

The Offers and Needs Market Instructions

An Offers and Needs Market is a non-commercial gift exchange to give and get help within a specific community. Each exchange builds a connection, more connections create meaningful relationships, and the collective relationships strengthen our community.

Examples

- You love teaching graphic design and some people are eager to make their first logo. Match!
- A participant enjoys being an accountability buddy and you need someone to periodically check in with you on your next project. Match!

Getting Started

Take up to **two** Post It Notes of each color and a writing utensil. This is an abuse- and judgment-free zone, so be as open as you like for your offers and needs. We also encourage you to go beyond what people might expect you to say your gifts are or what you need help with.

Create Your Offers

These are typically things that come from your heart (caring about children or the environment), head (how to use social media), hands (cooking or carpentry), or connections (the people, groups, or associations you and your family know).

Write the following on each *[specific color]* Post It Note:

- **Your full name** in the upper left and **contact information** in the upper right to tell participants how you want to be contacted (e.g., email, Twitter handle, or phone number).
- **The offer itself** in the center. Use abbreviations if you have to and keep the description short.
- **Offer limit** in the lower left. Write “Unlimited” or a number for each time someone can use your offer. Example: your offer is good for up to five people and you write “1 2 3 4 5”.
- **Expiration date (optional)** in the lower right if your offer goes “poof!” after a specific date.

Craft Your Needs

What are you working on, seeking, or what kind of support do you need that another participant could provide? Go big if you like because you probably won't get what you don't ask for.

Write the following on each *[specific color]* Post It Note:

- **Your full name** in the upper left and **contact information** in the upper right.
- **The need itself** in the center, using abbreviations and short descriptions when necessary.
- **The urgency** in the lower left as you decide between “Urgent,” “Semi-urgent,” or “Not urgent.”
- **Expiration date (optional)** in the lower right if your need goes away after a specific date.

Final Steps

- Neatly stick your Post It Notes besides the existing offers and needs notes on the *[wall/table]*.
- Browse others' notes and capture the details *without taking the note* (e.g., snap a picture) of the ones you or another camper you know could make a match on. For offers, write a line through the first unmarked number (e.g., 4 ~~2~~ 3) if the quantity is limited and you intend to use it.
- Connect with your fellow Offers and Needs Market participants about the contents of their notes during or after the market. **Make some matches and maybe make a new friend!**