ID #CCN82918240 as an existing home rater and specializes in Energy Efficient Mortgages (EEM's). ... Scott took a job with a local residential energy upgrade contractor, where he trained in-house ...

About Building Doctors | Los Angeles, CA buildingdoctors.com/about-us -

Building Doctors is a full service home and commercial energy efficiency services provider serving the greater Los Angeles County area.

Contact Us | Home Energy Audits and Energy ... - Building Doctors buildingdoctors.com/contact -

877-411-BLDG (2534) info@buildingdoctors.com · About ... Los Angeles Main Office: 5042 Wilshire Blvd. #268. Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323) 646-BLDG (2534) ...

Building Doctors - 11 Photos & 13 Reviews - Heating & Air ... - Yelp

www.yelp.com > Home Services > Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC Yelp ~ ******* Rating: 5 - 13 reviews (323) 646-2534 ... Photo of Building Doctors - Los Angeles, CA, United States. Blower Door Test. Dan T. Blower Door Test by Dan T. Photo of Building Doctors - Los Angeles, CA, ...

Building Doctors | Facebook

www.facebook.com > Places > Los Angeles, California > Contractor ▼ ★★★★★ Rating: 5 - 9 votes 5042 Wilshire Blvd # 268. Los Angeles, CA 90036.

Building Doctors | Los Angeles, CA 90036 | Angie's List

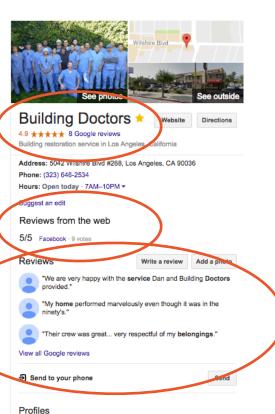
www.angleslist.com > Local Reviews > CA > Los-angeles Angle's List Jan 29, 2016 - Reviews you can trust on Building Doctors from Angle's List members | 5042 Wilsh Blvd. # 268 Los Angeles, CA.

Building Doctors, Inc. Business Review in Los Angeles, CA - Serving ... www.bbb.org/losangelessiliconvalley/../building-doctors-in-los... BB's Business Review for Building Doctors, Inc., Business Reviews and Ratings for Building Doctors, Inc. In Los Angeles, CA.

Building Doctors at Efficiency First

Building Doctors | Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC in 5042 Wilshire ...

reviews.birdeye.com > Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC > Los Angeles, CA ~ 17 reviews of Building Doctors from Los Angeles, CABuilding Doctors were GREAT!! We had a leaky HVAC unit and the Building Doctors fixed it in 30 minutes.





Facebook

38 Google+ followers including Energy Circle, EnergySmart Home Performance Akron, and J. West.

People also search for

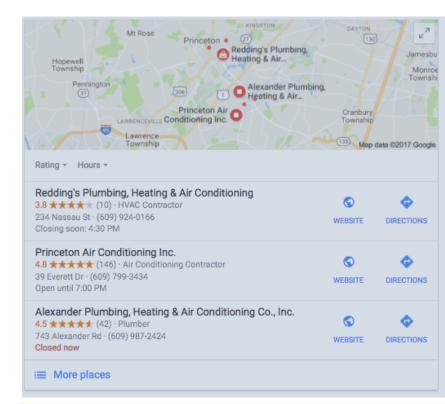
View 15+ more



What is New for 2019:

Reviews are MORE important for ranking in search
 Quantity matters and minimums are rising
 Diversity matters (beyond Google, Facebook, Yelp)
 Keyword text in reviews drives organic search





HVAC and Home Performance | Princeton Air | New Jersey

Princeton Air has been family managed for over 40 years and provides expert heating, air conditioning and air quality services to New Jersey residents. Contact - Special Offers - Geothermal Energy - Warranties

25 Best Air Conditioning and HVAC Services - Princeton NJ

www.homeadvisor.com > Pro Ratings & Reviews > New Jersey > Princeton T HVAC and Air Conditioning Contractors Directory for Princeton, New Jersey. ... Serving Princeton. We service, repair and install all types of HVAC systems.

The Best 10 Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC for 2017 in Princeton, NJ https://www.yelp.com/search?cfit=hvac&find_loc=Princeton%2C+NJ ▼ Serving Princeton Junction and the Surrounding Area. ... Redding's Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning. ... \$\$ Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC, Kitchen & Bath.

HVAC Company NJ | Residential & Business Plumbing, Heating, Air ...

www.reddings.com/ ▼ Redding's Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning is full service HVAC and generator ... home generator, home energy audits, heating and air conditioning repair, ... Air Conditioning - 234 Nassau Street, Princeton NJ, 08542 - 609-924-0166. Tips · 24 hour emergency service · Boiler Repair · Job Opportunities

Tindall Ranson - Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning - Mercer ...

tindallranson.com/
Plumbing, heating and cooling NJ - Serving Princeton, Plainsboro, West Windsor, ... in plumbing, heating, air conditioning, geothermal and home energy audits. ... From routine service and maintenance, to emergency repairs, to installation or ...

Princeton NJ Heating & Air Conditioning | Meyer & Depew

Organic

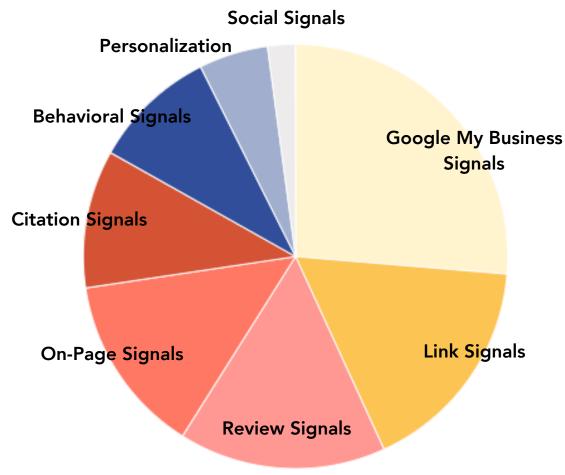
Google

Loca

3 Pack

Local Pack Ranking Factors

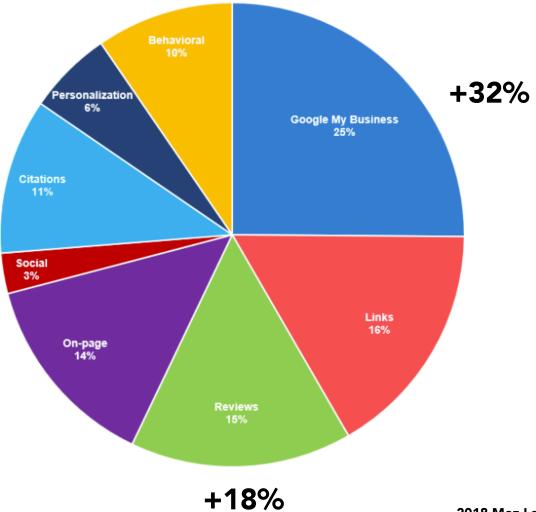
Local Pack/Finder Ranking Factors



energy circle

- Google My Business Signals (Proximity, categories, keyword in business title, etc.) 25.12%
- Link Signals (Inbound anchor text, linking domain authority, linking domain quantity, etc.) 16.53%
- Review Signals (Review quantity, review velocity, review diversity, etc.) 15.44%
- 4. On-Page Signals (Presence of NAP, keywords in titles, domain authority, etc.) 13.82%
- Citation Signals (IYP/aggregator NAP consistency, citation volume, etc.) 10.82%
- Behavioral Signals (Click-through rate, mobile clicks to call, check-ins, etc.) 9.56%
- 7. Personalization 5.88%
- 8. Social Signals (Google engagement, Facebook engagement, Twitter engagement, etc.) 2.82%

Local Pack Factors: YOY Big Changes





Quantity Minimums Not So Easy Anymore





HVAC & Plumbing

The Google Reviews Study BrightLocal

Show Reviews Data for:

Plumbing and HVAC Businesses

BrightLocal's Google Reviews Study uncovers:

- The average number of reviews for plumbing and HVAC businesses on Google
- The proportion of **plumbing and HVAC businesses** with Google Reviews
- How star ratings and number of reviews correlate with Google Local Ranking

These findings are based on **5,933 plumbing and HVAC businesses** found using **498** related keywords.

74% of plumbing and HVAC businesses have Google reviews

Plumbing and HVAC businesses have an average of **41 Google reviews**



 \vee

On average, plumbing and HVAC businesses have **4.4 stars**



New Quantity Goals—Google Reviews

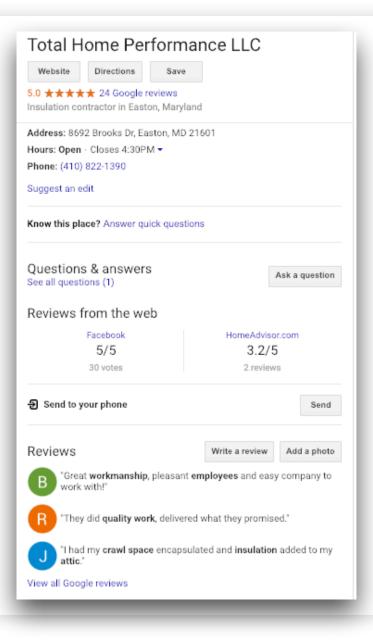
HVAC	40+
Solar	75+
Home Performance	25+
Insulation	15+
Builder	10+
Remodeler	25+

Energy Circle Guidance January 2019



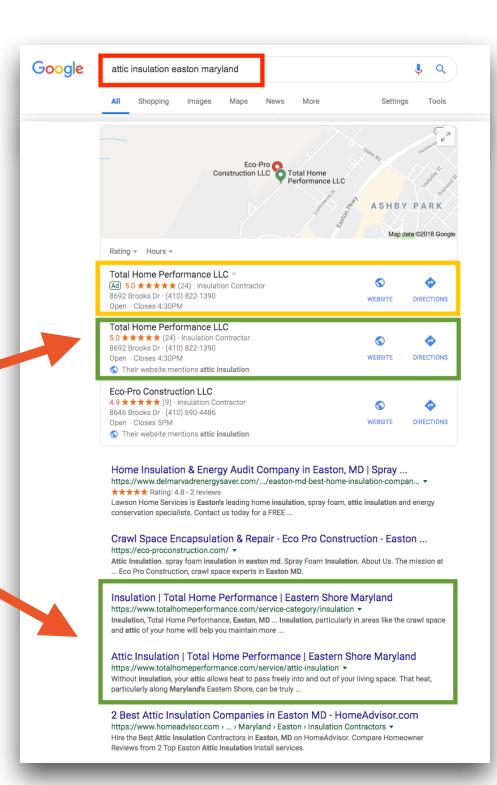
Service Keywords in Review Text

Increasingly Important Ranking Factor





Keywords in Reviews Drive Local Pack & Organic Rankings





DETERMINING YOUR COMPANY'S REVIEW PRIORITIES

Recommended Process

Search your Company (Brand) Name

Reviews in organic listings Reviews in Google Knowledge Panel Business Profile

Search "Company Name Reviews"

Search Key Services + Geography

Broad Categories: Insulation Contractor | HVAC Contractor

Your core services

Google Analytics—Is there traffic?



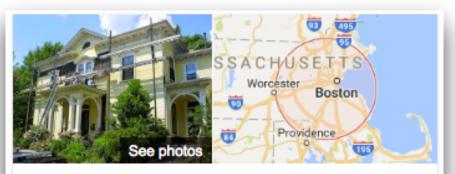
What Appears in Brand Search?

Google	building doctors los angeles ෫ 🤇								
	All News Maps Videos Shopping More - Search tools								
	About 11,000,000 results (0.73 seconds)								
	Building Doctors buildingdoctors.com/ - Building Doctors provide comprehensive home energy audits and energy efficiency upgrades such as: insulation, air sealing, heating & air conditioning and	Wilshire Blyd							
	Meet the Building Doctors Team Los Angeles, CA buildingdoctors.com/meet-the-team Dan is also certified though California Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services (CHEERS) ID #CCN82918240 as an existing home rater and specializes in Energy Efficient Mortgages (EEM's)	See photos	See ou						
	Scott took a job with a local residential energy upgrade contractor, where he trained in-house	Building Doctors * Website	Directi						
	About Building Doctors Los Angeles, CA buildingdoctors.com/about-us -	4.9 ★★★★★ 8 Google reviews Building restoration service in Los Angeles, California							
	Building Doctors is a full service home and commercial energy efficiency services provider serving the								
	greater Los Angeles County area.	Address: 5042 Wilshire Blvd #268, Los Angeles, CA 9003 Phone: (323) 646-2534	36						
	Contact Us Home Energy Audits and Energy Building Doctors	Hours: Open today · 7AM-10PM -							
	buildingdoctors.com/contact ▼ 877-411-BLDG (2534) info@buildingdoctors.com · About Los Angeles Main Office: 5042 Wilshire	Suggest an edit							
	Blvd. #268. Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323) 646-BLDG (2534)	Reviews from the web							
elp	Building Doctors - 11 Photos & 13 Reviews - Heating & Air Yelp www.yelp.com > Home Services > Heating & Air Conditioning/HVAC Yelp ***** Rating: 5 - 13 reviews	5/5 Facebook - 9 votes							
- 'P	(323) 648-2534 Photo of Building Doctors - Los Angeles, CA, United States. Blower Door Test. Dan T. Blower Door Test by Dan T. Photo of Building Doctors - Los Angeles, CA,	Reviews Write a review	Add a p						
		"We are very happy with the service Dan and Build provided."	ding Doct						
FB	Building Doctors Facebook www.facebook.com > Places > Los Angeles, California > Contractor -								
	★★★★ Rating: 5 - 9 votes 5042 Wilshire Blvd # 268. Los Angeles, CA 90036.	"My home performed marvelously even though it w ninety's."	was in the						
	-	*Their crew was great very respectful of my belo	nainas."						
gie's	Building Doctors Los Angeles, CA 90036 Angie's List www.angieslist.com > Local Reviews > CA > Los-angeles Angie's List								
gie s	Jan 29, 2016 - Reviews you can trust on Building Doctors from Angle's List members 5042 Wilshire Blvd. # 268 Los Angeles, CA.	View all Google reviews							
	Building Doctors, Inc. Business Baview in Los Angeles, CA - Serving	원 Send to your phone	S						
BB	Building Doctors, Inc. Business Review in Los Angeles, CA - Serving www.bbb.org/losangelessiliconvalley//building-doctors-in-los > Better Business Bureau >								
	BBB's Business Review for Building Doctors, Inc., Business Reviews and Ratings for Building Doctors, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA.	Profiles							

What Appears in "Reviews from the web"?

Within Google Business Profile (formerly Knowledge Panel)





Byggmeister Incorporated *

Website Contractor in Newton, Massachusetts Address: Newton, MA Phone: (617) 527-7871 Hours: Closing soon · 9AM-5PM -Suggest an edit Reviews from the web GuildQuality Facebook iCastle 5/54.8/5 5/521 votes 5 votes 5 reviews Reviews Write a review Add a photo 1 Google review



Reviews from the Web Priorities by Sector

HVAC

Facebook Home Advisor Yellow Pages

Home Performance

Facebook Home Advisor

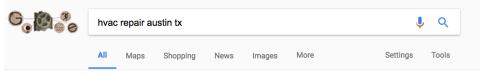
Insulation

Home Advisor Facebook Yellow Pages

Solar Facebook EnergySage Solar Reviews Home Advisor



What Appears for Key Service Searches?



About 432,000 results (1.32 seconds)

Best Hvac repair in Austin, TX - Yelp

https://www.yelp.com/search?find_desc=Hvac+Repair&find_loc=Austin%2C+TX Reviews on Hvac repair in Austin, TX - Mr Cool HVAC, Apex Heating & Air Conditioning, Fontaine Air Conditioning, Precision Heating & Air, Eco Air Conditioning ...

Precision Heating & Air LLC.: Austin Air Conditioning Repair

https://www.precisionheatac.com/ 🔻

Is Austin's Leading AC Repair Company, Call 24/7 At (512) 300-7422 For All Your Air ... Austin, Tx may seem like a roller coaster ride during the winter season, with ... It can really wreak havoc on a poorly maintained or aging HVAC system.

About Precision Heating & Air ... · About Us · HVAC Discounts · Austin Energy

25 Best Air Conditioning and HVAC Services - Austin TX - Home Advisor



Conditioning System - For Business. Location: Austin ...

Stan's Heating and Air Conditioning: Austin Air Conditioning & Heating ... www.stansac.com/ *****

Austin's Most Trusted Air Conditioning and Heating Experts Since 1954. ... Stan's offers HVAC Installation, replacement, maintenance, and **repair** services for commercial and residential properties. **Repair** · Installation ... Beverly S. **Austin**, **TX**.

AC Repair Austin | Air Conditioning Austin | McCullough

coolmenow.com/ -

AC Repair Austin - We repair air conditioning in Austin and install new AC systems. ... AUSTIN TEXAS AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR - REPLACEMENT - SERVICE ... Call before committing to major HVAC repair or new AC installation. tools ...

Austin AC Repair & Furnace Repair | Air Conditioniner Repair Austin, TX

www.hanksacservice.com/ -

We provide fast & professional Air Conditioner Repair & Heater Repair Services in Austin, TX.

AC Repair Austin TX - A-Plus Air Conditioning & Heating

www.aplusac.com/ -

A-Plus Energy Management, Air Conditioning & Home Solutions is an Austin family-owned and operated, Texas-licensed HVAC & AC Repair company that has ...



Do You Get Traffic From Review Sites?

		Acquisition			Behavior		
	Source ?	Sessions ? 4	% New Sessions ?	New Users	Bounce Rate	Pages / Session ?	Avg. Session Duration ?
		6,325 % of Total: 11.10% (56,964)	79.42% Avg for View: 76.80% (3.40%)	5,023 % of Total: 11.48% (43,749)	41.09% Avg for View: 57.15% (-28.10%)	3.13 Avg for View: 2.31 (35.63%)	00:02:20 Avg for View: 00:01:31 (53.92%)
	1. yelp.com	1,624 (25.68%)	70.94%	1,152 (22.93%)	19.89%	4.21	00:03:12
	2. pge.com	346 (5.47%)	70.23%	243 (4.84%)	13.87%	6.12	00:05:07
	3. semalt.semalt.com	211 (3.34%)	99.05%	209 (4.16%)	30.81%	1.69	<00:00:01
	4. semalt.com	158 (2.50%)	100.00%	158 (3.15%)	96.20%	1.48	<00:00:01
	5. my.angieslist.com	152 (2.40%)	73.03%	111 (2.21%)	13.16%	4.12	00:03:25
	6. www1.social-buttons.com	152 (2.40%)	100.00%	152 (3.03%)	100.00%	1.00	00:00:00
	7. google.com	124 (1.96%)	92.74%	115 (2.29%)	70.16%	1.72	00:00:26
	8.	123 (1.94%)	30.89%	38 (0.76%)	29.27%	5.12	00:08:46
	9. bcorporation.net	109 (1.72%)	85.32%	93 (1.85%)	24.77%	3.29	00:01:25
	10. facebook.com	94 (1.49%)	57.45%	54 (1.08%)	56.38%	2.00	00:02:13

Most Company's Priorities



Clout of Google, Ranking Factors, Presence in Search, Quantity and velocity matters

2. facebook

Dominance with Google Knowledge Graph



Strength in organic listings, Growing fast in Service Biz categories; more critical in tone



Your Specific Priorities Based on Research.





SOLICITATION PROCESS: WHAT WORKS AND DOESN'T

Understanding "Review Gating"

Maps User Contributed Content Policy Help

Format Specific Criteria

The following criteria apply to the indicated format in addition to the Prohibited Content policies.

Photos and Videos

Text reviews

In addition to Prohibited Content guidelines, Text Reviews are subject to the following additional requirements:

- Don't use reviews for advertising purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, posting email addresses, phone numbers, social media links, or links to other websites in your reviews.
- Don't discourage or prohibit negative reviews or selectively solicit positive reviews from customers.
- · Don't include promotional or commercial content.
- · Don't offer or accept money in exchange for reviews.
- · Don't solicit reviews from customers in bulk.

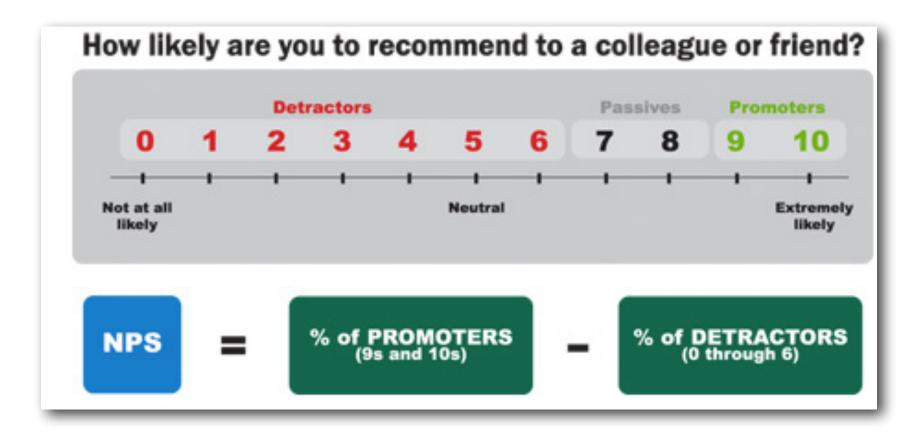


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Net Promoter Score



www.netpromoter.com, The Ultimate Question,



Some Thoughts on Process

Solicit Everyone (culture of customer feedback)

Offer Direct & Third Party

Limit Choices

2-3 Max

Net Promoter Score

Great satisfaction metric

Strong correlation to review willingness

Respond Quickly & Even-handedly to Negatives

Steady, Regular Pace (Velocity)



When, Where and How to Request

Most Effective

- In-home, in-person ask immediately following service
- Requested by on site tech/crew
- Prompted by text or email
- Text gets better response (but less keyword rich)
- Crews/techs measured on reviews

Still Worth It

- Via email within days of job
- Via email after 1 week+
- Mining of past customers
- Requiring app download

Review Solicitation Expected Results

↓↑ NPS	Requests ↓≓ Sent	↓ ↑ Opens	Open ↓↑ Rate	Feedback ↓↑ Received	Feedback ↓↑ Rate	Review ↓↑ Clicks	New ↓↑ Reviews	Total ↓↑ Reviews
71	2318	1312	56.6%	463	8.20%	54	15	53
34	2195	1156	52.6%	75	22.66%	11	1	12
88	1710	1101	64.3%	546	3.11%	158	20	50
42	1119	418	37.3%	111	24.32%	22	10	10
81	662	440	66.4%	80	7.50%	21	12	15
76	276	138	50.0%	25	8.00%	6	26	63
70	234	160	68.3%	41	9.75%	22	7	8



What We Know About Negative Reviews

• High percentage are about pre-sale process

Didn't return call Unresponsive

Wouldn't provide free quote

• High percentage are wrong company/not a customer

Company confusion

- Even the best companies will get a negative review
- Growing distrust of 5-star perfection

Always Respond!

Don't Only Respond to Negatives



QUESTIONS?

Peter Troast

peter@energycircle.com

