

# Before you send:

# Your Pre-flight Email Checklist

Here is a checklist of some key elements that should be in your email newsletter or promotion before you press the **"Send"** button:

## Your "From" and "Subject" Lines:

Does your "From" line include your company name or brand?

Does your "Subject" line:

- meet the guidelines for length (5-8 words, 40 characters including spaces)?
- □ incorporate a specific benefit?
- include your brand (if for some reason your "From" line does not)?
- $\Box$  create a sense of urgency?
- □ avoid words or punctuation such as "Free" or exclamation points that could trigger spam filters?

### Your Email Copy:

- □ Will the content of your email be interesting and meaningful to the people you're sending it to?
- □ Is your email personalized with the recipient's first name, last name, or both, if appropriate?
- □ Is your email copy clear and concise?
- □ Will your contacts know what to do once they've read your email? Should they call to request your free offer? Print out a coupon? Provide comments and feedback on an article?
- Does your email clearly explain how your product or service can help [benefit] the recipient? Save them money? Time? Aggravation?
- □ Have you used appropriate graphics while also making good use of white space?

### Important Last-Second Checks:

- □ Are you prepared to handle inbound email responses and questions resulting from your outbound email campaigns? Follow-through is as important as the first contact.
- □ Have you proofread the "From" line, "Subject" line, and email copy thoroughly?
- □ Have you checked all links to be sure they work properly?
- □ Have you previewed and sent yourself a test in both HTML and text formats?

When you can answer **"yes"** to these questions, you are ready to hit the **"Send"** button. **Congratulations!** 

If you want to learn more, visit our Learning Center at: **ConstantContact.com/learning-center**