



Five ways to recognize a reputable, legitimate mystery shopping company:

1. A **legitimate** company shows their contact information on their website.
2. A **legitimate** company's emails have their actual web address after the "@" sign in their email address. If you aren't sure, take the words after the "@" sign and type it in your browser; that *should* open their website. Example: **suzie@yahoo.com**. **www.yahoo.com** is **not** a shopper company. **Info@shopperjobs.com**: **www.shopperjobs.com** is a legitimate company.
3. **Legitimate** companies pay YOU. They DO NOT ask you for a fee to sign up.
4. **Legitimate** companies **do not** send you a check, then ask you to cash it or deposit it in your bank account, and then ask you to send money back, via money wiring service. **THIS IS A SCAM!!**
5. **Legitimate** companies offer you shopping jobs, and *you* decide whether or not to accept them.

If you ever question if a company is legitimate or not, you can contact the MSPA (Mystery Shopping Providers Association). The MSPA certifies only reputable and ethical mystery shopping companies.

You can go to their website, www.mysteryshop.org, click on **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS** on the homepage. Then click on the blue link titled **OUR MEMBER COMPANIES**. This displays companies that are reputable, ethical, and legitimate. Check this list **first**, before you give any personal information online or by phone to ANY mystery shopping company. You may also contact the MSPA by phone at **502-574-9033**.

Please take these guidelines to heart and you'll have fun earning that extra cash!