

# Hot Topic Inc. Fundamental Company Report Including Financial, SWOT, Competitors and Industry Analysis

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## **Abstracts**

Hot Topic Inc. Fundamental Company Report provides a complete overview of the company's affairs. All available data is presented in a comprehensive and easily accessed format. The report includes financial and SWOT information, industry analysis, opinions, estimates, plus annual and quarterly forecasts made by stock market experts. The report also enables direct comparison to be made between Hot Topic Inc. and its competitors. This provides our Clients with a clear understanding of Hot Topic Inc. position in the Retail Industry.

The report contains detailed information about Hot Topic Inc. that gives an unrivalled in-depth knowledge about internal business-environment of the company: data about the owners, senior executives, locations, subsidiaries, markets, products, and company history.

Another part of the report is a SWOT-analysis carried out for Hot Topic Inc.. It involves specifying the objective of the company's business and identifies the different factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieving that objective. SWOT-analysis helps to understand company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and possible threats against it.

The Hot Topic Inc. financial analysis covers the income statement and ratio trend-charts with balance sheets and cash flows presented on an annual and quarterly basis. The report outlines the main financial ratios pertaining to profitability, margin analysis, asset turnover, credit ratios, and company's long-



term solvency. This sort of company's information will assist and strengthen your company's decision-making processes.

In the part that describes Hot Topic Inc. competitors and the industry in whole, the information about company's financial ratios is compared to those of its competitors and to the industry. The unique analysis of the market and company's competitors along with detailed information about the internal and external factors affecting the relevant industry will help to manage your business environment. Your company's business and sales activities will be boosted by gaining an insight into your competitors' businesses.

Also the report provides relevant news, an analysis of PR-activity, and stock price movements. The latter are correlated with pertinent news and press releases, and annual and quarterly forecasts are given by a variety of experts and market research firms. Such information creates your awareness about principal trends of Hot Topic Inc. business.

## About Hot Topic Inc.

Hot Topic, Inc. is a mall and web-based specialty retailer. The company operates Hot Topic and Torrid store concepts, as well as an e-space music discovery concept, ShockHound.

The company sells a selection of music/pop culture-licensed and music/pop culture-influenced apparel, accessories, music, and gift items for young men and women principally between the ages of 12 and 22. At Torrid, the company sells apparel, lingerie, shoes, and accessories for plus-size females principally between the ages of 15 and 29.

The company sells merchandise on its websites www.hottopic.com and www.torrid.com, which reflect the Hot Topic and Torrid store concepts and sell merchandise similar to that sold in the respective stores. At ShockHound, through website www.shockhound.com, the company sells music merchandise and MP3s. As of December 31, 2009, the company operated 680 Hot Topic stores throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, and 156 Torrid stores in 35 states.

#### Merchandising



The company's Hot Topic stores serve as a focal point for music/pop culture-licensed and music/pop culture-influenced apparel, accessories, music, and gift items. Music/pop culture-licensed merchandise includes tee shirts, hats, posters, stickers, patches, books, novelty accessories, CDs and DVDs. Music/pop culture-influenced merchandise includes women's and men's apparel and accessories, such as woven and knit tops, skirts, pants, shorts, jackets, shoes, costume jewelry, body jewelry, sunglasses, cosmetics, leather accessories, and gift items. Approximately 180 different licensed band tee shirts are represented in Hot Topic stores from artists.

## **Target Customers**

The company's target customers are young men and women between the ages of 12 and 22 who are passionate about music and pop culture.

## Competition

The company's Hot Topic stores compete with street alternative and vintage clothing stores located primarily in metropolitan areas and with other shopping mall-based teenage-focused retailers, such as Abercrombie & Fitch; Aeropostale; American Eagle Outfitters; Bebe, Inc.; Charlotte Russe Holding, Inc.; Claire's Stores, Inc.; Gap, Inc.; Forever 21; Pacific Sunwear of California, Inc.; Spencer Gifts, Inc.; H&M; The Buckle; Tweenbrands, Inc.; Wet Seal, Inc.; Urban Outfitters, Inc.; Rue 21; and Zumiez, Inc. It also competes with big-box discount stores such as Target Corporation and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; and with music stores such as Barnes & Noble, Inc., Best Buy Co., Inc. and Borders Group, Inc.

The company's Torrid stores compete with traditional department stores, local specialty stores and junior teen retailers that offer a combination of junior and plus-sizes, such as Alloy, Inc., Charming Shoppes, Inc., Deb Shops, Delia's Corp. and Forever 21.

ShockHound faces competition from companies, such as Apple Inc., Amazon.com Inc., eMusic.com, Inc., LiveNation.com, MySpace, Inc., OldGlory.com, and Shop.BravadoUsa.com.

#### History

Hot Topic, Inc. was founded in 1988.

The above Company Fundamental Report is a half-ready report and contents are



subject to change.

It means that we have all necessary data in our database to prepare the report but need **2-3 days** to complete it. During this time we are also updating the report with respect to the current moment. So, you can get all the most recent data available for the same price. Please note that preparation of additional types of analyses requires extra time.



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## **ANALYSIS FEATURES**

## **SWOT Analysis**

SWOT, which stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats, is an analytical framework that identifies the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable for a company.

## **Enhanced SWOT Analysis**

Enhanced SWOT is a 3×3 grid that arranges strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats into one scheme:

How to use the strengths to take advantage of the opportunities?

How to use the strengths to reduce likelihood and impact of the threats?

How to overcome the weaknesses that obstruct taking advantage of the opportunities?

How to overcome the weaknesses that can make the threats a reality?

Upon answering these questions a company can develop a project plan to improve its business performance.

#### **PESTEL Analysis**

PESTEL (also termed as PESTLE) is an ideal tool to strategically analyze what influence different outside factors – political, economic, sociocultural, technological, environmental and legal – exert on a business to later chart its long term targets.

Being part of the external analysis when carrying out a strategic assessment or performing a market study, PESTEL gives an overview of diverse macro-environmental factors that any company should thoughtfully consider. By perceiving these outside environments, businesses can maximally benefit from the opportunities while minimizing the threats to the organization.



## Key Factors Examined by PESTEL Analysis:

Political – What opportunities and pressures are brought by political bodies and what is the degree of public regulations' impact on the business?

Economic – What economic policies, trends and structures are expected to affect the organization, what is this influence's degree?

Sociological – What cultural and societal aspects will work upon the demand for the business's products and operations?

Technological – What impact do the technological aspects, innovations, incentives and barriers have on the organization?

Environmental – What environmental and ecological facets, both locally and farther afield, are likely to predetermine the business?

Legal – What laws and legislation will exert influence on the style the business is carried out?

#### IFE, EFE, IE Matrices

The Internal Factor Evaluation matrix (IFE matrix) is a strategic management tool helping audit or evaluate major weaknesses and strengths in a business's functional areas. In addition, IFE matrix serves as a basis for identifying and assessing relationships amongst those areas. The IFE matrix is utilised in strategy formulation.

The External Factor Evaluation matrix (EFE matrix) is a tool of strategic management that is typically utilised to assess current market conditions. It is an ideal instrument for visualising and prioritising the threats and opportunities a firm is facing.

The essential difference between the above mentioned matrices lies in the type of factors incorporated in the model; whilst the latter is engaged in internal factors, the former deals exceptionally with external factors – those exposed to social, political, economic, legal, etc. external forces.

Being a continuation of the EFE matrix and IFE matrix models, the Internal External matrix (IE matrix) rests upon an investigation of external and internal business factors



integrated into one suggestive model.

## **Porter Five Forces Analysis**

The Porter's five forces analysis studies the industry of operation and helps the company find new sources of competitive advantage. The analysis surveys an industry through five major questions:

What composes a threat of substitute products and services?

Is there a threat of new competitors entering the market?

What is the intensity of competitive rivalry?

How big is the bargaining power of buyers?

How significant is the bargaining power of suppliers?

## **VRIO Analysis**

VRIO stands for Value, Rarity, Imitability, Organization. This analysis helps to evaluate all company's resources and capabilities and bring them together into one aggregate table that includes:

Tangible resources

Financial

Physical

Technological

Organizational

Intangible resources

Human

Innovation and Creativity



# Reputation

# Organizational capabilities

The result of the analysis gives a clear picture of company's competitive and economic implications, answering the questions if the resources mentioned above are:

Valuable?
Rare?
Costly to imitate?
Organized properly?



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