Nu Skin â?? Not Worth My Money

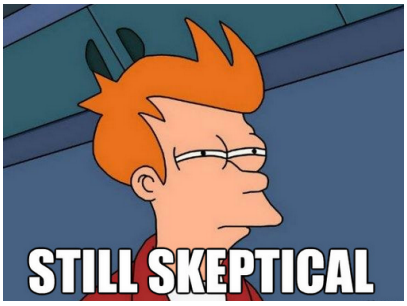
Description

Disclaimer: Everything in this post, save for the photos and price list, constitute my own personal opinion and should in no way be taken to be fact.

Nu Skin. Touted as the â??miracle cureâ?• to your acne or anti-ageing woes. So says your distributor / agent who is trying to sell you the product so they can get their commissions.

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> â??It really works! I used to be so depressed because I suffered from XXX skin condition and nothing worked. I didnâ??t believe it myself when I first heard of it, but after trying it, Iâ??ve become a convert and I really want to share this with you since youâ??re my friend!â?•



I should know. I believed this before, many many years ago when I was still young and was a troubled teenager plagued by puberty acne in 2006 â?? 2008. I was desperate to clear my skin, and get rid of the left behind pimple scars that made me want to cry whenever I looked into the mirror.

So when someone I trusted (young trust is cheap) told me about Nu Skin, I bought in pretty quick. Saving up weeks of my pocket money to buy this expensive product, I was so hopeful when I finally had enough to get it.

But it did not work, not for me.

I really wanted to share this (and it is only the beginning of many posts) because Iâ??ve had a lot of readers email me about how I save despite having to spend on my skincare regime (guys and girls included!). Hopefully you guys can learn from my mistakes ~~money wasted.~~

Problem #1: Nu Skinâ??s business operating model

There are many articles online that says Nu Skin operations on an MLM (multi-level marketing) basis. In other words, members and distributors invest money to buy Nu Skinâ??s products, and then sell it back to consumers at marked-up prices that are controlled by Nu Skin themselves. These people then profit from the sale. This means that if you were selling Nu Skinâ??s products, you have to first put in an initial deposit or investment to purchase the products. And of course, the more you buy, the cheaper it gets. The longer you donâ??t sell, the longer the product sits in your storage. Wouldnâ??t you want to sell it off quickly so you can get the money? At least, I would.

Red Flags in Nu Skinâ??s MLM model:
(Credits here)

- 1.Recruitment of participants is unlimited in an endless chain of empowered and motivated recruiters recruiting recruiters. **YES**
- 2. Advancement in a hierarchy of multiple levels of participants is achieved by recruitment, rather than by appointment.**YES**
- 3. Significant requirements that participants â??pay to playâ?• the game via product purchases. Thus, new recruits are the primary customers. **YES**
- 4. MLM company pays commissions and/or bonuses to at least 5 levels of participants, creating great â??leverageâ?• at the top. (Nu Skin uses a breakaway compensation system, with six levels of whole groups of participants, making it a mega-pyramid with one of the most extreme or highly leveraged compensation plans in existence. This is great for those at the top, but the pits for hundreds of thousands beneath them, who become its victims.) **YES**
- 5. Most of the payout goes to the upline, rather than to the person selling products, creating excessive incentive to recruit and inadequate incentive to sell products (except to new recruits) â?? and an extreme concentration of income at the top of a hierarchy (pyramid) of participants. **YES**

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Problem #2: Nu Skinâ??s expensive prices

Nu Skin products are dreadfully expensive, if you asked me. You can look at the price list below and compare the difference in profits between retail and wholesale prices.

I bought the 180 Face Wash previously, so if this table is to be believed, my â??friendâ?• earned $35 from that quick sale.
PSV below refers to Personal Sales Volume i.e. the minimum quantity someone has to sell in order to get discounted pricing.

Please find below the list of products that will have price adjustments from 1 April 2014 onwards:

SKU	Description	Retail	Wholesale		ARO	
		Price	Price	PSV	Price	PSV
CLEAR ACTION SYSTEM						
36110391	Clear Action System	338	236	123	189	86
36110388	Clear Action Cleanser (100ml)	95	66	34	53	24
36110387	Clear Action Toner (150ml)	80	56	29	44	20
36110389	Clear Action Day Treatment (30ml)	105	74	38	59	26
36110390	Clear Action Night Treatment (30ml)	105	74	38	59	26
180 ANTI-AGING SKIN THERAPY SYSTEM						
36101255	180 Anti Aging Skin Therapy System	690	483	252	386	177
36101251	180 Face Wash (125ml)	117	82	42	65	30
36101253	180 Skin Mist (100ml)	117	82	42	65	30
36101250	180 Cell Renewal Fluid (30ml)	207	145	75	116	53
36101254	180 UV Block Hydrator SPF 18 (30ml)	135	95	49	76	34
36101252	180 Night Repair Complex (30ml)	152	106	55	85	38
36101249	180 AHA Facial Peel and Neutralizer	215	150	78	120	55

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The price adjustment will take effect starting 1 April 2014 and the adjusted price will apply to all ARO contracts, including renewals.

Should you have any further queries concerning this price adjustment, please feel free to contact us at Tel: 63118276/63118300 for assistance.

We thank you for your understanding and look forward for your continuous support.

Our best always,
Nu Skin Singapore

Problem #3: Nu Skinâ??s ingredients

Now, Iâ??m not a skincare expert, but having battled skincare woes myself I do know quite a bit about certain ingredients and how they work. Common ingredients in acne products will include salicylic acid, benzoyl peroxide, sulfur, AHAs and tea tree. The active ingredient in Nu Skinâ??s Epoch Blemish Treatment is 2% salicylic acid. Youâ??ll find the same percentage in drugstore brand Neutrogena Acne Eliminating Spot Gel for only one-third of the price.



Budget Babeâ??s Review of Nu Skin Products

I didnâ??t try all their products obviously, so I can only comment on the few Iâ??ve purchased and personally tried before. Take my opinions with a pinch of salt, and decide on your own whether the product is really worth your money.

Review: Epoch Blemish Treatment

Nu Skinâ??s claim: Calms redness and helps clear up troubled complexions.

Ingredients: Active: Salicylic Acid 2%
Other: Water (Aqua), PEG-32, PVM/MA Decadiene Crosspolymer, Alpha-Glucan Oligosaccharide, Jobâ??s Tears (Coix Lacryma-Jobi) Extract, Burdock (Arctium Lappa) Extract, Yarrow (Achillea Millefolium) Extract, Chamomile (Anthemis Nobilis) Extract, Vanilla Planifolia Extract, Sweet Violet (Viola Odorata) Extract, Sandalwood (Santalum Album) Oil, Rose Extract, Tangerine (Citrus Tangerina) Extract, Patchouli (Pogostemon Cablin) Oil, Oakmoss (Evernia Prunastri) Extract, Black Currant (Ribes Nigrum) Extract, Black Pepper (Piper Nigrum) Extract, Sodium Hydroxide, PPG-26-Buteth-26, PEG-40 Hydrogenated Castor Oil.

My results:

- Calm redness? No.
- Clear up troubled complexions? No.

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It was terrible for me. I had 2 pimples and applied this on one, Oxy on another. Within 2 days, the one where I used Epoch on was no better, and had pus coming out. Oxy, on the other hand, helped to subdue the size of my pimple.

Verdict: Not worth it. If youâ??re in for salicylic acid, itâ??ll be cheaper substituting other drugstore brands who use this ingredient as well.

(I just bought this cheap a few months ago off my friend who didnâ??t want hers anymore to give a more updated review on this item)



Review: Nu Skin 180 Cleanser

Nu Skinâ??s claim: Targets age spots, discoloration, and helps diminish wrinkles with 10% active vitamin C.

Ingredients: Glycerin, Ascorbic Acid, Sesamum Indicum (Sesame) Seed Oil, C12-15 Alkyl Benzoate, Sodium Cocoyl Isethionate, Hydrogenated Soybean Oil, Sodium C14-16 Olefin Sulfonate, Vitis Vinifera (Grape) Seed Extract, Ginkgo Biloba Leaf Extract, Panax Ginseng Root Extract, Stearyl Glycyrrhetinate, Phospholipids, Butylene Glycol, Carbomer, Silica, Fragrance (Parfum), Titanium Dioxide (CI 77891). Covered by U.S. Patents 5,409,706; 5,254,334.

The cleanser has a very strong fruity, vitamin-like smell. Makes me feel healthy using it, and Iâ??m reluctant to wash it off! But it did nothing for my skin. Anti-ageing? Nope. Softer skin? Yes, but my other cleansers does the same job for less as well. Reduced discoloration? Not at all.

Also note that active Vitamin C (also known as ascorbic acid) does not last long. It is very difficult to manufacture this in product-form and keep it fresh. Ascorbic acid is also highly susceptible to oxidation, and I do not know if Nu Skin has discovered a miracle process to maintain the purity and freshness of this ingredient.

Verdict: For the smell alone, I MIGHT repurchase once in a very long while. But because Budget Babe is all about budget, this is highly unlikely.

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Review: Nu Skin 180 Cell Renewal Fluid

Nu Skinâ??s claim: Helps to accelerate cell renewal to reveal more youthful looking skin.
Ingredients: Water (Aqua), Gluconolactone, Sodium Gluconate, Butylene Glycol, Arginine, Soy Isoflavones, Salicylic Acid, Tetrahydrodiferuloylmethane, Allantoin, Panthenol, Xanthan Gum, PEG/PPG-14/4 Dimethicone, Tetrasodium EDTA.

Cell renewal should also help in reducing spot scarring, but nope, this did nothing for me. It only made me feel sad about my purchase.



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Review: Epoch Glacial Marine Mud

Nu Skinâ??s Claim: Extracts impurities, removes dead skin cells, and rejuvenates damaged skin.

Ingredients: EpochÂ® Glacial Marine Mud (Maris Limus), Water (Aqua), Algae Extract, Propylene Glycol, Diazolidinyl Urea, Methylparaben, Propylparaben, 2-Bromo-2-Nitropropane-1, 3-Diol.

Methylparaben is a harmful chemical ingredient that can aggravate breakouts. This product was only so-so for me. In my opinion, there are better (and cheaper) mud masks out there.



Review: Nu Skin Clear Action System

Touted and sold as a solution for acne sufferers. But this did absolutely nothing for me, and is one of the most expensive acne-clearing system out there in the market. I wouldnâ??t bother wasting my money on it again.

Overall Verdict:

Budget Babe personally finds Nu Skin overrated, oversold and over-marketed. The products are too marked-up, and the ingredient lists did not consist of any â??miraculousâ?• ingredients or effects that were claimed. I would not repurchase.

Stay tuned for more reviews â?? I will share more on what skincare products are not worth buying and what are! All are my personal opinion only.

Are you a Nu Skin user? Leave a comment below!

Category

1. Family

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