

UNIDAYS

What Makes Gen Z Fall in Love with a Brand?

Born after 1997, Gen Z represents the youngest generation with the greatest lifetime value. Currently, they control over \$143 billion in spending power. And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

Sometimes called Post-Millennials, Centennials, or Plurals, Gen Z has a love-hate relationship with brands. Some they love. While others, well you get the drift. But what makes the difference between being a brand idolized by Gen Z – and one that's despised?

What attracts Gen Z to a brand

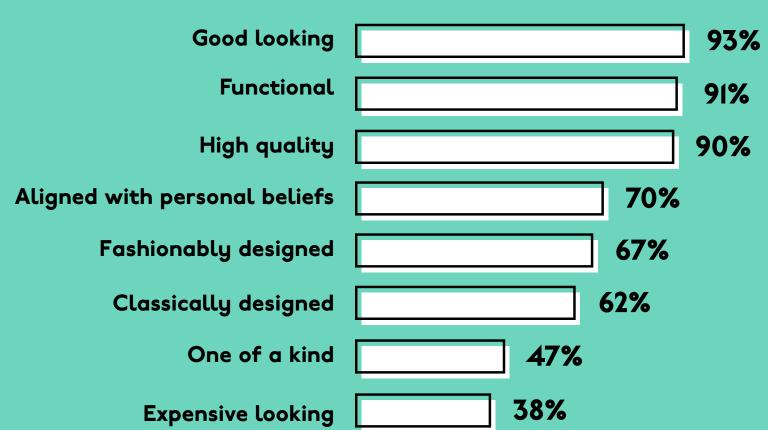
Like sunflower pollen to a honey bee, there are a few things that charm the often-elusive Gen Z:





Product features Gen Zers adore

A few Gen Z responses to the question "How important is it that products are..."



A few of Gen Z's most lusted-after brands³

According to a survey done by Global Student Affinity Network UNiDAYS, Gen Zers named these labels the most desirable:



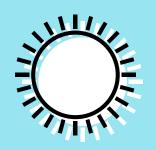
What repels Gen Z from a brand

No-nos. Turn-offs. Deal breakers. Whatever you call them, brands that deal in these will have Gen Z running for the hills:



Mediocrity

66% say it matters to them that brands sell high-quality products¹



Idealism

65% dislike ads that make life look perfect⁶



Sluggishness

60% will hang up if a business doesn't respond ASAP⁸



Insincerity

Only 18% say they are very satisfied with responses they get from brands⁴



Get on the good side of Gen Z

Brands that don't hold themselves to a higher standard are going to butt heads with Gen Z. Which means now's the absolute best time to raise the bar.

How many Gen Zers have a strong connection to a brand⁶

16-to-18 year olds

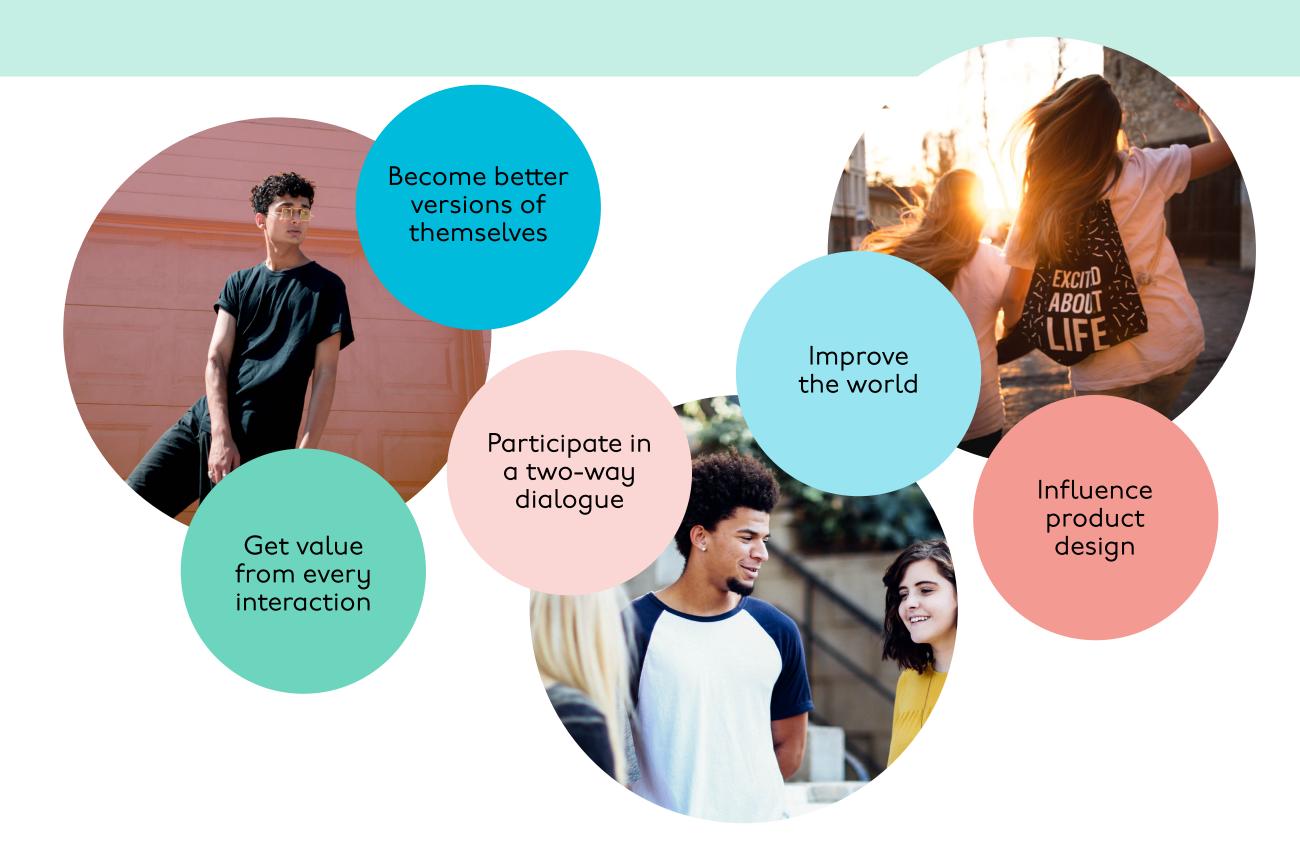
19-to-21 year olds





Although not many can say they have a special customer-brand bond, 66% of Gen Zers say that, once they find a brand they like, they will continue to buy for a long time.⁴

Brands can appeal more to Gen Z by allowing them to:



Big (and not-so-big) brands

Take heed.

Be sincere when you say hello. Reach out with value. And tailor the shopper experience to attract, engage, and foster true Gen Z affinity now. Because puppy love like this could last for life.

> UNIDAYS Connecting brands with Gen Z myunidays.com/genz

Sources

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- 3 UNiDAYS member survey 2017
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