

SHOWCASE OF VERSATILITY AS A WRITER

Give me the topic and the keywords and I will write them for you. This is one of the best ways to pump your blog or website up for readers and search engines.

All my clients know that I am very versatile in writing, diligent in doing my research and even if I have no idea what the topic is about, I would go about doing all the research needed in order for me to come up with something incredibly credible!

The following are some of the articles and topics I have written on. There are many many more collected from the 8 years of freelance writing.

[Topic: Audio Book]

Audio Books said to be popular choice among modern folks

When Audio Books were first distributed, the market was concerned about the receptiveness of 'readers' who thought that they defeated the purpose of reading altogether. The first audio book was one recorded in Spanish way back in 1975 - and now, more than three decades later, the audio books industry accounts for more than 2 billion US dollars of sales every single year. And judging from statistics, the industry will continue to grow every year!

It is safe to conclude that 'readers' are slowly migrating to audio books because there are many advantages to an audio book than compared to a normal book.

Many different formats of audio books

It all started out with cassette tapes and then slowly, the industry produced audio books in the form of CDs. and now, with the growth of Internet, purchasing audio books has become even easier! All one needs to do now is to log into a website, browse through a list of audio books through an online catalogue, purchase the audio book online with a credit card and then when the payment is confirmed, the audio book seller will provide a link to the customer whereby the customer can just download the audio book directly into the customer's computer! It's absolutely brilliant. As far as audio books are concerned, 9% of sales are from websites offering downloadable format audio books.

Convenience of audio books

Modern people live extremely hectic lifestyles these days - this is an undeniable fact. So, knowledge-hungry people are diverting to audio books for knowledge now because it is faster, easier and more convenient for them to gather knowledge by listening to audio books instead of spending time reading it at snail pace! Yes, although there has been criticisms saying

that audio books makes modern folks lazy, the convenience helps people find out more about the things that they want to know quicker than a normal book can.

No storage space need, no wastage and better for environment

Irregardless of whether we're talking about a cassette audio book, a CD audio book or a downloadable format audio book, the need for storage space is greatly minimized. Audio books can be easily kept so that there's no wastage of paper when you're done reading the book. Hence, audio books can be said to be better for the environment!

Marketing experts agree that although there are many benefits to reading more conventional books too, it looks as though audio books are quickly catching up with the conventional books industry too.

[TOPIC: WEB SOLUTION]

Give your site a face and voice...

Recent research reveals that the biggest reason why customers don't buy from a website is because they don't have **confidence** and **trust** in the company. Because a website is not nearly as transparent or **REAL** as the customer wishes for it to be, customers become hesitant in performing that transaction...even if they really wanted to.

Our solutions will solve that problem **INSTANTLY!**

Personal touch...this is what our products are all about. *** is all about helping our clients connect directly to their customers in a seamless way...by giving the company a face and voice that customers can see and hear. The trust and bond is strengthened when customers have the opportunity to speak to a human behind the company. Our products helps bridge the gap between customer and company by eliminating the feeling of fear, distrust and awkwardness.

How? Our products give their customers a chance to speak to a live person through the Internet via a banner, a platform for customers to refer questions to the company's representative and provide instant answer solution! The host has **ABSOLUTE CONTROL** over the activities during the session and gives the customer the satisfaction of knowing that they are dealing with a human being.

*** spent years trying to find out why some customers refuse to purchase online and why some business **succeed** and why some **don't**. And we have injected our knowledge into our products...we want to help our clients eliminate the 'alien' feeling they get whenever they get to a website.

What if...

- Your customers can see you?

- Your customers can hear you?
- Your customers can ask you questions?
- You can give your customers instant answers?
- You can lead your customers by the hand to find the right answers?
- The platform the interaction is running on is seamless and completely hassle-free?
- Your customers don't need to download additional softwares in order to utilize this tool?
- You can place the feature ANYWHERE on your website...in fact, ANYWHERE on anybody else's' websites?
- The tool works on ANY browser and on any computer?

We focus our solutions on helping our clients connect with their customers so that they can turn impulse into ACTION instantly. Imagine the potential increase of sales when your customers have the chance to literally communicate directly with someone from your company and get answers immediately!

This is what our services and products is all about.

No 'sell' and 'say goodbye'

*** is not a company that sells and say goodbye because apart from just selling you our products, our services include helping you get up and run as quickly as possible. Here at ***, we know and understand that you may need help setting up your new tools and is excited to get it working so that you can tap into new markets or maximize traffic to your website. So, not only will we deliver the products to your doorstep, we will spend a considerable amount of time helping you set it up and get it working.

Our other services include:-

- LiveGuide Customization and implementation
- LiveBanner Production Services
- VideoBanner Production Services

Action-packed products

You will soon see that our products are all packed with multiple customization features and tools to make the experience a richer and more meaningful one. for instance, LiveGuide has an administrative console that

- Enables easy administration and management of service calls.
- Ease in supervising incoming requests
- Ability in transferring calls to others when a representative is currently engaged
- User have complete control over LiveGuide and can push links and text to customer
- Collects data of customer...for instance, country of origin, browser used...etc.
- Produces a report on demand.

Giving life to a banner...

LiveBanner is a product that turns an ordinary banner advertisement into a helpdesk! Customers can click on a banner advertisement and be led into a console whereby a customer service representative is ready to provide answers. On top of that, LiveBanner will record important data like click rates (total, unique, day...etc), impressions, video statistics and much, much more. This allows you the chance to monitor the effectiveness of the ad campaign more effectively....and in turn, optimize ROI and allows for quick change of marketing strategy.

[TOPIC: COFFEE]

A guide to gourmet coffee

Synopsis

Does it really make a difference whether it's an instant mix coffee or gourmet coffee? Oh yes, it does!! A world of difference...the taste, the smell, the wholesomeness of the whole experience of sitting there sitting on a thick cup of gourmet coffee....mmmm....

Article

Even a Coffee Bean or San Francisco Coffee outlet frequenter won't be able to master the art of appreciating true gourmet coffee unless they know the history and info about gourmet coffee. Oh, of course, you don't have to an EXPERT to enjoy and understand gourmet coffee, but knowing a little bit more than the grocery store owner who sells instant coffee would help you appreciate the taste, smell and absolute heaven that gourmet coffee fans know gourmet coffee is absolutely capable of.

Gourmet coffee is nothing like wine. With wine, the longer you leave (some wine, anyway), the better the taste, the higher the quality and the pricier it is. But with gourmet coffee, freshness says a lot. If possible, get coffee beans that have been roasted no more than 1 week before. And if you're going to learn how to appreciate gourmet coffee, only buy 100% Arabica coffee.

It's pretty hard to find freshly roasted coffee bean on the shelves of the local supermarket. Chances are, the coffee beans that you're consuming today have been roasted at least 3 months back. One way to counter this problem is to buy the whole bean in batches and grind them with a home-coffee grinding machine as and when you need it. It's really easy with the kind of machines they have today, so, if you want to learn how to appreciate gourmet coffee, grind it when you need it.

Once you've purchased the gourmet coffee beans, don't just leave out there in room temperature. What you should do with gourmet coffee beans is to store them in an air-tight container in the fridge if you're planning to use it soon. However, if you're going to keep it, store the gourmet coffee beans in an air-tight container and keep it in the FREEZER.

You need the right grinder for the right brewer. Generally speaking, you can use about 2 tablespoons of gourmet coffee powder for 6 oz of water. Adjust the way you make your cup of gourmet coffee according to the way you like to drink your gourmet coffee.

With wine, the country where the grapes are grown makes a difference. With gourmet coffee, not only is the country of origin for the gourmet coffee bean makes a difference, the company that sells the gourmet coffee beans matters too. Buy only from reputable companies for gourmet coffee.

And one last thing about gourmet coffee is this - learn to enjoy it, appreciate the smell, love the taste, experiment with it and you'll soon see the wonder of gourmet coffee. If you're hurrying off for work in the morning, forget about gourmet coffee! During the morning rush, just stick to instant coffee.

[TOPIC: HOME SECURITY]

Home security systems you can watch from work

Do you know what's going on in your home when you're away at work? Do you have a reliable home security system that can relieve you of your worries and concerns when someone is breaking into your home when you're away? If you already have a home security system in place, how reliable and steadfast is it? Has anyone ever broken into your home even with your current home security system in place? Do you know that you can now install a home security system that utilizes the Internet so that the home security system can actually alert you of unusual activities at home?

That's how far the home security system technology has advanced. If you're still having one of those old home security systems that blares a siren whenever there's an intruder, then you're not doing the best you can to protect your home. How many times have you heard one of those sirens cut through the silence of the night and ignored it because the siren is turned off about a minute later? Intruders who break into homes know how to turn off the old types of home security systems and they can usually break through any of those home security systems easily.

With the advancement of technology, home security systems have developed into more than just an electronic alarm system that detects opened windows or doors. Conventional home security systems have sensors built into the home security units that detect interruption in the flow of electricity. Whenever the home security system detects the interruptions, it will either let out a deafening siren or activate strobe lights to attract attention.

But have you ever thought about this - what if others choose to ignore the sirens and lights?

What you really need is a home security system that will silently alert guards and you of the activities in the home. Combine the advancement of the technology used to create and develop home security systems together with the Internet, the home security system will silently send signals of the intrusion to a call center run by the home security company. It will also send a message to your cell phone or make a call using your telephone line to you to alert you of a possible break in. With the home security system's silent method of alerting various parties, the intruder is not alerted but **YOU** are. Therefore, it will give the police and the relevant authorities enough time to act and catch the intruders in action.

In fact, the latest home security systems in the market today allow you to activate and deactivate your home security system via the Internet or through your phone. This is what I call a **TOTAL** convenience to home security systems.

[TOPIC: HORSE FOR KIDS]

How find a horse for a child, the best breed

Synopsis

A horse is a horse is a horse, right? **Wrong**. Buying a horse is not the same as buying a hamster or a cat. There are lots of technicalities that we may have to concern ourselves with - especially if we're buying a horse for a child.

Article

Owning a horse is a huge responsibility for an adult, much less for a child. Owning a horse requires a lot of time and money, both from the parent and the child, therefore, before you decide to go horse-shopping, it's best that you sit down and discuss the responsibilities and tasks involved in owning and caring for a horse with the child. A horse, remind them, is not a mere domestic pet. It's unlike a cat, dog or hamster. Horses require more than that.

Let your child know that the owner of the horse should be ready to take on the responsibilities of grooming, exercising, feeding, washing, playing with and caring for the animal. These responsibilities should be done daily, otherwise, both the horse and the owner will suffer.

Before you actually go out and buy a horse, parents are strongly advised to bring the child to a stable, let them take some riding lessons. This will help your child understand and comprehend the responsibilities ahead of him or her. Parents should give the child adequate time to adapt and adjust accordingly. Under the supervision of an expert, they should be able to grasp the whole concept of owning a horse in about a month or two.

Buying a horse that suits your personality.

It is important for a horse buyer to understand that there is a very special relationship and bond between a horse and the owner/rider. The more nervous or jittery the rider is, the calmer the horse should be. Hence, the best kind of horse for a child is one with a very good temperament. The pony or horse should not have a history of bolting off whenever they are scared. Compare this to the needs of an experienced rider who needs a very sensitive horse who is responsive and understanding.

Riding experience and testing the horse out

As mentioned, before a parent decides to buy a horse for the child, the child should be given a chance to take riding lessons and familiarize herself or himself with horses. Not only does the child have to take riding lessons, it is best that the horse is a trained one as well.

The child and horse should get to know each other before the parent actually purchases the horse. Test the horse out by taking the child out for a test ride. Let them get to know each other and then let the child decide which horse is best for him or her.

Horse to suit the occasion

Depending on what the child intends to do with the horse, there are many different types of horses trained for different purposes. Some horses are suitable for riding on the flat, some prefer a horse that will jump and perform. Some prefer a horse that can be taken hunting or ride through rough terrains and some prefer show horses. Consult with the horse trainer so that you do not get the wrong type of horse for the wrong purpose.

[TOPIC: LINGERIE]

Finding the perfect lingerie gift for your wife

Synopsis

It's a known fact that men likes women who wear lingerie but if this is your first time trying to buy sexy lingerie for your wife, you might need some help. And here are some extremely helpful tips to get you going.

Article

Some people stop being creative at gift giving when they exchange wedding rings. But a marriage is a lifetime thing and if you stop being creative in giving gifts to your wife, chances are, even if she says nothing, she's going to feel that you're falling out of love with her.

And what better way to make your wife feel she's sexy and desired than by....giving her a handpicked sexy lingerie?

The best way to buy sexy (and perfect) lingerie for your wife is...first, to be armed with information. Her size and fit. You can do this but sneaking into her intimate apparels drawer and taking a close look at the labels. That should do the trick. Even if the sizes for normal bras and lingerie are not

going to be the same, at least the shop assistant has got figures to work with. Forget about the typical scenarios people write into screenplays or movies. Men should NOT go around measuring other people's breasts and bra size with the palm or their hands. The best you can do is probably comparing the size and height of the shop assistant to your wife. But even then, men tend to get embarrassed about making the comparison even if the shop assistant is not. Remember, they get this a whole lot throughout the day.

If you're getting the lingerie for your wife online, you should check the returns and exchange terms that they have on their website. Just in case the size is not right, your wife can at least return it or exchange it for another size or color. All the better, if you're buying lingerie for your wife, patronize online shops with free shipping - it saves you quite a bit of money there.

Men have no problems with matching their intimate apparels but usually, women feel sexy and most of them would like to match their bras and panties. So, buy lingerie with matching tops and bottoms. Some women like embroidered design and if the shop you're buying the lingerie from does not have embroidered designs, you should get one with laces or something REALLY, really feminine.

Choosing from a wide variety of colors for the lingerie can be a headache. You like navy but do you think your wife would like to wear navy? Consider this, dark colored lingerie will show through light-colored clothing. Stick to pastel colors, white, beige or light purple that is sexy and feminine at the same time. If you're still in doubt, check with her what her favorite color is. You can't go wrong that way.

[TOPIC: GAMBLING] **Megamillion Tips**

- Remember that the odds of winning the jackpot is 1 in 41 million. As horrendous as the statistic is, there are, still people winning it. And the reasons is? For one, they are persistent and consistent in their approach. Playing affordably and sensibly while never letting their sight off the jackpot.
- All odds or all even numbers combinations are hard to come by. So, the basic rule of thumb here is to have a good mixture of both odd and even numbers when picking your numbers, e.g. 2 odd numbers and 3 even numbers or the other way around.
- The rule above works the same way for the balance of the draw. If you divide all the numbers into two portions, you'll have the High numbers and the Low numbers. Have a good mix of High numbers and

Low numbers because All High and All Low number combinations are hard to come by. So, have 2 High numbers and combine it with 3 Low numbers....or the other way round.

- Mega Million is a game of probabilities, so, don't defy the numbers and patterns. If you pick a pattern that has only 5% chance of happening, you'll lose 95% of the time. If you pick a pattern that is most likely to occur 35% of the time, you'll only lose 65% of the time. So, the choice is really yours
- It's ok to refer to, purchase or download some strategy books or guides to help guide you in your number-picking. Some of these Mega Million experts spent decades observing, playing and analyzing results. And because of their keen interest, most of them have developed their own strategies that work.
- Practice makes perfect, even in a seemingly easy game like Mega Million. So, get on the Internet and start playing Mega Million now. There are lots of websites and softwares that allows players to play Mega Million for free. so, get in there and get yourself accustomed to the way the game is played. That's the one of the most basic and fundamental Mega Million tip that can help you win in the future.

[TOPIC: GAMBLING]

Slots tips

- First rule of thumb...play at a slot machine that gives you the highest payout. You can do this by taking a casual stroll around the slots area and surveying all the slots. Another way is to look for the crowd. Usually, the slot machines that offer good payouts are a little bit more crowded than the rest.
- If the slot machine is a progressive one, play the max number of coins. This way, when you win, you'll get back more.
- This is a common mistake that some people make...don't be greedy, concentrate on the slot machine that you have picked. Don't play two slot machines at the same time, i.e. two slot machines placed closely next to each other.
- This applies to all casino games but it's especially true for slot machine games. Quit while you're ahead. If you intended to leave after winning \$100, then leave when you've won \$100 from the slots. The computers are programmed to take back whatever they have given you within a very short period of time...remember, you're dealing with a computer chip here.

- Pick the slot machine that best suits your expectations. For instance, if you're looking to stretch your bankroll as much and as long as possible, go for the \$0.50 slots. However, on the other hand, if you're trying to make it within a short period of time, go for the \$1 slots (or higher).
- Experimenting should be done for free...when we say this, we mean that if you're still in the practicing stage, practice it online for free. Some casinos actually have fake casino slots in a small corner for slot machine players to get used to the games before they go into for the money. Novice slot machine players should use these 'fake slots' to practice before playing.
- There's no such thing as a 'favorite slot machine'. Some players might be inclined to think that some slot machines are more generous than others because they won big a few times at the same slot machine. This is what we call luck. Every slot machine has been programmed to give out a certain amount of money in varying percentages at varying times. You were just lucky...not the slot machine.

[TOPIC: FURNITURE, ADJUSTABLE BEDS]
Finding the best adjustable bed prices

The prices for adjustable beds have been dropping over the years as compared to the prices of these beds when they were first introduced. When it first came out, it was a luxury item only the rich had. Now, it's almost a necessity. Many families have traded their ordinary mattresses and beds for adjustable beds contributing to the tremendous drop in prices.

If you're shopping around for good adjustable beds and want to know how and where to find the best adjustable bed prices, we have a couple of tips for you:-

Now is the time to go window shopping

Some may say that window shopping is something only women know how to do, but this is the time when window shopping can do you a world of good. You see, in order to gauge the prices and models available in the market today, you'll have to put in a little bit of legwork here. Go look around at some of the models in the market, note the brand and the prices.

If you wish to, you can carry around a notebook and mark down the price, model of bed, brand, the shop you found it and if they are running a sale, when the sale ends. This way, when you're done with your window shopping and ready to buy your adjustable bed, you can just refer to your notebook for the best adjustable bed prices you've found so far.

Grab it at a yard sale

Adjustable beds, the good ones, at least, are made to last at least 20 years. Therefore, it's quite safe to get it off the hands of someone who is, say, moving house. The most important thing for you to do is to find out the condition of the adjustable bed, the price they are selling it for and who was using the adjustable bed before you. Adjustable beds used by adults are usually in a condition than adjustable beds used by kids. If the previous owner has been using the adjustable bed for more than 8-10 years, it's a better idea to buy a new one.

Surfing adjustable bed prices in eBay

The best adjustable bed prices are often found online. With that said, you should try going into eBay and try to find an adjustable bed with reasonable pricing there. the prices there are amazingly low because most of these adjustable bed sellers don't have to deal with warehousing the stuff they sell, therefore, they cut down on their overheads. The cut in overheads is transferred to you, instead. Most of the time, the adjustable bed prices in eBay are rather good.

[TOPIC: FURNITURE, HOME, STAIR LIFT]

Electric stair lift

Instead of constraining the movements of a disabled, elderly or ill person to the ground floor or a multi-level building or home, why not install an electric stair lift to enable freedom of movement and increase the feeling of adequacy and confidence? It's bad enough being wheelchair bound or too weak to climb the stairs, do they have to continue feeling dependent on others to move them around, help them? It makes them feel small and inadequate. By installing an electric stair lift, the disabled, old or ill can move around freely on their own without the help of others! Electric stair lifts are extremely easy to operate and is relatively cheap these days - compared to when they were first introduced.

BUT...before that, here are some important facts about buying and installing an electric stair lift in your home. Get familiar with them before you start shopping for one.

No batteries included...no batteries needed

Since there is no need for batteries, there's no need to worry about charging or replacing them in order the stair lifts to work. Most modern models these days use electric. Imagine...if the stair lift used batteries and the batteries run dry all of a sudden, wouldn't your loved ones be stuck in the middle of the 'journey'? What if no one was home to help them get off down or up the stairs?

It's inexpensive to run an electric stair lift in your home

Some people imagine an enormous bill when they see the electric stair lift but they'll be surprised to know that in order for the electric stair lift to function properly, it does NOT take a lot of electricity to power it up. The

increase in electricity bill is definitely negligible - even for middle-income families!

Figure out the local government requirements before installing your electric stair lift

Some local governments require a dedicated plug, therefore, do your homework and find out if you need additional permits to install the electric stair lift or not. you don't want to get into trouble for not getting proper license or permits before installing it.

Most electric stair lifts are smoother

Jerky movements are out of the question for stair lifts! And it's good to know that the electric models have smoother transitions (start, movement and stop) than the battery-operated counterparts. Smooth transition is particularly important when you're talking about someone who has back problems. Jerky movements might end up aggravating the condition of the user.

[TOPIC: ATV, MOTOCROSS]

Why customers prefer Kazuma ATVs

ATV fans are truly spoiled for choice these days with the wide range of brands and variety of ATV parts and products that they have online and offline. While the varying options make ATVs more affordable, it makes the ATV industry highly competitive - hence, ATV producers and ATV parts manufacturers find it harder to stay on top. But in the case of Kazuma who is one of the leading ATV and ATV parts producer in the world, it comes quite naturally. Why? Simple.

Kazuma ATVs cost less without busting your budget

The best thing about Kazuma ATVs and its ATV parts is that they don't cost an arm and a leg! Kazuma is a China-based ATV manufacturer who penetrated the ATV market way before other China-based ATV manufacturers came into the picture, so, it is safe to say that Kazuma has the advantage of experience over other China-based ATV manufacturers. If you want to get cheap ATVs, it would be best if you got it from someone who's been there, done that, wouldn't you say? And because of the low cost of labor, Kazuma has been consistently supplying competitively-priced ATVs to ATV enthusiasts all over the world.

Kazuma ATVs listens to you

It didn't use to be like this but with the rapid expansion of their marketing department and business, Kazuma has turned into one of the biggest ATV suppliers to dealers and distributors the world over. And the very reason why Kazuma is able to supply high quality ATVs to their customers is because they listen. The simple act of catering their ATVs and ATV parts according to the needs of ATV enthusiasts makes them popular and this is another plus point for Kazuma.

Kazuma provides a wide range of ATVs for ATV enthusiasts of all age groups

In understanding that their customers comes from various backgrounds and belong to different age groups, there is always a wide range of Kazuma ATVs designed for ATV fans of different skills, ages and preferences. From kids ATVs to Professional ATVs, Kazuma produces them and delivers according to market needs. Furthermore, when compared to other China-based ATV manufacturers, Kazuma comes out on top because the design and specifications of their ATVs covers the most base.

It's easy to find replacement parts for Kazuma ATVs

Just run a search through the Internet and you'll see for yourself how wide the network of distributors and dealers for Kazuma is. This is good news for ATV enthusiasts like you and me because this means accessibility whenever we need Kazuma replacements parts.

[TOPIC: KAYAKING, SPORT, WATERSPORT]

Taking paddling lessons

There's a reason why most people should take kayaking lessons before they should attempt a kayaking trip by themselves. And the reason is an extremely valid one. And that is so reduce the chances of having bad experience during a kayaking trip! You see, once you have a bad experience or near mishap during a kayaking trip, you run the chance of ever being able to live through a kayaking trip without being scared. A bad experience can mar your enjoyment for the sport. Even if you have a penchant for kayaking and boating, one bad experience can potentially turn you off the sport.

So, give kayaking a chance. Prove to yourself that you can enjoy something as fulfilling and potentially exciting as kayaking without risking your life or the safety of your loved ones! The only way to do that is to be well informed and learn the right way to kayak before you jump into the game.

Trial and error is probably OK for other stuff, like dancing or singing, but for kayaking and other forms of extreme sports, learning the right approach to the game is probably a better idea. Learning by trial and error can be cold, wet and a lot less fun than learning the correct way.

Kayaking is not an intuition-based sport

Let's compare kayaking to soccer or tennis. With soccer, you see the ball, you run for it and kick it. If the ball comes flying towards your face, what would your first reaction be? To block your face or at least duck out of the way. If you're playing tennis, you see the ball lobby over, you run towards the ball and intuitively swing your arms to hit it. Well, the level of skill and experience shows even in those games but in kayaking, intuition can only get you so far.

Kayaking is reliant on the weather - something that you cannot control. It's also dependent on the condition of your environment - also something you cannot control. Therefore, you'll need to learn how to adapt to the environment in order to stay afloat or at least steer yourself out of trouble. A few examples would be:-

When you're upside down and you're trying to roll up again, you don't lift your head (which you'll instinctively try to do), you don't reach way out with your hands and you don't pull down with the paddle. When you're floating over a river rock, you don't lean AWAY from it, you lean TOWARDS it. You see, you cannot rely on your instincts on a kayak.

Hence, learning from a professional can save you a lot of headache, heartache, discomfort, and painful mistakes.

Short kayaking courses

Contrary to popular beliefs, kayaking lessons don't take a long time. Sure enough, before kayaking became so popular, taking a course like this span over 2 weeks or a month. But now, the courses are compacted into three or four days of learning the basics of kayaking. Yes, this is all it takes for you to learn all the ropes to kayaking.

You won't be an expert by the end of the kayaking course, but at the very least, you'll know exactly what to do when you get into trouble. And with the right techniques, you will be able to enjoy your trip more, without having to contend with mistakes and minor problems.

Typically, a course like this will cost you approximately \$30 or so a day, so, if the course takes 3 days, you're only spending \$90 for a 3-day kayaking course! The \$90 will be well worth it because during the course, not only will you learn how to kayak, you'll also get to try out the many different types of boats, paddles and equipment so that you can make a more educated decision for your purchases. Wouldn't you agree that this will eventually help you save quite a bit of money from making wrong purchases?

Don't waste your time and money investing in the wrong equipment and clothing because it can all add up to quite a big chunk of money. If you learn and try all the different types of clothing, materials, boats and paddles before you buy, you won't make that costly mistake.

Classes are fun

Some people think that kayaking lessons and courses are made and designed for the young and excited. Wrong. Kayaking courses are designed for everyone. Anyone with an interest in kayaking can and WILL enjoy the experience of being in the fun class atmosphere. Not only will you learn the proper kayaking techniques, you will make new friends who share your hobby and interest. Who knows, you might be meeting up with your next kayaking race partner in the course.

Because kayaking is sometimes a dangerous sport, instructors are well-trained to bring the students' guards down. The best learning environment is when everyone is relaxed, having fun and enjoying themselves. And this is precisely how the classes and courses are designed. There are fascinating people from different backgrounds in these kayaking classes. So, let your guard down and enjoy these fun-filled classes.

Finding the right kayaking course to attend

The Internet is so swamped with information that you can find literally anything in it. Almost every other popular kayaking and canoeing schools are listed in search engines, directories and are linked from other websites. So, make a Google or Yahoo search to find a good kayaking school with a course that fits your budget, skill-level, requirements, and schedule.

If you can't find the right kayaking school to attend by searching the World Wide Web, use word of mouth. The best kayaking schools and courses often have a strong following of students and ex-students. So, make it a point to ask other paddlers what they think of their schools, how much and their opinion about the quality of the kayaking courses. If you don't know any kayaking enthusiasts, join a local club and you'll find lots of other kayaking enthusiasts lurking around.

Ask them how many students can you expect to find assigned to a single instructor? Usually, a kayaking class should have no more than 10 students with 2 instructors to the class. Ask them about the quality of the teaching and the course - how old and how experienced are the instructors? Do they know what they are talking about? When questions are asked, are the answers prompt and sound logical? Are the instructors young kayakers or are they well-traveled veteran kayakers? Do the instructors have qualifications to back up their teaching? Do they have a search, save and rescue team available? And although they need not be ACA-certified, having an ACA certification might make a difference, if that makes you feel more confident and comfortable.

If you don't have a budget or the time to attend a course, the second best thing you can do is to ask around and have a short chat with other kayakers - tap into their experience and knowledge. Most experienced kayakers worth his or her salt can tell you at least one story of being caught unawares in the middle of nowhere. Although it can sound exciting, funny and thrilling, you should take note and learn from their experience - especially how they got themselves out of the situation.

Some people think that these courses are designed for youngsters with tight jeans and baby doll tees, but this is not true. Take a look at some of the courses being held by kayaking experts at your favorite place and you might see some 'elderly people' taking the class because they want to be safe than sorry.

And that's the kind of mentality you should adopt too - it IS better to be safe than sorry.