

Representative Manual



We're excited that you have decided to become a Representative. This manual is designed to walk you step by step through the first few months of being a sales rep, and then to be a helpful guide to orient you and help you build your new Alison's Pantry business. New ideas and product highlights will be coming your way through e-mails and on our blog at <u>www.pantryacademy.com</u>. Please refer to these resources often for new ideas to attract new customers and for ways to better serve your current ones.



Best wishes for your new Alison's Pantry business!

- Email Rep Support at support@alisonspantry.com
- Main Office: 866-5-PANTRY (866-572-6879)
- Local Number: 801-796-6411
- Text Number: 801-876-1512

- Rep blog: <u>https://pantryacademy.com</u>
- Rep FB page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> groups/145765593745
- To view the training video again, go to: <u>https://</u> youtu.be/tt_3k-cH0Mg

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Getting Started With Your Alison's Pantry Business

Welcome to the Alison's Pantry family!

We want to help you get a running start with your business.

STEP1 - Paperwork

You should have received a welcome email from the office with the following steps that must be taken care of before you will be activated in our ordering system and be able to place your first order:

- Fill out the Bank ACH form for the bank account you will be using for your business. This is the account we will pull your Net10 payments from (if you qualify) and deposit commission withdrawals. We encourage sales reps to have a separate account for their AP business. If you ever need to change the bank account you use, you will have to fill out and submit a new BANK ACH form to the office. The office can email you one that you fill out on your computer and send back.
- 2. <u>Sign the New Rep Agreement</u>. Please read this carefully as these are the terms you agree to follow while you are a sales rep for Alison's Pantry. (See Agreement following this section.)
- 3. <u>Fill out the "Who Do You Know" Form</u>. This form lets us know how many catalogs you will need to get started. You will also want to talk to these "potential" customers on your list to see if they are interested in receiving a catalog and/or ordering from Alison's Pantry. This way you know who to give a catalog to once you have received them.

STEP2 - Training Videos

- 1. Intro from Joshua Kissee
- 2. Important Contact Information for Alison's Pantry, Who Do You Know, Catalogs, Catalog Mailings, Follow Up, Tax Advantages, Handling Frozen Items, Handling Customer Questions.
- 3. Delivery and Inventory
- 4. Using the online ordering program Rep Portal.

STEP3 - Social Media



1. Facebook

Alison's Pantry has a business page on Facebook for anyone to view and LIKE where recipes, product information, contests, notices, etc. are posted by the office. Sales reps can share any of these posts onto their Facebook group, business page or personal page. Each RSM has a group for their team of sales reps (Team Awesome – RSM Julie Hawkes, Team Extraordinary – RSM Becky Price, Team Success – RSM Stacee Izatt). There is also a group for all sales reps in the company (Alison's Pantry Representatives).

• Sign up for Rep group and team group – the office will automatically add a new sales rep to the Alison's Pantry Representatives group. New sales reps can either request to join their respective RSM's team page, or the RSM will invite them to join. The RSMs take turns each week creating the posts that will be posted on the team groups. We use the same posts in all 3 groups so a sales rep only needs to join their RSM's team group, not all 3. If you try to join either of the other two team groups, we will kindly decline your

request.

• Create a customer group or business page of your own – it is personal preference how sales reps use Facebook to market and do order reminders. Some reps post on their personal page so all their friends see the posts, which works great unless you have a lot of friends that do not live near you and could not purchase from you. By setting up a customer group or business page, you are able to target those who would be able to order from you.

A. **Group** - A customer group allows you to add customers who are your friends on Facebook. When you post in your group, only those in your group will see your post so you aren't bombarding your other friends on Facebook with your AP posts.

B. **Business Page** - A business page allows you to reach out to more people who must LIKE your page to see your posts unless they search out and visit your business page by choice. A business page has more features that allow you to schedule posts, create events, and boost posts out to the public. **Boosting qualified posts does cost money but can reach a larger number of people depending on how much you are willing to spend.

C. How to Share a Facebook Post – any post made on a public Facebook group or page can be shared on your personal Facebook. To share a post, do the following:

- 1. Click on Share next to the right arrow at the bottom of the post you want to share.
- 2. Click on the option of how you want to share your post.

A. Share Now (Public) – this posts right to your personal Facebook profile and you won't be able to add your own comment.

B. Share... - this will share to your personal timeline by default or you can click on the down arrow at the top to choose other options. You can add your own comment to the post by clicking on Say something about this... and typing your comment.

C. Send as Message – This will allow you to send this in a group Facebook message.

D. Share on a friend's timeline – you can choose which friends you would like to see this post. You can also add your own comment to the post.

E. Share to a Page – this will allow you to share a post to a Facebook page you manage. You can also add a comment to the post.

3. When you are ready to share the post, click on Post (blue box in the lower right corner). A box will pop up letting you know the post was successfully shared.

For more info, check out these links:

- <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/facebook-marketing-slides.pdf</u>
- <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2018/08/29/12-tips-for-going-live-on-facebook/</u>

2. Instagram [🖸

Instagram is a photo and video-sharing social networking service owned by Facebook. It is a simple, fun and creative way to capture, edit & share photos, videos and messages with friends and family. This is a great place to share pictures of our products and meals that you have prepared with Alison's Pantry products. You can view Alison's Pantry's Instagram posts at: <u>https://</u>www.instagram.com/alisonspantryfoods/?hl=en.

To create your own Instagram account and to learn how to use it, go to: <u>https://</u><u>help.instagram.com</u>.

3. Twitter

Twitter is an American online news and social networking service on which users post and interact with messages known as "tweets". You will find posts on what is happening in the world and what people are talking about right now. Alison's Pantry has a Twitter account at: https://twitter.com/ alisonspantry.

To find out more about Twitter and how to use it, go to <u>https://about.twitter.com</u>.

Getting Started With Your Alison's Pantry Business

4. Pinterest 🧖

Pinterest helps people discover and do what they love. You can search any subject and find Pins. Every Pin you see is an idea that someone saved on Pinterest. A Pin links back to the site it came from, so you can learn more – like how to make it, or where to buy it. When you find a Pin you want to save for yourself, click the SAVE button to add it to one of your boards.

To learn more about using Pinterest, go to: <u>https://help.pinterest.com/en</u>.

Alison's Pantry has a Pinterest account at: <u>https://www.pinterest.com/alisonspantry/?eq=Alison%</u> 27s%20Pantry&etslf=10797.

5. Email

Each email provider has their own way of creating email groups and you want to create customer groups to make sending the same email to each of your customers a breeze.

You can use MailMerge to send a personalized email to all your customers using the following directions: (This works best with Microsoft Outlook.)

- A. Log in to your Rep Portal. Click on Reports, then Customers under Customer Reports, then click on Download and then click Download CSV Report. Make sure all customer names are capitalized (example: Becky Price). Save it to your computer Desktop or a file on your computer with a specific name so you can find it. (Example: AP Customer File-MailMerge) Then close the excel file.
- B. Open Microsoft Word. Click on Mailings at the top. Click on the down arrow by Start Mail Merge and choose E-mail Messages.
- C. Then click on the down arrow next to Select Recipients and click on Choose an Existing List... and then find and click on the CSV file you created with your customers from your Rep Portal.
- D. Create the email message you will be sending or copy and paste one you would like to use. To personalize the email with each customer's first name, type Hi, then click on the down arrow next to Insert Merge Field and choose firstname from the drop down box. It will look like this in your email template <<firstname>>.
- E. When you are ready to send the email, click on the down arrow next to Finish & Merge and then click on Send Email Messages. A box will appear To: should say Email. Subject: is whatever you want to show (example: Don't Miss Out!). Mail format: should be HTML. If you have less than 50 customers, you can leave Send records: with the choice of All. If you have more than 50, then click on the circle next to From: and enter 1 in the first box and 50 in the To: box. Then click OK. Once those are sent, repeat this step (E.) changing the records being sent each time until all customers have been sent an email. (Example: If you have 140 customers to send an email to, you would do the first group from 1 to 50, the second group from 51 to 100, and the third group from 101 to 140.)
- F. When you are done, exit out of Microsoft Word. The emails you just sent will show in the Sent File in your email program.

6. Texting

Texting is a great way to send reminders to your customers.

A. Individual text - You can send them out individually and personalize with the customer's name and information specific to each customer. This can take a lot of time depending on how

many customers you have.

- B. Group text You can send a group text BUT every person in the group will see the responses of the other people in the group, and it can be very frustrating when your cell phone keeps notifying you that someone has responded to the group text.
- C. Mass text apps There are several mass text apps available that are FREE, or you have to pay a small fee to use. Here are a few: for iPhone Hit 'Em Up, for Android Mass Text, Text Blast. These are great for sending out one text to a lot of people at one time as an individual text, not a group text. This can also personalize the text because the app will pull your customer's name from your phone's address list.

STEP4 - Sales Training with your RSM

Once you have completed your paperwork and training videos, your RSM will schedule Sales Training and will go over a **Sales Rep's Monthly Schedule** with you. This training will take 15-20 minutes each week (preferably on Monday) for the first 5 weeks you are a sales rep beginning with 2 weeks before your first order deadline.

Getting Started With Your Alison's Pantry Business



ALISON'S PANTRY REPRESENTATIVE AGREEMENT

As a representative of Alison's Pantry I agree to the following terms:

Being an AP Rep

- 1. To promote and sell AP products and to provide each consumer with the Alison's Pantry 100% Satisfaction Guarantee and to promptly honor it upon request.
- 2. To maintain the highest standards of integrity, honesty, and responsibility in dealings with the company, consumers, and other representatives, and to offer the highest customer service to customers.
- 3. To communicate regularly with my Regional Sales Manager by returning phone calls, answering emails, and responding to texts in a timely manner.
- 4. To read all emails and documents provided by Alison's Pantry. It is my responsibility to stay current on policy changes within the company.
- 5. As a representative of AP I will be required to participate in training provided by the company through Facebook, email, webinars and Pantry Academy.
- 6. I will be responsible for providing customers with high quality AP products and for the proper storing and handling of AP products. I agree to follow any specific instructions provided on product labels as well as any other instructions that may be provided through Alison's Pantry. I agree to keep frozen foods frozen and cold foods cold.
- 7. I agree to provide truthful and accurate information to my customers and potential customers regarding AP products and will provide advice, answer questions, and teach customers how to use the products using product information and educational tools approved and provided by the company for use by AP representatives. I will provide contact information to my customers sufficient to allow them to contact me in the event the customer has questions about a product or product purchase.
- 8. As an independent contractor, to assume sole liability for all self-employment (social security) taxes, federal tax filings and registrations legally required by my activities as an Alison's Pantry Representative.
- 9. Currently there are no designated territories with Alison's Pantry. I understand I can sell AP products to anyone if I deliver the product to the customer in a timely manner and respectable condition. AP reps agree to follow the Golden rule, which is to not pursue active customers from another AP rep, if the said customer has received contact from the current AP rep within a 3-month period. I agree to not take active customers from another AP representative.
- 10. I understand that there is a monthly minimum order of \$750 (\$500). If my order falls below the minimum requirement, I will not earn any commission on that month's production, and the order will be delivered to the rep closest to my delivery location, requiring me to travel to retrieve the order. I also understand that if I my order falls below minimum for 3 months in a row or 4 out of 6 months I will lose my ordering privileges.

- 11. I agree to place an order every month. If the circumstances arise that I must take off a month, I am required to notify and discuss this with my RSM before the month in question.
- 12. As building a customer base takes time, I agree to conduct my AP business for a minimum of 6 months before deciding to cease being an active AP rep.
- 13. I agree that if Alison's Pantry no longer fits in my life circumstances I must give Alison's Pantry 30 days' notice before I cease my orders.
- 14. It is AP policy to find a replacement representative if I decide to stop being a rep. It is understood that I cannot give my current customer list to another AP rep without getting approval from my RSM.
- 15. I agree that if I decide to quit I will cancel my catalog mailings and that I am responsible for the cost of any catalogs mailed after I quit if I don't do this.

Delivery

- 16. I will be on time to my delivery location to meet the truck. If I cannot be there I will arrange to have a sub and notify rep support prior to my delivery.
- 17. I agree to take responsibility for all products once I've received them from the driver. Any damage occurring to product while in my possession is my responsibility to replace or refund.
- 18. I will report damaged, shorted or extra items within 48 hours of receiving my delivery by emailing support@alisonspantry.com with all the details. Before contacting Rep Support, I will try to locate missing product by contacting the 2 reps before and 2 reps after me on the delivery schedule.
- 19. I agree to maintain a clean and orderly environment for customers to pick up their food.

Payments

- 20. I understand that I am responsible for finding out who has declined payments and helping resolve them with the office or collecting from the customer. I agree to not deliver any orders until the order has been paid for.
- 21. I understand that any echeck payments that are returned for insufficient funds or invalid account will be assigned a \$5.00 fee.
- 22. I agree to have all my payments collected and deposited in my bank account for my Net 10 withdrawal, 10 days from pickup, if I qualify.
- 23. I understand that extending my payment date or being late will incur a \$10.00 fee per week. If my Net 10 ACH payment is returned for any reason, there will be a \$30.00 fee assigned.
- 24. If payments are not resolved by the next ordering period I will not be able to place orders.



Tools for a Successful Business



To go the distance, a sales rep must be steady and consistent to build a solid business. As a sales rep, you need to plan ahead and make time each month to take care of your customers and their orders.

Tools for a Successful Business

A Sales Rep's Monthly Schedule

(Read more at https:// pantryacademy.com/2018/03/21/a-plan-is-what-aschedule-is-when-here-is-both/)

> <u>2 weeks before **ORDER DEADLINE**</u> – get **CATALOGS** out to active customers and potential customers by mail or hand deliver.

> <u>1 week before order deadline</u> – do **reminders** every day (email, text, Facebook post, phone calls.) See Monthly Marketing Helps in PantryAcademy.com for sample email and texting scripts and product focus for phone call scripts. **Enter customer orders** as you receive them.



<u>Day of order deadline (Monday)</u> – last-minute reminders to get orders in. Watch your **commission level**. *Delivered Sales Reps - You will receive the **Delivery Schedule** by email on Tuesday (the day after your order closes). These will tell you when and where you will receive delivery the following week. *Local Sales Reps – you will schedule a time with the office to pick up your orders from the warehouse on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday after your order closes.

<u>Monday of delivery week (or after payments are processed)</u> – print **Commissions report**, print **invoices**, check for **declined order payments**. *You will receive an email and text message if you have orders with declined payments.

Delivery day - meet delivery truck, inventory order, prepare customer orders.

<u>Within 2 days of delivery day</u> – arrange **order pickup or delivery times** for customers to get their orders, have product samples ready if doing **samples**.

<u>9 days after delivery</u> – have **NET 10** customer payments deposited in bank account for the office to withdraw from your bank account the next day (Day 10).

<u>**During the month at any time</u> – **communicate** with customers - email customers the Close Out List; share posts on Facebook; email/post/text customers about Hot Deals, Limited Quantity Items or Price Changes.

Need help? We are here to help you every step of the way in your AP business.

<u>IMPORTANT</u> – If you are a replacement sales rep, the following applies to you:

- 1. Call every customer on your list and introduce yourself. Verify all their contact information; find out how they prefer to be contacted each month (phone call, email, text) and when (time of day); ask if they have been receiving a catalog and if not, would they like one.
- 2. You have 3 months to make contact. Any customers that have not been contacted by that time will be given to another sales rep to contact if there is another sales rep nearby.

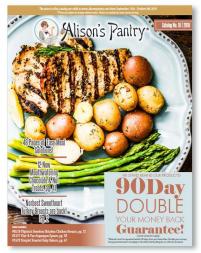
Drder Deadline

Alison's Pantry has 4 ordering groups. Each week of the year (except for July 4th week, Thanksgiving week, and Christmas week) there will be a group closing their order on Monday and a group receiving their order delivery (the group whose order closed the week before). The office will have told you which ordering group you are in and you will want to print off the Ordering and Delivery Schedule for your group. The Ordering and Delivery Schedules can be found on our <u>https://pantryacademy.com</u> blog in the Sales Tools----Printables section, or search the blog for "delivery schedule". There is also a link to these schedules on the Dashboard of your Rep Portal on the right side of the page.

Catalogs

Alison's Pantry will send you one free catalog for every person you list on your Who Do You Know list to a maximum of 50 names for the first 3 months you are a sales rep. If you want more catalogs than that, you can purchase them in packets of 10 for \$2.50 by contacting Rep Support at <u>support@alisonspantry.com</u> for your first month, or you can order them each month that you need more catalogs by using Item Code #1337 and you will receive these with your order delivery.

Once you reach your 4th month as a new sales rep, you will receive one free catalog for each customer who has ordered at least once in the last 6 months PLUS 10 extra catalogs for free to continue growing your customer base. If any of your customers do not order for more than 6 months in a row, you will no longer receive a free catalog for them. You will have to give



them one of your 10 free catalogs, order extra catalog packets or refer them to our online catalog until they place another order and then you will receive a catalog for them again.

<u>Catalog Mailing Options</u>: Alison's Pantry offers an inexpensive mailing service for sales reps who wish to have their catalogs mailed directly to their customers. Catalogs are mailed from the printer approximately 3 weeks before each group's order deadline so customers are receiving them 1-2 weeks before their order deadline. Catalogs are mailed at bulk mailing rate which is currently \$.50 per catalog (8/21/18).

A Word of Caution: Once the catalogs are mailed, Alison's Pantry has no control over when your customers actually receive their catalog so you are using this service at your own risk. We are not able to refund the cost of the catalog mailings if catalogs get held up in the postal system for any reason and do not get delivered to your customers before the order deadline. If this unfortunate circumstance happens on a regular basis, you should stop using the mailing service and hand de-liver or mail the catalogs yourself at 1st Class rates to insure your customers get their catalogs in a timely manner.

<u>Catalog Mailing Cut-Off Date</u>: Sales Reps who choose to have their catalogs mailed by Alison's Pantry must have their customer information added to the Portals ordering program before the cutoff date for each month's catalog mailing. You can find the Catalog Mailing Dates and the Address Update Deadlines in your Rep Portal on the Mailed Catalogs page. They are at the top of that page in red. Both are a .pdf document and can be downloaded and printed off. The Mailed Catalogs page is also where you will put a check mark next to each customer that you would like a catalog mailed to by the office. **If you do not want catalogs mailed to your customers by the office and want to receive them on the delivery truck to hand out, then make sure there are no check marks next to any of your customer's names. Make sure to click the orange SAVE button at the bottom of the page each time you make a change.

Tools for a Successful Business

IMPORTANT: If you put someone in your Rep Portal and they have NOT placed an order yet AND you want a catalog mailed to them, that will count against the number of free catalogs you will receive for your ordering customers. If you have more catalogs mailed than you have ordering customers, you will not get any extra catalogs with your order delivery, only the 10 extra FREE catalogs every sales rep receives.

Become Familiar with the Catalog

- 1. How it is organized
 - a. New products
 - b. Frozen Products (pork, beef, poultry, soups, seafood, vegetables, fruits, pastries, pastas, breads, breakfast items, Mexican, Italian, convenience items, Asian, appetizers, sides, desserts.
 - c. Lunch items (refrigerated and frozen)
 - d. Spices (including spice containers, soup bases, and gravy mixes)
 - e. Mixes muffin, cake, cookie, pancake, brownie
 - f. Baking chocolate chips, sprays, etc.
 - g. Kitchen Tools
 - h. Snacks
 - i. Beverages
 - j. Club Store Direct (Kirkland brand items)
 - k. Pantry Basics bulk baking ingredients, dry bulk pasta, containers, etc.
 - I. Link to Hot Deals (backpage), Highlighted items
- 2. How products rotate in the catalog -

Our large, full-color 48-page catalog is produced monthly. All our new products are generally found at the beginning of the catalog and are in the catalog for a minimum of 2 months. They are then evaluated by how well they sold and if they sold well, they are moved into the main body of the catalog. If they had low sales, they are removed from the catalog and any remaining inventory is listed on the Closeout List (available on https://pantryacademy.com) and available to purchase until they are sold out.

- 3. Pricing
 - a. The pricing in our catalogs runs on a 2-month basis (1 and 2, 3 and 4, and so forth). Pricing does not change to the next catalog until the Tuesday after the last Group (Group 4) closes their order (*See the dates each catalog covers at the top of each catalog.) This is only significant when switching to the next pair of catalogs with new items, new sales, and updated prices (example when switching from Catalog 2 to Catalog 3). When we switch to a new pair of catalogs with new items and prices, there will be products that will no longer be in the catalog for a variety of reasons and will be on PantryAcademy.com under PRODUCTS LEAVING THE CATALOG. It will be noted on this list if the item is gone due to low sales, if the item was discontinued, or if it was a seasonal item that will be back at a future date.
 - b. If a customer misses an order deadline but places an order before the next catalog's prices are updated on the website, they will pay the price on the day the order was placed, not when they receive delivery. **If a customer wants the sales price in the new catalog, they have to wait to place their order until after Group 4 has closed their order and the new catalog's prices have been updated on the website (usually Tuesday morning).
 - c. The website has the correct prices if there is a discrepancy between the catalog and the website. Pricing can be different due to human error, changes in pricing from suppliers, etc. Please be aware that it is stated in the catalog on page 3 that "Prices and products are subject to change without notice." **If there is a significant price change, Alison's Pantry makes every effort to make sure sales reps and customers are notified.
- 4. Product information
 - a. Hot Deals Hot deals are items that AP gets at a great price. They are limited in quantity and

are usually offered on the website under the "Hot Deal" link. You or your customers will purchase these just like any other item on the website.

- b. Pantry Bargains These are great deals listed in the catalogs; they are not a limited-quantity item. They are ordered just like any other item.
- 5. Searching for Items in the Online Catalog
 - a. Go to the AP website (<u>www.alisonspantry.com</u>), click on the CATALOGS link, then click on the catalog you would like to search.
 - b. Then push the CTRL key and the F key at the same time (for FIND). A box will pop up somewhere on the screen.
 - c. In the box, type the product description OR the product number and click on the magnifying glass to search. It will then jump to the page that item is on and highlight the product name or item number you typed in. The box will tell you how many times that description or item appears in the catalog and you can click on the arrow key at the top right by the search box to move through the catalog to see each instance of the description or item # you are searching for.

Reminders

Our best sales reps know how important it is to follow up with their customers to get their orders each month. The best ways to follow up with your customers are: Phone call, text message, email, talk to them in person, and Facebook.

The key to this business is reminding customers that it's time to order. We have many sales reps who used to feel like they were bothering their customers by reminding them that it was time to order; however, the truth is that their customers are grateful for the reminders. Never feel like you're bothering your customers by reminding them it's time to place their order; you are providing excellent customer service!

To make doing reminder calls even easier, Alison's Pantry has a phone script to help you know just what to say when calling customers to get their orders. We have a phone script for brand new customers placing their first order, current customers who have ordered more than once, and contacting customers who haven't ordered for a while. These phone scripts can be found on <u>https://pantryacademy.com</u> under the New Rep Page and the monthly product focus to insert in your phone script will be found with the Monthly Marketing Helps.

We also provide marketing helps each month with professional images, sample text reminders and sample email reminders for you to market and remind customers about our great products and when it is time to place their orders. These are found on our <u>https://pantryacademy.com</u> blog under Sales Tools – Monthly Marketing and there is a Monthly Marketing link on the right side of the Dashboard in your Rep Portal. Monthly Marketing Helps are posted bimonthly because our catalogs have the same products and sales for 2 months in a row.



"Telling people over and over doesn't end. You'll have to do it every month. After 6 years I still have to send multiple reminders and it pays off!"

Haley Notter is consistently one of our top 3 sales reps in the whole company. Her sales average over \$8,000 each month.

Enter Customer Drders

If you have customers who do not want to enter their own orders online or can't because they do not own a computer, you can and should enter their orders for them. We encourage you to enter your customers' orders the day you receive them and not wait until the last minute. There have been reps who waited and then lost power, lost access to their internet, or had an emergency that prevented them from getting their orders entered before the deadline. How stressful would that be? Don't let it happen to you!

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: When entering orders for your customers, ALWAYS log in to your Rep Portal and then click on the customer who has an order to enter! DO NOT log in as the customer to enter their order. By entering orders through your Rep Portal, it not only goes a lot faster because you do not have to log out and then log back in to the next customer's file to enter each order, but you can also watch your commission levels and see all the orders that have been placed by your customers. You can also run any reports you need and update customer information. **If you enter orders by logging in as the customer, you can only see their account and their orders and you have to log out after each order has been processed and then log back in to the next customer's order file to enter their order. You also have to remember each customer's email and password to log in as them. SAVE TIME – always use your Rep Portal.

To review using your Rep Portal, go to the training video at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?</u> <u>list=PL1AIZwsSML1UX86YggknsUK-vWv8J6iX5&time_continue=3&v=_VydAHNY9IU</u>

Commission Level

Commission levels range from 10% - 20% based on product sales each month (before shipping and sales tax are added). There are two commission schedules – one for local reps who pick up their orders from the warehouse and one for reps who get their orders delivered on a semi-truck.

Delivered to Reps: \$750 - \$999 10% \$1,000 - \$1,999 14% \$2,000 - \$2,999 15% \$3,000 - \$3,999 16% \$4,000 - \$4,999 17% \$5,000 - \$9,999 18% \$10,000 and up 20% Local Reps: (includes an additional 10% per level to compensate for picking up their orders from the warehouse) \$500 - \$999 20% \$1,000 - \$1,999 26% \$2,000 - \$2,999 27% \$3,000 and up 28%

Your commission is available in your rep account on your Rep Portal after order payments have been processed and your total shows under AVAILABLE COMMISSION. You can leave the money there to build for future use, you can apply some or all to your personal order, or give credits to customers for various reasons (contests or incentives). You can also withdraw the money and it will be deposited into your bank account associated with your Alison's Pantry business. This transfer can take 2-3 days before it shows in your bank account depending on when you request the withdrawal.

<u>Order Minimums</u> – There is a monthly minimum order of \$500 for Local sales reps and \$750 for all other sales reps in order to earn commission. If your order falls below this minimum but is above \$250, we will still process your order but you WILL NOT earn any commission AND reps who receive delivery may need to meet the truck at another sales rep's location to get their order. Sales reps who have orders below minimum 3

months in a row or 4 out of 6 months will lose their ordering privileges. (Appendix B "Alison's Pantry Representative Agreement", Being an AP Rep, Line 10.)

Sales reps that are off route and don't meet delivery minimum may pay a delivery fee to receive delivery at their normal drop location. Please contact Rep Support to arrange this. Otherwise, delivery will be at another sales rep's delivery location as specified on the Delivery Schedule.

Payments

When orders are entered online, payment information is required to process the order. Customers can pay for their order with a credit card, a debit card or a bank account (ACH). They will choose which payment method they would like to use and then they will enter that account information to process their order. Order payments are then processed as follows:

- 1. Local customer payments are processed on Tuesday after their group's order closes because local sales reps pick up their orders from the warehouse on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday of that same week.
- 2. All other customer payments are processed on the Friday after their group's order closes and then delivery of their order to their sales rep happens the following week.
- 3. The EXCEPTION to this process is NET 10 order payments. (See **NET 10** for information on this payment option.)

If all goes well, all payments are processed successfully and the sales rep does not have to worry about collecting money from their customers for their orders. However, there are times when this is not the case and due to a variety of reasons, the customer's payment was DECLINED. (See **Declined Orders** for information on how to handle these.)

<u>Change Payment Type</u> - You and your customers now have the power to change their credit card number when they get a new one or have a payment declined!

Step 1: Login to your portal. Select your customer and click "create order".

Step 2: Click on "My Account: Hi XXX" then select the Order History tab.

Step 3: Find the most recent order or the declined order and select "Change Payment Method". Be aware, once new payment info is submitted, you will receive another order confirmation. You must also let the office know that new payment info has been entered on a declined order so we can reprocess it. It does not automatically process the payment.

Customer info	Order History	Pickup Location	Credit
Summary			
Number of register	ed orders 63		Your Order Cutoff Day: 07/23/2018
			Your Order Delivery Days: 07/25/2018 - 07/27/2018
Your Orders			
Order # 110831			
Date: 07/10/201	8 Pending Payment		Change Payment Method 🖉 🔇
Order Time/Date	07/10/2018 08:37		Shipping Method AP Shipping

Commissions Report

The Commissions report for each month/catalog will show all your customers who ordered, which customer orders were processed as NET 10 payments so you know who you will need to collect payment from (if any) and how much you will need in your bank account to cover the NET 10 order payments, and how much commission you made on that order.

To print the Commissions report:

- 1. Log in to your Rep Portal and click on the Reports page (found in the blue column on the left side of the screen). The Commissions report is the first report listed under Sales Reports on the left side of the page.
- 2. Click on the Commissions box, click on Select Cut Off Date, and a drop-down box will appear where you will choose which catalog and year you want the Commissions report for; example 2018 Catalog #8 Group 2. (You will only see the reports for your group.) Once you choose the catalog you want this report for, click the Filter button to the right. This filters all the data and pulls the information for that catalog. **DO NOT forget to click the Filter button or the information you get won't be right.
- 3. Then click the Download button on the right of the screen and choose to download the CSV Report or the PDF Report. It is your preference which type of report to use. The CSV format will open up in an EXCEL file and allows you to reorganize the information you download. The PDF format cannot be changed but it is in a nice-looking, easy-to-read report.

Invoices

When you are ready to prepare your customers' orders for order pickup or delivery, you will need to print off the invoices for that order. These invoices are used to make sure you pull each item the customer has ordered correctly and is their receipt for that order.

To print the invoices for the order you have just received, log in to your Rep Portal, click on the Reports page (found in the blue column on the left side of the screen). Under Sales Reports on the left side of the page, click on Download All Invoices Since Last Cutoff Date. Instructions to print your invoices are noted on the screen as follows:

To print out your invoices, please follow these instructions:

- 1. Choose the catalog you'd like to view by clicking on the dropdown menu that says Select Cut Off Date.
- Once you have chosen the catalog you want, click on Filter. It's REALLY important you click on Filter; if you don't, nothing will display.
- 3. Click Download Report on the far right of the screen.
- 4. Your invoices will open in a PDF. You can view or print them from that page.

NOTE: If the customer has more than one order for that catalog, they will have 2 or more separate invoices that will print.

Alison's Pantry 580 W State St. Pleasant Grove, UT 840: 801-796-641 www.alisonspantry.com		on's Pantry	r°	Date:	Orde: ce# 13554 09/21/201 s: Shippe
Bill To:		Ship To:			
ALISON'S PANTRY STORE FRC 580 W. STATE ST. PLEASANT GROVE UT 84062 U Phone: (801) 796-6411				IS	
SKU PRODUCT NAME / DESC	RIPTION		QTY	PRICE	AMOUNT
9139 Farmland KC Wild Wings Po	rk Shanks 9 lb. CASE		1	\$64.99	\$64.99
Subtotal:					\$64.99
Shipping:	AP	Shipping			\$6.50
Tax:					\$1.95
Discount:					\$22.75
Total:					\$50.69
Transaction	Payment Method	Status	Tine		Amount
835756161 - Visa 691	Heartland PayPlan	Completed	09/21/2018 16	:38	\$50.69
Current Balance:					\$0

Declined Orders

There could be a number of reasons why a customer's order payment was declined – lack of funds, expired card information, account flagged for possible fraud, etc.

Protocol for Declined Orders

All orders will go out on your truck, but please do not deliver declined orders without first collecting payments for them or making sure their payment has cleared with the office.

All payments must be taken care of within 10 calendar days of receiving your order. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call and talk to Lori at the office.

To check for declined orders simply go to your orders screen in portals and search for "declined" in the search field.

How do you know what form of payment was on the order? Go to your invoice report and look at the bottom of the invoice for that customer.

Resolving Declined Orders

Credit Card — please notify the customer that their order payment was declined.

Lack of Funds - If it was due to lack of funds, they will need to put the money in the account for the office to reprocess their payment or bring cash or a check to you when they pick up their order. You will then deposit the money in your bank account by Day 10 and let the office know they can withdraw the money.

Another Reason - If it was NOT due to lack of funds, they must call their bank to see if the bank flagged Alison's Pantry as fraud and clear it with them. Once the customer has talked with their bank, either you or your customer needs to let the office know so they can reprocess the payment.

Expired Card Information - If it was because they received a new card (or new expiration date), follow the Change Payment Type process under **Payments**, then notify Lori at the office (lori@alisonspantry.com) so she can reprocess the payment.

ECHECK – The payment type will say Heartland ACH. Please plan on collecting from these customers when they pick up their order, then notify us within 7 days of your truck delivery that it has been deposited and is ready for withdrawal. The customer also has the option to enter credit card information online for us to reprocess the payment, but the payment must first be cleared so please contact the office first.

NSF Echeck — If a customer's echeck is returned for insufficient funds there will be a \$5.00 fee added to their order and you will need to contact them to collect payment. The office will notify you if this occurs.

Delivery

<u>Delivery Directions</u> - When you applied to be a sales rep, you gave Alison's Pantry delivery directions for the truck to be able to deliver your orders each month. If you ever need to change your delivery location,

Tools for a Successful Business

you will need to submit new directions to the office by order deadline of the order you will need delivered to your new location. Please follow the instructions below when giving us your new delivery directions:

- We will need your name and physical address, such as 580 West State St., Pleasant Grove, Utah 84062
- We will also need a written description which should include street names, highway numbers, mile markers and mileage, etc.
- Please note that all unloading is done from the right side of the truck. Be sure to give directions so that your house is on the right side of the road as the truck approaches it.
- Be advised that due to the size and nature of semi-trailers, there are a few restrictions:
 - 1. Riverwood Management, Inc., does not recommend trucks be taken onto private property, but a release waiver may be signed to cover any liability.
 - 2. Trucks may not be driven on public dead end or cul-de-sac streets. Also because of safety concerns, a truck cannot be backed up. A person living on a dead end or cul-de-sac will need to make arrangements to meet the truck at some accessible location.
 - 3. Trucks need to stay on paved roads. Delivery can happen on a gravel road that is firmly packed but no more than 1 mile round trip, and absolutely no dirt roads. We do not want a stuck truck when it is wet and muddy. It is VERY expensive to call a tow truck to get a semi-truck unstuck.

An example of delivery directions would be:

Come south on I-15. Take Exit #379 and turn east. Go 3.5 miles and turn left on Sunset Blvd. Go through two stoplights and turn right on Evergreen. Go down to house #580. Our house is green with purple trim.



Please realize that the descriptions you give us are the only means the driver has to locate your delivery drop, so please be as accurate as possible.

<u>Delivery Schedule</u> – You will receive your delivery schedule on Tuesday after your Group's order closes. The delivery schedule will show the day, approximate time, and place you are scheduled to receive your order delivery the following week. We ask that sales reps be as flexible as possible and plan to be available one hour before your delivery time to one hour after to accommodate any possible changes to that schedule. We try to keep these schedules the same day and time each month. However, these schedules are not "set in stone" and could change. If we have added or removed a delivery drop on the schedule before yours, encounter adverse weather conditions, or have truck issues we may need to reschedule some sales reps' delivery days and times.

**Please have your cell phone on you on your delivery day in case something happens to change your delivery time so we can notify you of that change as soon as possible. We will try to contact you by text message or email to let you know of any changes (or by phone if you do not have a cell phone).

IMPORTANT: If something happens that makes it impossible for you to personally meet the truck at your assigned delivery time, please have someone you trust to be there to meet the truck and get your order

for you. The delivery driver will text you when he is leaving the delivery drop before you so you know he is on his way to your delivery location and you can be ready to meet him and get your order.

<u>Before-Delivery Checklist</u> – Before the delivery truck arrives, complete the following steps to help insure a smoother delivery, inventory, and customer order pickup/delivery process:

- Make sure your freezers are on and at the correct temperature (0 degrees).
- Print off your customer invoices for that month. (See Invoices for instructions on how to do this.)
- Print off your Commission report for that month. (See **Commission Report** for instructions on how to do this and why you will want this report.)
- If you create a customer newsletter each month or want to share a product flyer or a handout or an invitation for an event you are involved in, have it done and printed to hand out to your customers when they receive their order.
- Make sure your home, garage or wherever customers will pick up their orders is clean and presentable. If you will be delivering your customer orders, a clean vehicle inside and out makes a great impression on you and Alison's Pantry.

When the delivery truck arrives, you have approximately 15 minutes to get your entire order off the truck so the driver can head to the next delivery drop. If you have a larger order, please consider having help to keep the truck running on time. Plan to have a tarp laid out on the ground to put product on or a vehicle that can hold your entire order ready to go so you aren't walking product into your home while unloading your order. As soon as you have all your order off the truck, the driver will head to the next delivery drop and you will prepare to inventory your order.

After-Delivery Checklist

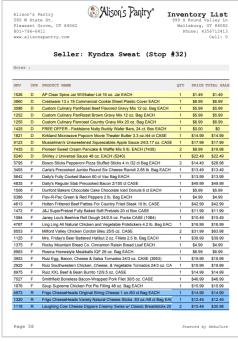
- Put frozen items in freezers right away.
- Inventory order. (see below)
- Consolidate orders using the customer invoice. (See **Prepare Customer Orders**)
- Let customers know they can come pick up orders or schedule delivery. (See Pickup or Delivery Times)

Inventory Your Drder

When you receive your order, the driver will hand you an inventory sheet of what you are receiving for that delivery and you will use that inventory sheet to verify you have received all the items you ordered for you and your customers. The inventory sheet is divided into sections: D - Dry, F - Frozen, R - Refrigerated (in gray scale highlight) and items are listed in alphabetical order within each section.

IMPORTANT - Please make sure to do a COMPLETE inventory of your entire order before any product is given to your customers. Inventory your frozen items FIRST and get them into your freezers IMMEDIATELY so you do not run the risk of items beginning to thaw and then refreezing. This lowers the quality of the products! Items that thaw quickly should go into your freezers first, such as frozen lemonades and ices, frozen fruits, frozen vegetables, and other small bags or boxes of product. <u>https://</u>

pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/proper-care-of -frozen-items.pdf



NOTE: Read the labels on each box to determine what that product

is. Frozen boxes with RED tape contain several different products in them and need to be careful opened so you do not cut open or damage the products inside. Refrigerated boxes will have BLUE tape on them.

Organize your frozen food so you can find it again when you are ready to give the customers their product. There are many different ways to organize your frozen items based on how many freezers you have, how big your orders are, and who will be helping you with this process. Suggested ideas for organizing the products in your freezers are:

- 1. Put specific products in a specific freezer example: one freezer for all meat products; one for breads, pastas, and potato products; one for fruits, vegetables, soups, and desserts; etc. (This works better for sales reps with multiple freezers.)
- 2. Put all the frozen items for each customer together in your freezer. Note on your customer's invoice which freezer their items are in if you have multiple freezers.
- Assign each freezer a number and as you put your frozen items away, note on your inventory sheet which freezer you put them in. You could also tape a sheet to each freezer and write on it what you put in it.

Our warehouse strives for 100% accuracy with each sales rep's order but, once in a while, there may be an error or a customer returns an item. Please follow the steps below to handle these issues:

• <u>Extra items</u> – these are items that you did not order and they are not listed on the inventory sheet, but you received them with your delivery. Please do the following:

> Contact the 2 sales reps before you on the delivery schedule and the 2 sales reps after you to see if they are missing the extra item(s) you have. *A phone call would be best so you aren't waiting for them to read their text or email.



- If you find the rep who is missing the extra item you have AND they are close enough to meet you to get it, please do so and then email Rep Support at the office to let them know what the extra item(s) was, who it belonged to, and that they now have it. They need this information for a monthly performance report they put together for the warehouse.
- 2. If you DO NOT find the rep who is missing the extra item you have, please let Rep Support at the office know. Give them the item number and description. They will give you the option to try to sell it to someone or buy it yourself.

• <u>Missing Items</u> – these are items that you ordered and they are listed on the inventory sheet, but you did not receive them with your delivery. If you have one or more missing items, please do the following:

Contact the 2 sales reps before you on the delivery schedule and the 2 sales reps after you to see if they have your missing item(s). *A phone call would be best so you aren't waiting for them to read their text or email.

- 1. If you find the rep who has your missing item AND they are close enough to go get your item(s), please do so and then let Rep Support know what happened.
- 2. If you DO NOT find who has your missing item OR the sales rep who has your missing item is too far away to go get it, please email Rep Support with the item number and description of what you are missing and who has it, if found. They will credit the account of the customer(s) who is missing the item and you or your customer will need to make sure to reorder it on their next order. **Missing items are not reordered by the system automatically.

• Damaged Items - these are items that are damaged when you receive your order (broken prod-

uct, broken container, holes in bags with or without product having spilled out, crushed boxes, etc.). Please email Rep Support to let them know the item number of the damaged product and how extensive the damage is. Depending on the type of damage and extent of the damage, the office will usually process a credit to the customer's account or approve you to offer them a % off the cost of the product. **All non-food items need to be packed up and sent back to the office on the next delivery truck.

IMPORTANT: Product that is damaged in any way AFTER you receive your order is your responsibility to replace. This includes waiting too long or forgetting to put something in the freezer or refrigerator, cutting open product when opening boxes, dropping items while handling them, etc.

• <u>Returns</u> – these are items that customers have purchased and used and are not satisfied with for a variety of reasons (taste, smell, appearance, performance, etc.). We back everything we sell with a Double Your Money Back Guarantee for the first 90 days after purchase and 100% for the next 90 days. Please be aware that the new double your money back guarantee only applies to products ordered beginning with Catalog #10, 2018.

Refunds must be requested within 90 days from purchase date to qualify for double your money back. Double your money back guarantee does not apply to Hot Deal, Pantry Bargain, or other #2 products. Any refunds submitted after 90 days will be eligible for our regular 100% guarantee if submitted within 6 months of purchase. All refunds will include the cost of the product plus any sales tax paid. Shipping fees are not refunded.

IMPORTANT: When reporting Extra Items, Missing Items, Damaged Items, Returns and other Order Issues, PLEASE remember to EMAIL support@alisonspantry.com with all information regarding any extra, missing, damaged or returned product! They need the hard copy to keep track of everything. **Be sure to include:** Customer Name, Order #, Item #, Reason and WHO needs to be credited for the item. The reason needs to be informative not just "dissatisfied." We need to know exactly what was wrong or why they do not like it. If it is because the product looks bad, please include a picture of the product as well as any dates or codes from the packaging.

Prepare Customer Drders

Once you have done a complete inventory of your order, you need to prepare your customers' orders to give to them. There are several possible ways to do this and we would encourage you to try different ideas until you find what works best for you and your business setup. Here are a couple of ideas:

- 1. Dry items can be left out on tables or shelves for customers to see when they come to pick up their order and then the sales rep can gather each customer's items at that time and load them into boxes or bags for the customer to take home (like a grocery store). The advantage to this setup is that the first part of your customers get the chance to see all the products you received that month and it may spark their interest enough that they will try different items. It also gives them a chance to see what the products actually look like.
- 2. Dry items are gathered and boxed up ahead of time for each customer with their name written on the box and put on a shelf in alphabetical order. This helps you to find the customer's order quickly and shortens the time they are waiting to get their order because the dry is already to go and you only have to pull their frozen items from the freezer and get any refrigerated items they may have.

If you have any contest prizes or samples to give customers, make sure those are ready to hand out. The customer's invoice and a newsletter, if you do one, could be put in the customer's box with their dry items or in a stack ready to give the customer with their order when they arrive or when you deliver their order to them.

Tools for a Successful Business

Customer Pickup or Delivery Times

It is completely up to you how you get your customers' orders to them each month. You can schedule pickup days and times for you customers to come to your home to get their orders or you can schedule to deliver their orders to them. Delivering orders to your customers is a great customer service to them but not a requirement.

If you plan to have customers come to your home, we would encourage you to give them specific days and times you will be available for them to stop by and it's even better if you ask them to let you know when they expect to arrive at your home so you are ready for them. *It is okay if you want to give your customers an entire day to show up when it is convenient for them but the downside to that is that it ties you down for the whole day and you aren't sure when people will show up. Giving them more specific times tends to get them there sooner and they have a better chance of remembering to pick up their order.

Samples

Sampling products at pickup is a great way to grow your sales. By offering your customers a sample, you are giving them a chance to taste something they may not have purchased before and, if they like the item sampled, they are more likely to purchase it in the future. DON'T forget to remind them before the next order deadline about the item you sampled and encourage them to purchase it for their family!

Items that you buy to sample are a business expense and can be written off on your taxes. We encourage you to have a separate customer account for your business to order items you use for your business (samples, contest prizes, extra catalog packets purchased, catalog mailing charges, etc.) or at least do a separate invoice so you keep those charges separate from your personal order.

We would encourage you to sample items that we sell on a regular basis so customers can order it 1, 2, 5, or 10 months down the road. Seasonal items are good to sample if you are looking for urgency in purchasing them because they aren't available for very long.

- 1. Prepackaged items are the easiest to sample because they do not need to be prepared ahead of time, such as fruit snacks, Fieldstone snacks, cheese sticks, etc.
- 2. Dry items such as our candies, trail mixes, or spices are easily divided into sample cups or bags for customers to try. **We usually have sample cups and bags available for sales reps to purchase. Search the website for REP ONLY items for availability.
- 3. If you purchase what you want to sample a month ahead of time, you have time to prepare it before your order delivery or you can prepare it after you receive your order and before customers arrive to get their orders. It's fun to sample our wonderful bakery mixes (blueberry and raspberry muffins, fudge brownies, pumpkin chocolate chip cookies) or heat up any of our delicious soups and bake up one of our wonderful rolls.

Suggested items for sampling are listed in our Monthly Marketing Helps on <u>https://pantryacademy.com</u>.

Net ID

Net 10 is a payment option offered by Alison's Pantry to qualified sales reps. This payment option is used at the discretion of the sales rep and allows the customers to place an order without paying for it until it is delivered to the sales rep. *This payment option was made available for those customers who really do not want their payment information online because they don't trust "the system" or did not want to pay for their order until they actually received it (which is how Alison's Pantry used to do payments).

It can also be used for customers whose paydays do not line up with order payment dates. It would be best if your customers are willing and able to pay for their own orders so you don't have to worry about collecting their payments at the time of order pickup. However, it is up to you and your customer to determine which payment option works best for both of you.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: Net 10 order payments can only be processed by you, the sales rep. Customers do not have a Net 10 payment option when they place their own orders online. (They could leave their order in the CART and you could go into the order through your Rep Portal and finish processing their order as a Net 10 if you choose.)

You do not have to give this payment option to any of your customers unless you are confident that they will pay you for that order when it is delivered.

Sales rep MUST collect the money due for any NET 10 order from the customer BEFORE the customer can take their order home. Payment can be collected from the customer at ANY TIME up until Day 9 after receiving your delivery at which point you will want to have the money deposited into your bank account so it is available for Alison's Pantry to withdraw it from that account on Day 10.

We would encourage you to collect payment by cash or personal check although some sales reps accept credit card payments using a credit card processing app such as Square or online with Paypal or Venmo but the rep would be responsible to pay for any associated fees from doing so.

Net 10 is a privilege. Alison's Pantry is extending credit to you for orders processed as Net 10 and payment for those orders is due 10 calendar days after receiving your delivery. It is your responsibility to get the money collected from your customers and into your bank account within those 10 days, but ultimately, you are responsible to make that payment and need to have the required amount available on Day 10. Any NSFs or extensions of time beyond the 10 days will result in fees being added to your account and the possibility of losing your NET 10 payment privilege.

Communicate

It is important to make contact and communicate with EVERY customer at least once during the month

outside of order deadline reminders. This communication can happen several different ways:

- Send an email with the Closeout List attached so customers can have the opportunity to order items that are leaving the catalog or no longer available. Most items on the Closeout List are discounted and customers love to save money!
- 2. Send an email or a text if a Hot Deal becomes available so they can add it to their order before they are gone. Many Hot Deals are limited quantities and sell out very fast.



Tools for a Successful Business

- 3. Send a thank you note letting your customers know how much you appreciate their business.
- 4. Send a thank you note to a brand-new customer or give them a courtesy call to see if they are happy with the items they purchased.
- 5. Share recipes, meal plans, and information on products we sell to keep them informed and interested in what Alison's Pantry has to offer them. This also keeps you and Alison's Pantry constantly on their mind.
- 6. Send them a birthday card, get well card, anniversary card, congratulations card, etc. anything to show that you are thinking of them. **Commenting on their Facebook posts concerning any of these things is also a great way to build a strong relationship with your customers.



Growing Your Business



"loyalty is when people are willing to turn down a better product or price to continue doing business with **you**."

Simon Sinek

Growing Your Business

What Successful Sales Reps Do

- <u>Treat Alison's Pantry like a business</u>. You need to have set times to work your business. If you wait until you aren't busy or it's convenient, the important things will never get completed. Choose a date each month to prepare your newsletter, deliver catalogs, send out marketing emails and text messages, and make reminder phone calls. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/12/20/do-you-have-abusiness-or-a-hobby/</u>
- 2. <u>Do a newsletter each month</u>. It should contain your contact information, when the order is due, product highlights or recipes, special offers and any contests you are having as well as winners from previous contests. Hand this out with each catalog or email it to your customers if you have your catalogs mailed by the office.
- <u>Have contests and incentives</u>. Customers love to get something for free! Use contests and incentives to build your sales and generate new customers.



- 4. <u>Focus on who you know</u>. Fill out the "Who Do You Know" sheet to get some ideas on who to give catalogs to. Give catalogs to people you can get back with. Randomly dropping catalogs off at places and to people you don't know rarely works. You need to have the information to call back the person who received the catalog to see if they would like to order.
- 5. <u>Get all your catalogs out in a timely manner</u>. People need time to browse through the catalog to decide what they want to order. If you are delivering catalogs the week the order goes in, that is too late.
- 6. <u>Use email</u>. You need to have all your customers' email addresses and they need to be signed up to get company emails which can be done on the website at www.alisonspantry.com. This will not only save you time but it will also build your sales. Use email to send order deadline reminders and other important information to your customers.
- 7. <u>Do reminder phone calls</u>. People love to order AP but they don't always remember to call you to place an order. Customers appreciate a reminder phone call so they can order what they need each month.
- 8. <u>Know and use AP products</u>. Successful sales reps are one of their best customers! You can't sell what you don't know about, understand, and love.
- 9. <u>Upsell</u>. If you can offer a customer a product that will enhance what they are already buying, you will build trust and increase your sales.
- 10. <u>Customer referrals</u> (instead of Word of Mouth). Successful reps get referrals by asking for them and by offering incentives for people who bring them new customers. Happy customers are willing to help which is the very best way to build your business.
- 11. <u>Get organized, stay organized</u>. All your paperwork needs to be filed in a way that works for you. You need to have a specific schedule of what gets done when. A great idea is to have a folder for each month that holds a hard copy of your orders, company emails and updates, your Commissions report, your inventory sheet from the delivery driver, a catalog for that month and anything else that pertains to that month such as business expense receipts for paper, ink, catalog mailings, samples, contest prizes, etc.

12. <u>Keep updated records in Portals</u>. Current addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for all you customers should be complete in the Portals program. It is a lot easier to get hold of your customers and, if your computer ever crashes, you will still have the information because everything is saved online.

Finding New Customers -

Advertising

From business cards, to vinyl lettering on your car window, there are numerous ways to advertise your business. Other great resources are Fair booths, Facebook pages, magnets, referrals, samples and more. Check out these great links for more ideas and details.

- a. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2016/02/15/advertising-ideas-for-your-ap-business/</u>
- b. https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/advertising-and-finding-customers.pdf

Fair Booths

Fair booths are one of the best ways to advertise our products to new people. You can display products, hand out catalogs, sample products, sell products, have a drawing and/or collect potential customers' contact information!

https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/fair-booths.pdf

Use these Drawing slips for your next event - <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/05/</u> <u>ap-drawing-slips-doc.pdf</u>

Open Houses

This is a great way to invite your customers and acquaintances to try some of the great products we offer. This will encourage current customers to buy more of what they need from you (Alison's Pantry) and potentially bring in more new customers because they loved the food they tried. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/08/31/growing-your-alisons-pantry-business-the-ins-and-outs-of-having</u> <u>-an-open-house/</u>

Tasting Parties

Invite a favorite customer to host a Tasting Party in her home, order an AP Tasting Party Kit, and you'll have all the tools to confidently share Alison's Pantry products with her and her friends. We've even created a training video to help you plan your best gathering ever. Plus, your Hostess will be rewarded with AP

credit! <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2016/09/22/introducing-ap-tasting-party-kits/</u>

Invitation to customers to hold a tasting party - <u>https://</u> <u>pantryacademy.com/2016/11/18/invite-your-customers-to-host-a-</u> <u>tasting-party-today/</u>

Customer Referrals

Hands down the very best way to gain new customers is to ask your current customers for referrals. People trust their friends. In fact, did you know that 92% of consumers believe recommendations from their friends and family over all forms of advertising?

https://pantryacademy.com/2017/03/01/the-art-of-asking-how-to-gain-new-customers-through-referrals/

Referral Incentives –

- a. 5% off your order if your friend orders.
- b. Free shipping if your friend orders.



Growing Your Business

c. Gift of an AP item or one of the Rep Only incentive items if your friend orders. ** You could also give the same gift to the new customer.

Kits Available to do a Fair Booth, Open House or Tasting Party —

Alison's Pantry has 2 kits available to help you grow your AP business. You must contact and visit with your RSM about the event you would like to participate in so she can determine which kit you will need and get one ordered for you. She will also do training with you so you can have a successful event.

<u>Marketing Kit</u> – this kit is used for fair booths and open houses. Each kit is \$50 and must be ordered and paid for with a regular monthly order so it can be sent to you on the delivery truck. You have the option of borrow-

ing an AP Banner (3' x 5') and/or a company apron which you will return to the office on the next delivery truck after your event or mailed to the next sales rep in line to use, if needed (you will be credited for the postage if you are asked to do this). A sales rep can be reimbursed 100% of the cost of the first kit and 50% of each additional kit in a calendar year IF they do the following: take a picture of themselves and their booth and post them on our Facebook rep groups with a small paragraph telling us how the event went AND filling out and submitting the Marketing Kit Follow Up Form to the office. *Please make sure to answer every question on the form.

The Marketing Kit includes the follow-



ing items: a cookie sheet, parchment paper, 2 mixes (Brownie Mix, Raspberry Muffin Mix), 2 spices (Garlic Supreme, Popeye's Spinach Dip Mix), and 25 promotional items (AP bag clips).

<u>Tasting Party Kit</u> – this kit is used to hold a tasting party at another person's home who is the HOSTESS of the party and will receive 10% on all sales collected from her party. Each kit is \$50.00 and is non-reimbursable because you will be receiving your regular commission from all sales made through the party. Once the party is over, all remaining mix and the rest of the kit is for the HOSTESS to keep.



The kit will include: Classic Crème Cake & Muffin Mix, Richly Delicious Fudge Brownie Mix, Cookie Sheet, Parchment Paper, Cinnamon Vanilla French Toast Sugar and Party Printables that will be customized for your event and emailed to you to print off.

Maintaining Your Customer Base

Be Consistent

Consistency – Make it a Habit

- Set a goal for each month such as: deliver extra catalogs to new people, get 2 new customers, or beat last month's sales.
- Make a plan to achieve your goal. Schedule tasks on your calendar.
- Use Facebook to build your business by sharing our pre-designed images, what your family ate for dinner, or recipes from the webinar.
- Order you samples ahead and share them with customers on delivery day (check out our marketing helps for great suggestions on what to sample).
- Contests and gifts for the winners are a great way to encourage your customers to order more often, share the catalog, or spend more money.
- Schedule a time to deliver your catalogs soon enough that customers will have time to look through them.
- Remind your customers the order is going in by email, text, phone call and Facebook. Check back with them until they order or let you know they don't need anything. You don't want them to miss out; people are busy! https://pantryacademy.com/2017/02/15/consistency-make-it-a-habit/

5 Things To Do Consistently To be Successful With Alison's Pantry

- Read your email.
- Contact your customers and follow up every month.
- Reach out to new customers.
- Ask for referrals.
- Attend webinars.

https://pantryacademy.com/2016/11/23/5-things-to-doconsistently-to-be-successful-with-alisons-pantry/

Provide Great Customer Service

Contact, It's the Name of the Game

- Advertise, promote and follow up with your customers.
- Do reminders by Facebook, email, texting and phone calls.
- The rule of 7- Prospects need to see your brand or hear your message at least 7 times before they buy from you.
- Offer contests.
- Post on Facebook regularly and once a day during order week.
- Text customers using a mass text app.
- If you don't hear back from your customers call them.
- Remember that you are offering good customer service by reminding busy customers, you aren't bothering them.

https://pantryacademy.com/2017/06/22/contact-its-the-name-of-the-game/

One of the Best Kinds of Advertising – Great Customer Service!

- Put a smile on your face.
- Have a positive attitude.
- Be consistent- especially with reminders each month. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/02/01/one-of-the-best-kinds-of-advertising/</u>



Growing Your Business

Are you giving 110%?

- Give your customers a club experience. Supply insider knowledge about products.
- Be personal. People like doing business with people they know, like and trust.
- Make your customer's problem your problem.
- Get your customers excited to be around you. Make them feel good.
- Consider a gift to show appreciation.
- Be flexible and easy to work with.
- Engage in conversations and listen to their ideas and suggestions.
- The customer is right even when they are wrong.

https://pantryacademy.com/2016/08/04/are-you-giving-110/

The Follow Up – Why, When and How to do Reminders

Why?

- To get orders from customers.
- Grow sales.
- Provide the personal touch that customers want.
- When?
- Start early, don't wait until the last day.
- Week 1- send reminders 2-3 days that week.
- Week 2 (order deadline week) send reminder 3-4 days that week.
- Use a calendar to schedule your reminders (see the calendar in the Marketing Helps) *How?*
- Email
- Text Messages
- Facebook Posts
- Facebook personal messages
- Phone Calls

https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/follow-up-order-reminders.pdf

Encourage Repeat Business

Repeat Customers – The Heart of our Business

- Make sure your customers all get a catalog every month.
- Do lots of reminders.
- Let them know right away their order has arrived and is ready for pick up.
- Have a great attitude.

https://pantryacademy.com/2017/11/22/repeat-customers-the-heart-of-our-business/

Getting Customers To Place A Second Order

- Make their first experience with you an awesome one! Respond in a timely manner.
- Welcome them with a smile, have a clean and organized space, and get their orders ready quickly. Say thank you!
- After a week, follow up Are they happy with their products? Do they have any questions?
- Send a handwritten thank you note thanking them for their business.

https://pantryacademy.com/2017/04/26/getting-new-customers-to-place-that-second-order/

Grow Your Business With Contests

How to Have a Successful Contest:

- Plan ahead.
- Give your customers plenty of time to participate.
- Remind your customers about the contest and how they can qualify.
- Announce the winners.

Ideas for Contests:

- Early Order Contest- Get order in by a certain date to be entered in a drawing for a discount or free gift.
- \$100 Club- Anyone who orders \$100 or more is entered in a drawing or receives a free gift.
- Find an Item give customers an item number to find. When they find it, they are entered in a drawing.
- 3-Month Contest Order consecutively for 3 months entered in a drawing.
- \$50 Order For every \$50 ordered, you are entered in the drawing.
- Spice Club (or Soup Club etc) encourages a customer to buy more of a certain product. Use our punch cards.
- Customer referral Always have an incentive for someone who shares a catalog and gives you a new customer.

*Remember to track your expenses as write- offs for your taxes.

https://pantryacademy.com/2016/07/11/grow-your-ap-business-with-contests/

Offer Incentives

You can find gift certificates, coupons, punch cards and pantry bucks on our blog pantryacademy.com Check there for these great resources to help you build your business!

- Gift certificates <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2016/08/17/customer-gift-certificates/</u>
- Customer Coupons <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/01/11/customer-</u> coupons-for-rep-use/
- Punch Cards <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/02/10/webinar-3-camp-chef-</u> augason-farms-nutristore-easy-easter-dinners-and-using-punch-cards/
- Pantry Bucks <u>https://</u> pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/pantry-bucks.pdf
 <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/pantry-bucks.pdf</u>

Customer Appreciation

- Customers talk and when they have a good experience with AP, they will tell their friends and your business will grow.
- "Loyalty is when people are willing to turn down a better product or price to continue doing business with you." Simon Sinek
- Recognize your customers on birthdays and other special occasions.
- Connect with customers on Facebook by asking for their opinions or for them to share recipes.
- Cover part of one of your best customer's orders just because.
- Offer referral incentives.
- Use punch cards.
- Offer samples.
- Offer a gift bag with AP treats.
- Give gift certificates and do contests.
- Do a customer appreciation tasting party.
- Give them a magnet with order dates.
- Offer them rep only items as gifts and incentives.
- Use gifts to show your appreciation

https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/09/customer-appreciation-webinar.pdf



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	ARS WORTH OF GREAT PRODUCTS Autorised by	FROM ALISON'S PANTRY Call or go online to view the current catalog www.absongastry.com

Growing Your Business

Reactivate Past Customers - (See Calling Past Customer Script)

How to Reactivate Old Customers

- Determine who past customers are and what they ordered.
- Contact past customers preferably by phone or send them a postcard.
- Ask them why they are not ordering anymore.
- Offer an incentive to come back. (Adding a time limit can create a sense of urgency and prompt inactive customers to check out your deal.)
- Offer to reorder what they bought in the past.
- Give past customers 5% off their next order.
- Offer one-time free shipping.
- Apologize if your customer had a reason to stop doing business with you and ask what you could do to get their business again. "I'm sorry" goes a long way.
- Remember, we offer a 100% money-back guarantee if they are unhappy with a product.
- Remind customers why they like our products.
- Take them a yummy treat from Alison's Pantry.
- Point out some of our best-selling products; talk about your favorite products.
- Tell your past customers about new products.

https://pantryacademy.com/2016/06/08/how-to-reactivate-old-customers/

Bringing Back Lost Customers

- Make them an offer they can't refuse- offer an incentive.
- Offer something unique such as tickets to the game if they spend \$100.
- Ask for their feedback. Why did they stop ordering? https://pantryacademy.com/2016/12/28/bringing-back-lost-customers/

Niche Marketing

Sell people something that meets their needs. Put yourself in your customer's place – Treat customers as you want to be treated. If you appreciate help with your shopping and meal planning, your customers will likely welcome it too. When items your customers buy a lot are on sale or leaving the catalog, make sure to point that out to them when you are doing your reminders to get orders each month.

Ideas to Meet the Needs of Your Customers

- Share our quick-to-fix delicious meal plans and recipes from our catalogs, Facebook posts, and blog.
- Help people plan for special occasions such as parties, weddings and holidays.
- Appeal to customers who love to cook with all our great kitchen tools and one-of-a-kind items.
- Host a Tasting Party to educate customers. Invite them to attend our product webinars.
- Remind customers what makes us special, such as: Premium bulk spices, restaurant-quality food, and specialty items you can't get anywhere else.
- People who care about their health will appreciate our non-GMO frozen vegetables and yummy frozen fruits that make delicious smoothies and so much more.

Upselling

Upselling is one of the most important skills you can learn to do as a rep for AP. It is not about being pushy; it is about giving 100% customer service – from reminder calls to recommendations for dinner ideas – we help the customer, happily!

- <u>It's not about being pushy</u>. It's about **helping** your customers have a better experience with their products.
- Learn what products pair well together. Learn how to pair our items together to give suggestions for purchase. For example, if your customer orders the chicken fried steak, she will likely want the country or chicken gravy to accompany the chicken fried steaks. Another idea is the pulled pork and our Stone Ground Tuscan Mini Loaves for the buns. For more pairing suggestions, go to: <u>https:// pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/10/product-pairings-upselling.pdf</u>
- <u>Assume the customer wants it</u>. Don't think you are pushing the item; your customer can always say "no" but not if you don't offer it. She most likely will say "yes" instead.

Stay Drganized

It is extremely important to keep well-organized files. So much of what we do can be deducted as a business expense – mileage for deliveries, sampling to customers, ink cartridges, paper and office supplies. You must keep accurate files for these to be recognized.

- **Monthly Folder** Keep a copy of your invoice showing any items purchased for business (contest prizes, samples, extra catalogs purchased, catalog mailing fee, etc.). Include the inventory sheet for that order, the mileage log, and any other receipts for office supplies.
- Address Update Deadline You will want to keep the information up-to-date on your customers because the mailings for catalogs and email will be used from the system. The date listed by the company is the date that the information is pulled and sent to the printers for the upcoming catalog. Please pay attention to this date and have all changes completed beforehand to ensure that the correct mailing address is used for mailing the catalogs to your customers.
- Email List If you would like to receive AP customer emails and want your customers to receive them also, you will need to have them sign up on the website on the "Join Our Mailing List" link. It's important to ask them to sign up themselves and to give permission to receive these emails. DO NOT forward the AP emails sent to you because they have an UNSUBSCRIBE link at the bottom of each email. If you forward these emails to your customers and they click on the UNSUBSCRIBE link, it will unsubscribe you, not them, and it is very difficult to resume sending the emails to you again.
- **Text Club** AP has a Text Club that sales reps and customers can join that gives them first access to hot deals and specials. Only two texts go out each month one about hot deals and specials and one as a reminder that their order is going in. Customers can sign up for this on our website.

Taxes and Deductions

As a sales rep for Alison's Pantry, you are considered self-employed and are responsible for paying your selfemployment taxes each year by filing a Schedule C for your AP business. Here are some expenses that you may be able to deduct from your taxes:

- Telephone / cell phone costs
- Internet Services
- Mailing cost of catalogs
- Office Supplies (paper, ink cartridges, staples, paper clips, tape, etc.)

- Food Samples
- Computer and software supplies
- Freezers used to store Alison's Pantry products
- Mileage for meeting truck for delivery, delivering catalogs and products to customers, picking up supplies, etc. (See Appendix D Sample Mileage Log.)
- Gifts and prizes given to customers for referrals, contest prizes, customer appreciation, etc.
- Restaurant meals and entertainment (if business is discussed) are 50% deductible.
- According to Bernard B. Kamoroff, CPA, in his book 422 Tax Deductions for Business and the Self-Employed Individual, he states that it is perfectly legal to add your school-age children to your payroll, hiring them to do real jobs and paying them up to \$6,300.00 per year (this may have changed, so check with your tax advisor). You can write off their wages as a business expense; they keep the funds earned and do not have to file a tax return.

**Alison's Pantry is not a tax consultant. As with any financial advice, please consult your tax advisor or accountant for the most current and up-to-date information.

Keeping accurate records is a must for your business. Sales reps will receive a 1099-Miscellaneous showing their total sales and commission earned for the previous year. This form will be sent before the end of January each year.

Webinar Help - The first part of this webinar is an interview with a tax consultant where he goes over some ideas on how to get the most out of your AP business and taxes. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2017/06/29/webinar-8-tax</u>-advice-on-the-deductions-you-may-be-entitled-to-introducing-the-new-website-and-what-to-except-receiving-delivery-by-customer-and-what-to-expect/

Rep Etiquette

The Sales Reps' Golden Rule – *do not take customers from other sales reps*. Please do not create another rep file for them using a fake email. *If the customer wishes to switch to you, they will need to contact the office and request the switch themselves. This will keep their order history and all their information together.

As you go out in search of new customers to sell Alison's Pantry to, you are free to pick up new customers in other towns around you, not just in the town you live in. We do want you to grow in your town but, if you can get the food to customers in other towns near you safely (without frozen food thawing out), you can really sell to anyone anywhere. There are no boundaries and you do not have a monopoly on the town you are in or the towns around you. However, please be mindful of other sales reps!! If you are looking for new customers in a town that already has a sales rep, please use the proper business etiquette when approaching customers and introducing yourself through personal contact or through advertising.

- If you are not the only rep in a city, please word your advertisements so it does not sound like you are the only one. Say something like: "Becky Price has become a sales rep for Alison's Pantry. If you would like a FREE catalog of our great products, please contact me at 307-350-9610 or becky@alisonspantry.com." OR "There's another Alison's Pantry Sales Rep in Rock Springs, WY! Contact Becky Price for a FREE catalog......"
- Please don't say (for example), "Hi, I am the sales rep for Rock Springs" (when you actually live in Green River this is misleading and there are other sales reps in Rock Springs). You can say (for example) "Hi, I sell Alison's

Pantry. I live in Green River but I am looking for customers in Rock Springs to sell our great products to."

- **MOST IMPORTANT**: As you go out and look for new customers to sell to, make sure to ask them if they have ordered Alison's Pantry products before. If they have, find out who they ordered from and how long ago it has been. If they have ordered from another rep in the last 6 months, they need to continue ordering from that sales rep. We will not tolerate the stealing of other rep's customers. We don't want someone doing that to you, so please don't do that to someone else!
- EXCEPTIONS: (And these are very important to understand!)
 - a. If a member of your family, a very close friend or next-door neighbor has been ordering from another sales rep and finds out you are now a sales rep and wants to order from you, they will need to contact the office personally and request to be switched over to you. The office will notify the sales rep they are leaving so they know the customer has switched.
 - **b.** If you come across someone who is very unhappy with their current sales rep and wants to order from someone different, please let your RSM know. This way we can hopefully help correct the situation that has made the customer unhappy (in case the sales rep is unaware of what has happened or what they are doing that upset the customer) so at the minimum, the sales rep won't lose any more customers, even if they do end up losing this one customer.
- Facebook is a great place to advertise your AP business. However, if another sales rep posts an ad on a local group, please DO NOT comment and add your information to their post. This is <u>not</u> good business etiquette and it creates a conflict for anyone who would become a new customer from that post. *You need to post your own separate Facebook ad*.

So please be mindful of other sales reps in your area and Good Luck sharing Alison's Pantry with the people around you!!

Webinars

Attending the monthly webinars produced by our office will give you important information to help you with your Alison's Pantry business. You'll also have great opportunities for questions and answers directly from our owners Joshua and Jesse Kissee. Check out these past Rep Only Webinars:

- More ideas from sales reps on how to grow. <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2018/07/03/</u> <u>your-great-ideas-from-our-rep-only-webinars</u> <u>-in-june/</u>
- Sales Tips, Sampling Products, Food Safety, How to Get Customers to Spend more <u>https://pantryacademy.com/2018/03/15/</u> <u>march-webinar-sales-tips-for-reps-samples-food-safety-and-how-to-get-your-customers-to-spend-more-of</u> <u>-their-grocery-budget-on-alisons-pantry/</u>
- Time Management
 <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/time-management-for-busy-people.pdf</u>
- Self Motivation
 <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/self-motivation.pdf</u>
- Getting Customer Referrals, Catering to Customers' Needs
 <u>https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2018/06/7-webinar-handout.pdf</u>
- Growing Your Sales Through Sampling, Proper Care & Handling of Food Products, Monthly Meal Planning Calendars https://pantryacademydotcom.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/march-webinar.pdf

