

Become an Auction Stealer

When you're an auction stealer, you snipe your way to happiness, even if you are asleep! Gone are the days where you have to hover over your computer keyboard trying to manually grab an auction at the last second.

Becoming an auction stealer (a.k.a. – sniper) is very important to getting the best deals at the best prices.

Now don't worry, you're not doing anything illegal or unethical. Actually, it's welcomed by eBay.

You can read this on eBay's "Getting Outbid" help page where they actually state that "Sniping is part of the eBay experience, and all bids placed before a listing ends are valid - even if they're placed one second before the listing ends."

As you can see, bidding as an auction stealer is a welcomed practice. So let's learn how to snipe on eBay.

Snipe on eBay 101

There are a few basic principles to use when you snipe on eBay.

First and foremost, you have to use the right esnipe service that fits your needs. We've reviewed 8 of the most popular esnipe services to use when you snipe on eBay.

Next, you need determine how many seconds before the auction closes that you want your snipe to take place. This is important as you may be bidding against other auction snipers.

However, you do want to allow for possibly slow connections, or slow computers, so that your bid does get placed in time.

Personally, I have my sniping service, [Prospector](#), set to 5 seconds.

The amount of time that you want to wait before the esnipe occurs is completely up to your discretion. However, keep this in mind.

If the amount of time is too small, any slowness between e-Bay and your esnipe service may prevent your bid from reaching e-Bay in time.

If the amount of time is too great, you will probably give a competing bidder enough time to take the auction back, and you lose.

I recommend that you make the time no less than 3 seconds, but no greater than 7 seconds. However, feel free to play with this time setting so you can find what works the best for you.

For detailed information specific to your esnipe service, please see that services help documentation on how to specifically set the seconds to your liking.

Second, remember to bid the maximum amount that you feel comfortable with while still feeling like you will get a good deal.

This will help to ensure that you have the best chances on winning the auction for a price that you can boast about! Trust me, if you become an auction stealer, you'll end up with deals that you will definitely feel proud of!

Finally, use a snipe service that allows the use of bid groups.

SIDENOTE: The use of bid groups is critical to getting what you want at the price you want. If your snipe service does not offer this feature, I'd highly recommend that you find a new service to use for your auction stealer strategy! [Prospector](#) is an incredible tool to use as your esnipe service provider.

Bid groups allow you to bid on several items at one time. If one online auction item in the group is won, the esnipe service will cancel all other bids in that bid group.

What does that mean to you?

You can just about set your own price for the item you want.

This means that you will greatly increase your chances of successfully winning an auction at the price YOU want!

Auction Stealer - Quick Review

Let's have a quick review of what we've learned.

- Determine the number of seconds before the auction close that you desire your esnipe service to make your bid.
- Bid the maximum amount that you feel comfortable, while still feeling like you're getting a good deal.
- Use bid groups to perform your auction stealer strategies!

If you follow what is outlined on this page, I assure you that you'll be successfully sniping in no time flat!

We highly recommend that you use [Prospector by MoxieProxy](#) for your searching and esnipe needs! We've used this tool with great success and have nothing but praise for this tool.

For a detailed review on Prospector and other great auction tools, see our "Looking for e-Bay Auctions" tools review page.

More information is available about sniping on our auction stealer and esnipe main page.