

# Holiday Shopping: ShoppingBots and Virtual Malls

By

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The December 2004 column **Holiday Shopping: ShoppingBots and Virtual Malls** is a comprehensive list of shopping resources and sites on the Internet. I have been writing about and listing various shopping resources and tools to be used on the Internet since 1995 and this continues my tradition. The below list of sources is taken from my current Subject Tracer™ Information Blog titled **ShoppingBots** and is constantly updated with Subject Tracer™ bots at the following URL:

<http://www.ShoppingBots.info/>

These resources and sources will help you to discover the many pathways available to you through the Internet to shop til you drop!

## **Selected ShoppingBots and Comparison Bots**

### **123PriceCheck**

<http://www.123pricecheck.com/>

### **AAA Book Search**

<http://www.aaabooksearch.com/>

### **AAA Computer Search**

<http://www.aaacomputersearch.com/>

### **AAA Electronics Search**

<http://www.aaaelectronicsearch.com/>

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**AAA Movie Search**

<http://www.aaamoviesearch.com/>

**AAA Musics Search**

<http://www.aaamusicssearch.com/>

**AAA Text Book Search**

<http://www.aaatextbooksearch.com/>

**Abebooks: New Books, Used Books, Rare Books, Out-of-Print Books**

<http://www.abebooks.com/>

**Active Sales Assistant™ - Personalized Product Recommendations from Virtual Sales Assistants**

<http://www.activebuyersguide.com/>

**ActivShopper - Comparative Shopping Tool**

<http://ActivShopper.com/>

**All Book Stores - TextBook Search**

<http://www.allbookstores.com/textbooks>

**Amazon.com – Personalized Recommendations**

<http://www.amazon.com/>

**Ask Jeeves®**

<http://www.ask.com/>

**Best Book Buys – Textbook and Book Search**

<http://www.bestwebbuys.com/books/>

**BidFind**

<http://www.bidfind.com/>

**BizRate Shopping Search**

<http://www.bizrate.com/>

**BookChecker**

<http://www.bookchecker.com/>



**BookFinder – The Open Marketplace for Books Online**

<http://www.bookfinder.com/>

**BookFinder4U**

<http://www.bookfinder4u.com/>

**Bot Research**

<http://www.BotResearch.info/>

**BotSpot® - CommerceBots**

<http://www.botspot.com/search/s-comm.htm>

**BotSpot® - ShoppingBots**

<http://www.botspot.com/search/s-shop.htm>

**BottomDollar**

<http://www.bottomdollar.com/>

**Buyer's Index - A Search Engine for Savvy Shoppers**

<http://www.buyersindex.com/>

**Cairo - The Best Deal in Town**

<http://www.Cairo.com/>

**Calibex - Price Comparison Shopping - Comparison Shopping Sites**

<http://www.calibex.com/>

**Camera Deal Search**

<http://www.DealCam.com/>

**Chambal.com - Compare Book Price and Buy**

<http://www.chambal.com/>

**DealPilot – Definitive Guide to Book Search on the Internet**

<http://www.dealpilot.com/>

**DogPile®**

<http://www.dogpile.com/>

**Dulance Product SearchBot**

<http://www.dulance.com/>



**eMarketplaces – SearchBots**

<http://snipurl.com/73pb>

**FotoSearch - Search 50 Stock Photography and Stock Photo Vendors**

<http://www.FotoSearch.com/>

**Froogle™**

<http://froogle.google.com/>

**Froogle™ U.K. Beta**

<http://froogle.google.co.uk/>

**Froogle™ Shopping List**

<http://froogle.google.com/shoppinglist>

**Google™ Directory – Price Comparisons**

<http://snipurl.com/81xz>

**Ink Deal Search**

<http://www.DealInk.com/>

**Kelkoo ShoppingBot**

<http://www.kelkoo.com/>

**Macintosh Deal Search**

<http://www.dealmac.com/>

**MagazinePriceSearch.com**

<http://www.magazinepricesearch.com/>

**MallAgent**

<http://www.mallagent.com/>

**MetaIQ Shopping**

<http://www.metaiq.com/>

**MightyHot - What Others Are Buying Online**

<http://www.MightyHot.com/>

**MyScriptSearch**

<http://www.MyScriptSearch.com/>



**MySimon - ShoppingBot**

<http://www.mysimon.com/>

**NexTag – Compare Prices at Online Stores**

<http://www.nextag.com/>

**Open Directory – Price Comparisons**

[http://dmoz.org/Home/Consumer\\_Information/Price\\_Comparisons/](http://dmoz.org/Home/Consumer_Information/Price_Comparisons/)

**Open Source Technology Group (OSTG) Price Grabber**

<http://ostg.pricegrabber.com/>

**PartFinder Service**

<http://www.techbriefs.com/partfinder>

**PartMiner®**

<http://www.PartMiner.com/>

**Price Comparison Shopping Portal – ShoppingBots**

<http://www.pricingcentral.com/>

**Price Grabber - Comparison Shopping Beyond Compare**

<http://www.PriceGrabber.com/>

**Price Runner – Europe’s Leading Comparison Shopping**

<http://se.pricerunner.com/SelectCountry.jsp>

**PriceSCAN.com - Unbiased Price Comparison Shopping Online**

<http://www.pricescan.com/>

**Price Watch® - Street Price SearchBot**

<http://www.pricewatch.com/>

**RAM Memory Deal Search**

<http://www.DealRAM.com/>

**Ranardo - Search - Find - Buy - German ShoppingBot**

<http://www.ranardo.de/>

**RoboShopper**

<http://www.roboshopper.com/>



**ShopLocal™ - Weekly Ad, Sales, Deals, Discounts, Bargains and Specials**  
<http://www.ShopLocal.com/>

**ShoppingBots**  
<http://www.ShoppingBots.info/>

**Shopping Search Engines**  
<http://searchenginewatch.com/links/article.php/2156331>

**Shopzilla - 25,529,610 Products From 46,492 Stores**  
<http://www.shopzilla.com/>

**SideStep - The Traveler's ShoppingBot**  
<http://www.sidestep.com/>

**Smarter.com - Compare Prices and Products**  
<http://www.smarter.com/>

**StepUp - The Internet's Local Marketplace ShoppingBot**  
<http://www.stepup.com/>

**StreetPrices®**  
<http://www.StreetPrices.com/>

**The Opinion Site – ShoppingBots**  
<http://www.theopinionsite.com/shopbots.htm>

**ThomasNet® - Find Companies and Product Information**  
<http://www.thomasnet.com/>

**Top Ten Price Comparison Services**  
[http://www.toptenlinks.com/Shopping/Price\\_Comparison/index.shtml](http://www.toptenlinks.com/Shopping/Price_Comparison/index.shtml)

**Travelaxe - Hotel Rate Comparison ShoppingBot**  
<http://www.travelaxe.com>

**Vendio Stores Search**  
<http://srch.vendio.com/usearch/>

**WatchCow - Simple Syndicated Amazon Price Tracking**  
<http://www.watchcow.net/>



**Windows Marketplace Comparison Shopping**

<http://www.windowsmarketplace.com>

**Yahoo – Shopping Agents**

<http://snurl.com/33fx>

**Selected Virtual Malls and Shopping Online Resources**

**4AllFreeStuff - Shopping Deals and Free Samples**

<http://www.freebiesonly.com/>

**All-Internet Shopping Directory**

<http://www.all-internet.com/>

**Bargain Share**

<http://www.bargainshare.com/>

**BizRate**

<http://www.bizrate.com/>

**BizWeb Business Guide to the Web**

<http://www.bizweb.com/>

**BlueFly**

<http://www.bluefly.com/>

**Buy.com – The Internet Super Store**

<http://www.buy.com/>

**Compare Stuff**

<http://www.compare-stuff.com/>

**Consumer Search - Product Reviews and Reports**

<http://www.consumersearch.com/www/>

**Consumer World – Shopping Resources**

<http://www.consumerworld.org/pages/shopping.htm>

**CouponCabin - Save with Free Coupon Codes & Discounts**

<http://www.CouponCabin.com/>



**DealCoupon - Web Coupons from A - Z**

<http://www.DealCoupon.com/>

**DealTime®**

<http://www.dealtime.com/>

**Discontinueditem.com™**

<http://www.Discontinueditem.com/>

**eBay**

<http://www.dealtime.com/>

**epinions**

<http://www.epinions.com/>

**FlamingoWorld Online Coupons and Discount Shopping**

<http://www.flamingoworld.com/>

**Free After Rebate - The Best Things In Life Are Free**

<http://www.freeafterrebate.info/>

**Frugal Internet Links**

[http://www.savvy-discounts.com/links/links\\_consumer\\_frugal.htm](http://www.savvy-discounts.com/links/links_consumer_frugal.htm)

**Google™ Catalogs – Search and Browse Mail Order Catalogs Online**

<http://catalogs.google.com/>

**Google™ Directory – Shopping**

<http://directory.google.com/Top/Shopping/>

**Half.com**

<http://www.half.com/>

**LiveDeal.com - Your Local Marketplace - Buy & Sell Local - No Shipping Hassles**

<http://www.LiveDeal.com/>

**Lockergnome's Problem Solvers -> Bargain Hunter**

<http://help.lockergnome.com/index.php?showforum=21>

**Mighty Goods**

<http://mightygoods.com/>



**MSN eShop**

<http://shopping.msn.com/>

**NetMarket - Online Shopping With Discount Pricing - Bargain Electronics Superstore**

<http://www.netmarket.com/>

**Online Shopping Directory**

<http://www.samizdat.com/shopping.html>

**Open Directory – Shopping**

<http://dmoz.org/Shopping/>

**OverStock.com® - Your Online Outlet™**

<http://www.overstock.com/>

**Price Grabber**

<http://www.pricegrabber.com/>

**Price Scan**

<http://www.pricescan.com/>

**Productopia – Consumer Search(sm) Helping You Find the Products You Love and Product Reviews**

<http://www.productopia.com/>

**Product Reviews and Reports by Consumer Search**

<http://www.consumersearch.com/>

**Review Finder**

<http://www.reviewfinder.com/>

**Safe Shopping**

<http://www.safeshopping.org/>

**SalesCircular.com – What’s on Sale at the Retail Stores this Week?**

<http://www.salecircular.com/>

**Sales Hound – Find Sales at Stores & Malls in Your Area**

[http://www.shoppinglist.com/saleshound/slh\\_default.asp](http://www.shoppinglist.com/saleshound/slh_default.asp)



**Shop.com**

<http://www.shop.com/>

**Shopper**

<http://www.shopper.com/>

**Shopping.com™**

<http://www.shopping.com/>

**Shopping Bargains - Online Coupon Code and Discounts for 500+ Online Stores**

<http://www.shopping-bargains.com/>

**ShopSeek - Online Shopping Mall**

<http://www.ShopSeek.com/>

**Smart Bargains**

<http://www.smartbargains.com/>

**Store Runner**

<http://www.storerunner.com/>

**Strong Numbers – Retail Pricing Intelligence and Insights™**

<http://www.strongnumbers.com/>

**Super Pages**

<http://www.bigyellow.com/>

**UltimateCoupons.com™**

<http://www.ultimatecoupons.com/>

**Yahoo Shopping**

<http://shopping.yahoo.com/>

**Yahoo Shopping Holiday Gift Center**

<http://www.shopping.yahoo.com/holiday>

**Yahoo Virtual Malls**

<http://snurl.com/33fy>



## **Notes and Suggestion for Virtual Shopping**

As you use the above referenced resources you **MUST** be very vigilant and keep in mind the following risk management tools to help you obtain a successful shopping experience:

- 1)** Send an eMail to the shopping site prior to purchase requesting a copy of their “Customer Satisfaction Policy”. Allow up to 24 hours for response and if company response is slow or cannot be cautious. If company takes longer than 24 hours to respond purchase elsewhere!
  
- 2)** Look for contact information on the home page. Company **MUST** have the following listed: phone number, complete address including zip code and an eMail address to resolve any product or service issues.
  
- 3)** Pay by credit card thus allowing you the problem solving resources of the credit card company should any problems arise. Some will halt the payment until your questions are answered.
  
- 4)** Save and print all your online receipts. Also save all receipts and packaging physically received in case you need to return the purchase. Save all correspondence that is generated for the purchase as well.
  
- 5)** Return the merchandise promptly and within return policy period if problems have not been resolved. State that “communications were unsatisfactory” for the reason you are returning the merchandise.

By using the above risk management tools and allowing time to either browse through the many virtual malls or using one of the many ShoppingBots you will have a very successful and rewarding Internet shopping experience. I would also make it a requirement that your Internet browser software have the 128-bit Encryption security protocol. .... the very safest available! Now go shop with your Bot until You Drop!!



## **Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs**

Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs created and developed by the Virtual Private Library™ combine the best of the latest tools on the Internet. Using bots, blogs and news aggregators the Subject Tracer™ Information blogs generate RSS feeds with the latest resources to create the latest information resource flow on niched subject tracers. I am proud to be the creator of the Internet's first Subject Tracer™ Information Blogs:

Virtual Private Library™

<http://www.VirtualPrivateLibrary.com/>

Agriculture Resources

<http://www.AgricultureResources.info/>

Artificial Intelligence Resources

<http://www.AIResources.info/>

Astronomy Resources

<http://www.AstronomyResources.info/>

Auction Resources

<http://www.AuctionResources.info/>

Biological Informatics

<http://www.BiologicalInformatics.info/>

Bot Research

<http://www.BotResearch.info/>

Business Intelligence Resources

<http://www.BIResources.info/>

ChatterBots

<http://www.ChatterBots.info/>

Data Mining Resources

<http://www.DataMiningResources.info/>

Deep Web Research

<http://www.DeepWebResearch.info/>



Directory Resources

<http://www.DirectoryResources.info/>

eCommerce Resources

<http://eCommerceResources.info/>

Elder Resources

<http://www.ElderResources.info/>

Employment Resources

<http://www.EmploymentResources.info/>

Entrepreneurial Resources

<http://www.EntrepreneurialResources.info/>

Financial Sources

<http://www.FinancialSources.info/>

Finding People

<http://www.FindingPeople.info/>

Games Resources

<http://www.GamesResources.info/>

Genealogy Resources

<http://www.GenealogyResources.info/>

Grant Resources

<http://www.GrantResources.info/>

Grid Resources

<http://www.GridResources.info/>

Healthcare Resources

<http://www.HealthcareResources.info/>

Information Futures Markets

<http://www.InformationFutureMarkets.com/>

Information Quality Resources

<http://www.InformationQualityResources.info/>



Internet Alerts

<http://www.InternetAlerts.info/>

Internet Demographics

<http://www.InternetDemographics.info/>

Internet Experts

<http://www.InternetExperts.info/>

Internet Hoaxes

<http://www.InternetHoaxes.info/>

Knowledge Discovery

<http://www.KnowledgeDiscovery.info/>

Outsourcing/Offshoring Information and Resources

<http://www.OutsourcingOffshore.us/>

Privacy Resources

<http://www.PrivacyResources.info/>

Reference Resources

<http://www.ReferenceResources.info/>

Research Resources

<http://www.ResearchResources.info/>

RestStress™

<http://www.RestStress.com/>

Script Resources

<http://www.ScriptResources.info/>

ShoppingBots

<http://www.ShoppingBots.info/>

Statistics Resources

<http://www.StatisticsResources.info/>

Student Research

<http://www.StudentResearch.info/>



Theology Resources

<http://www.TheologyResources.info/>

Tutorial Resources

<http://www.TutorialResources.info/>

World Wide Web Reference

<http://www.WWWReference.info/>

**Author Information:** Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A. is an international Internet author, consultant, speaker and expert in the area of information retrieval, knowledge discovery, knowledge harvesting, artificial intelligence and bots/intelligent agents. He has created numerous world wide web sites including Subject Tracer™ Information Portals and Blogs, written a number of internet miniguides and books, hosted over 160 weekly Internet television shows, written a weekly and monthly column on Current Awareness on the Internet and delivers keynote presentations throughout the international marketplace. He also actively delivers one and two day workshops for key industry sectors displaying how the Internet can be used as a tool to maintain current awareness and professional competencies.

Additional websites by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.:

Marcus P. Zillman's Blog

<http://www.zillman.us/>

Marcus P. Zillman Abbreviated Bio

<http://marcuszillman.blogspot.com/>

White Papers by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.

<http://www.WhitePapers.us/>

Internet MiniGuides™ 2005

<http://www.InternetMiniguide.com/>

Awareness Watch™ Newsletter

<http://www.AwarenessWatch.com/>

Marcus P. Zillman's Columns

<http://www.ZillmanColumns.com>



eCurrent Awareness Resources™ 2005 Business Intelligence Report  
<http://www.eCurrentAwareness.com/>

Internet Sources™ Manual  
<http://www.InternetSources.info/>

Links By Marcus™  
<http://www.LinksByMarcus.com/>

Workshops By Marcus™  
<http://www.WorkshopsByMarcus.com/>

SourceSeries Internet Research Workshops  
<http://www.SourceSeries.com/>

Watch Marcus™  
<http://www.WatchMarcus.com/>

listen to marcus™  
<http://www.ListenToMarcus.com>

**Research White Papers, Articles, Lectures and Speeches by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.:**

White Papers By Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.  
<http://www.WhitePapers.us/>

Using the Internet As a Dynamic Resource Tool for Knowledge Discovery  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/using-internet-as-dynamic-resource.html>

Current Awareness Discovery Tools on the Internet  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/current-awareness-discovery-tools-on.html>

Deep Web Research Article - LLRX  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/deep-web-research-llrx-featured.html>

Searching the Internet  
<http://www.SearchingTheInternet.info/>



Bots, Blogs and News Aggregators – White Paper Link Compilation  
<http://www.BotsBlogs.com/>

Web Data Extractors - White Paper Link Compilation  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/web-data- extractors.html>

Online Social Networking - An Internet MiniGuide Annotated Link Compilation  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/09/online-social-networking-internet.html>

Online Research Browsers  
<http://zillman.blogspot.com/2004/10/online-research-browsers-internet.html>

Information Detective – Online Streaming Tutorial Videos on Searching the Internet  
<http://www.InformationDetective.com/>

Lectures and Speeches by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.  
<http://snipurl.com/57jp>

**Internet Tutor by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.**  
<http://www.InternetTutor.info/>

Visit this site to learn about the availability of Marcus P. Zillman to tutor you or your associate one on one in the privacy of your residence or office on the latest happenings of the Internet including Internet basics to advanced Internet searching using bots and creating your own personal blog.

**Internet Speaking by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.**  
<http://www.InternetSpeaker.net>

Visit this site to learn about Marcus P. Zillman’s speaking engagements for your organization meetings and events. View and listen to his previous presentations as well as his weekly television shows.

**Internet Consulting by Marcus P. Zillman, M.S., A.M.H.A.**  
<http://InternetConsultant.BlogSpot.com/>

Visit this site to obtain information about obtaining the consultation services of Marcus P. Zillman for your company including eCommerce audits, utilization of bots, blogs and news aggregators or the creation of your own personal virtual private library powered by Subject Tracer™ Information bots!



Marcus P. Zillman's latest 378 page manual **Internet Sources™** is now available for purchase online and for immediate download. This book makes a great reference resource for the “newbie” to the Internet as well as the seasoned veteran “Internaut”. Visit the following site for additional information and online ordering fulfillment:

**Internet Sources™ Manual**

<http://www.InternetSources.info>



Marcus P. Zillman's latest report eCurrent Awareness Resources 2005 is now available for purchase online and for immediate download. This report is a comprehensive listing of the latest resources, sources and sites for current awareness on the Internet. This is a must read for anyone who must stay current in their profession and/or business activity as the list of URLs will keep you at the leading edge of your career. Visit the following site for additional information and online ordering fulfillment:

**eCurrent Awareness Resources 2005**

<http://www.eCurrentAwareness.com/>

