

How to...



Communities
Cymunedau 2.0

Find money-saving offers online

There are several websites which group together special offers, deals and money-saving vouchers. Many feature large, well-known retailers and some show you offers relating to your local area.

This guide will feature the following websites:

Groupon.co.uk
Vouchercodes.co.uk
uSwitch.com
Google shopping results

Groupon.co.uk

Groupon is the most recent of the websites featured. It has only been running since 2010 but is becoming very popular.

Groupon features offers and deals from your area. You select the nearest city to you and can register to have the daily offer emailed to you.

Offers range from local activities such as days at the races, huge savings at local restaurants, a round of golf or a beauty treatment at a local salon; to nights or weekends away in the UK and holidays abroad.

Groupon promises each business a minimum number of customers – if the number is not reached, the deal does not run.

If you see a deal you like, click 'Buy now'. If not enough people sign up, your credit card* will not be charged as the offer will not run.

Savings can be up to 90% and often are between 50 and 60%.

How to use:

Go to <http://www.groupon.co.uk/faq> (make sure you visit groupon.co.uk rather than groupon.com which is the US website).

This page explains further about how Groupon works.

GROUPON Choose Your City: **Chester** Register now and get £5 for every recommendation!

Receive deals for Chester: Enter your e-mail address:

Today's Deal Previous Deals How it works MyGroupon Register Login

How it works? My purchases Our business partners Contact

How does it work?

The Groupon Promise

 **The Groupon Promise**

Nothing is more important to us than treating our customers well. If you ever feel like Groupon let you down, give us a call and we'll return your purchase – simple as that.

General Information

What is Groupon UK?

Each day, Groupon UK features an unbeatable deal on the best stuff to do, see, eat, and buy in your city. By promising businesses a minimum number of customers, we get discounts you won't find anywhere else. We call it "collective buying power!"

How today's deal - how do I get it?

Just click "Buy Now" before the offer ends at midnight. If the minimum number of people signs up, we'll charge your card and send you a link to print your coupon. If not enough people join, no one gets it (and you won't be charged), so invite your friends to make sure you get the deal! Groupon is also fun to use with parents, grandparents, children, partners, neighbours, teachers, colleagues, school friends and comrades, and men who wear monocles. Work together to live your city for less!

What happens if the deal doesn't reach its required minimum number of purchasers?

If not enough people sign up, then the deal is cancelled, and you won't be charged. Better luck next time! So if you really want the deal, be sure to either beg or threaten your friends and family.

Do I need to make use of my deal the same day I buy it?

Check the contract. Though most coupons have an expiration date.

Find your city:

A-F	G-L	M-R	S-X	Y-Z
Aberdeen	Lincoln			
Bath	Liverpool			
Belfast	London			
Birmingham	London Special			
Bournemouth	Madison			
Bradford	Manchester			
Brighton	Nottingham			
Bristol	Wilton Keynes			
Cambridge	National Deal			
Cardiff	Newcastle			
Charlottesville	Northampton			
Chester	Norwich			
Coventry and Warwick	Nottingham			
Dallas	Oxford			
Denver	Plymouth			
Durham	Portsmouth			
Edinburgh	Reading			
Essex	Sheffield			
Exeter	Southampton			
Glasgow	Stoke-on-Trent			
Gloucester	Surrey			
Hull	Swansea			
Jersey	Swindon			
Leeds	York			
Leicester				

At the top of the page, click the button 'choose your city' to find the city nearest to you to view the current deals, or use the list on the right hand side.

The following page will show today's deal for your city. You can see previous deals that are still open via the link in the blue bar - 'Previous Deals'.

If you would like to receive an email showing you the deal for the day for your city, simply type your email address in the box in the top right hand corner.

GROUPON Choose Your City: **Cardiff** Register now and get £5 for every recommendation!

Receive deals for Cardiff: Enter your e-mail address:

Today's Deal Previous Deals How it works MyGroupon Register Login

Recommend this deal: Facebook Twitter Email

Ticket to England V Sri Lanka npower Test Match in Cardiff For £20 (Category C) or £25 (Category B) - Save up to 56%

Buy Now!

Amount: from £20.00

Discount	You save
56%	£25.00

More Deals

£19.50 instead of £49.70: Mediterranean Three Course Meal For Two at Mezzaluna

£19.50 instead of £49.70 

View

£20.00 instead of £75.00: Fresh Mineral Makeover at Beauty Basics

£20.00 instead of £75.00 

View

However, if you would like to buy a deal you will need to register with the website. This will give you access to your account ('MyGroupon') and all the vouchers for the deals you buy. You can download and print off the vouchers for your deals from your account page.

*As with all online purchases, ALWAYS use a credit card and not a debit card.

Most online payment systems are very secure, but just in case there is a problem it is better to use a credit card.

Debit card payments leave your bank account straight away leaving you out of pocket, and are more difficult to get refunded if there is a problem.

If you pay my credit card, you get a chance to check your statement before you spend the money. Many credit cards come with online fraud protection and your credit card provider will often be responsible for sorting out problems and chasing refunds.

VoucherCodes .co.uk

VoucherCodes is a website which displays vouchers and offers from a wide range of retailers, big and small. Such as Tesco, Debenhams, M&S, LoveFilm.com, Argos, Thorntons, DIY stores, furniture stores, restaurant chains, flights, holidays, insurance, computers and many more.

Retailers can add their own offers which can range from online exclusives to simply an advert for their summer or winter sale.

Before you go shopping, check VoucherCodes to see if there are any current offers for the retailers you are about to visit!

How to use:

Go to <http://www.voucherCodes.co.uk>

The screenshot shows the homepage of VoucherCodes.co.uk. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'SIGN UP', 'LOG IN', 'SIGN UP', 'HELP', and 'MOST WANTED'. Below this is the VoucherCodes.co.uk logo with the tagline 'everyone loves a deal'. A main navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'TOP 20 CODES', 'ALL STORES', 'VOUCHERS BY CATEGORY', 'PRINTABLE VOUCHERS', and 'RESTAURANT VOUCHERS'. The central area features a search bar with the text 'Search VoucherCodes.co.uk for 1,000s of Free Voucher Codes and Exclusive Discounts' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there are several promotional banners: 'FAVOURITE STORES', 'FEATURED VOUCHER', 'HOLIDAY SPECIAL' (with a 'CLICK HERE TO GET THE LATEST HOLIDAY SPECIAL VOUCHERS >' link), and 'JOIN 3 MILLION MEMBERS' (with a 'Sign up' button). At the bottom, there are more category links: 'Top 20', 'The Best', 'Popular', and a shopping bag icon.

In the big search bar, type the name of the store you are going to visit e.g. 'Debenhams'.



This shows all the offers available at Debenhams. Many of them are online offers as they state e.g. £10 off orders over £50. By mentioning 'order's they are generally referring to online sales through their website.

The different coloured tabs show the different types of offer – codes to use at the checkout on their website, sales which could be online or in-store, printables which are vouchers you can print out and deals.

The orange tabs above your search results shows you the other search options you can use. You can view the top 20 voucher codes, browse stores or browse by category.

If you would rather have the top 20 vouchers emailed to you each week, enter your email address to sign up for their weekly newsletter*.

*All news letters and emails should arrive with an 'unsubscribe' link at the bottom so you will not be stuck with receiving them for evermore!

uSwitch.com

uSwitch is a price comparison website, and there are several other well-known websites of this type regularly advertised on TV.

uSwitch will let you check that you are e.g. on the lowest gas and electricity tariff, the best TV or phone tariff, find the best savings rates or the best mortgage deals.

Next time you want to apply for a new utilities or financial services, check uSwitch for a range of offers, some of which are exclusive to the website.

Using uSwitch can also save you time rather than shopping around for the best deal and visiting lots of competitor's websites.

How to use:

Go to <http://www.uswitch.com>

Choose the item you would like to compare or investigate, from utilities, financial products, insurance or TV and broadband.

uSwitch.com uSwitch uSave uSmile

Gas and electricity tariff ending?

Many fixed price and discounted tariffs are ending in the next few months. Check which energy tariffs are ending and what to do, then compare gas and electricity prices to find a great deal and switch.

Enter postcode here **Compare now**

Compare and apply with uSwitch

Utilities	Money	Insurance	Communications
Gas & electricity	Credit cards	Car insurance	Broadband
Business electricity & gas	Loans	Home insurance	Mobile phone
Heating cover	Savings & ISAs	Life insurance	Home phone
Water	Investments	Bike insurance	Digital TV
	Current accounts	Travel insurance	Mobile broadband
	Mortgages	Van insurance	Broadband & TV
	Debt help	Pet insurance	Broadband & Phone
	Credit reports	Breakdown cover	Broadband, TV &

For example, if you would like to see the best mobile phone deals there are available.

On the following page you need to select the sort of mobile phone package you would like – this will narrow it down a bit as there can be over 1.5 million deals!

Do you need a pay-as-you-go phone, or a monthly contract? How many texts, minutes and data (if you have a mobile phone that will connect to the internet) will you need?

Mobile phone deals

Browse the top pay monthly and pay as you go mobile phones, and we'll sort out the switch.

Compare all the latest mobile phone deals from the comfort of your computer with uSwitch. Browse the latest pay monthly and pay as you go deals, save up to 40% on high street prices!

Choose from: [Contract phones](#) [Pay as you go](#) [SIM Only](#) [SIM Free](#)

Monthly Cost any Inclusive Texts any Monthly Minutes any

1,643,989 Mobile Phone Deals Compared

[See Results >>](#)

<p>Apple iPhone 4 (16GB)</p> <p>Show Deals</p>	<p>Samsung Galaxy S II</p> <p>Show Deals</p>	<p>HTC Desire</p> <p>Show Deals</p>	<p>HTC Desire HD</p> <p>Show Deals</p>	<p>Samsung Galaxy S</p> <p>Show Deals</p>	<p>Samsung Galaxy Ace S5830</p> <p>Show Deals</p>
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Perhaps you would like a pay-as-you-go phone which is less than £100 to buy. This leaves 134 deals to choose from.

Pay as you go mobile phones

Pay as you go mobile phone deals have come a long way and now offer a range of inclusive minutes and texts for even better value. You can choose from a range of pay as you go phones and pay as you go tariffs so that you can find something to really suit your needs.

Contracts | Pay As You Go | SIM Free

Networks Brands Tariffs Features Styles Colour OS

Handset Cost Up to £100 134 Deals Compared

Up to £100 X Reset

Your results: Showing 1-10 of 134 Page Size 10 Sort By Most popular

<p>Samsung Clat 335</p> <p>+ £49.89 + £59.89 + £64.99</p>	<p>BlackBerry Curve 8520</p> <p>+ £109.90 + £119.89 + £129.89</p>	<p>Samsung Tocco Lite S5230</p> <p>+ £39.90 + £39.90 + £69.90</p>
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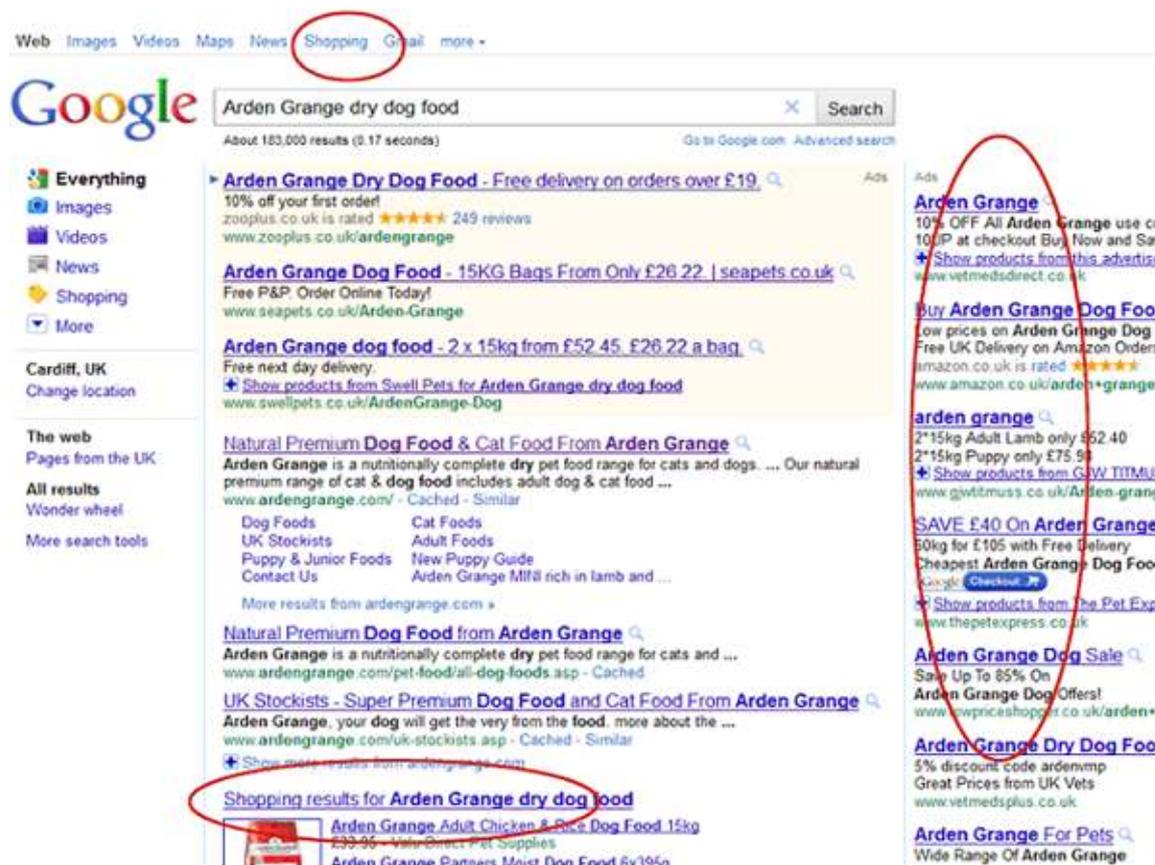
Using the grey tabs you can narrow your choices down even further. For example, you'd like a Nokia or a Sony Ericsson phone on O2 or Orange that has a camera, FM radio and can connect to the internet by WiFi. This leaves you with 37 deals to choose from and you can sort these by most popular, lowest to highest price etc.

Or, perhaps you need to buy breakdown cover for your car. By going to the breakdown cover section you can compare prices from all the companies without having to visit individual websites.

Google shopping results

If you simply want to see who's offering a particular product at the cheapest price (and it will most likely be an online shopping website) then consult Google shopping results.

Go to <http://www.google.co.uk> and type in the full name of the product you want to buy.



Using the links at the very top of the search results page, select 'shopping'. This will convert your search results list to a list of places where that product is for sale.

You can also click on the 'Shopping results for...' further down the search results with the page.

The results displayed on the right hand side of the page are adverts – these are not part of your search for the cheapest deal.

Web Images Videos Maps News Shopping Gmail more -

Google Arden Grange dry dog food X Search

About 1,820 results (0.13 seconds) Go to Google.com Advanced search

Your location: Cardiff - Change

Sort by: Relevance

Arden Grange Dry Dog Food - Free delivery on orders over £19
10% off your first order!
Adult Dry Food - Puppy/Junior Dry Foo - Senior Dry Food - Partners Wet Food
www.zooplus.co.uk/ardengrange

Arden Grange Dog & Cat - 10% Off All Arden Grange Food
Use Discount Code 10UP at Checkout.
www.vetmedsdirect.co.uk/Arden-Grange

Product	Price	Retailer	Reviews
Arden Grange Adult Chicken & Rice Dog Food 15kg Arden Grange Chicken and Rice Dog Food is a highly digestible palatable food and contains ethically produced human grade	£33.95	Valu-Direct Pet Supplies	363 reviews
Arden Grange Partners Moist Dog Food 6x395g Arden Grange Partners is a super-premium range of tasty, hypoallergenic complete wet foods, made with up to 70% fresh, succulent meats with rice ...	£5.60	PetPlanet.co.uk	215 reviews
Arden Grange Dog Food - Arden Grange Puppy and Junior Large Breed Arden Grange Large Breed Puppy and Junior with fresh chicken and rice has been specially formulated to meet the specific nutritional requirements ...	£23.29	Seapets	4 reviews
Arden Grange Adult Lamb & Rice Dog Food 15kg Arden Grange ADULT lamb and rice provides wholesome, gentle nutrition for all breeds of adult doos especially those that mav	£29.24	Free shipping Swell Pets	

Filters on the left:
 Show only: Google Checkout, Free shipping, New items
 Any price: Up to £15, £15 - £30, £30 - £50, Over £50
 Any store: www.zooplus.co.uk, PetPlanet.co.uk, Valu-Direct Pet Supplies, Swell Pets, Seapets, More

The drop down menu on the right of the page lets you select how the results are displayed. You can change this to lowest price first or highest first.

There are more options on the left hand side of the page to refine your shopping results.

Tips for safe online offer hunting:

- Only use reputable offers websites and check the links you follow go to the genuine retailer (you can do this by looking at the address in the very top bar in your browser – the address will be e.g. Debenhams.com or tesco.com and never gobbledegook)
- Use a credit card rather than a debit card for making purchases as the money does not leave your account straight away and your credit card provider is often responsible for chasing refunds and sorting out problems.
- Don't follow random links sent to you in emails from people you do not recognise, no matter how good the deal or offer seems to be.
- It's OK to sign up for newsletters and emails – there should always be an 'unsubscribe' link in the bottom of the email if you don't want to receive them anymore.

This guide is part of the 'How to...' series from Communities 2.0. See <http://clickconnectdiscover.org/how-to> for more details.

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