

E-commerce Customer Churn Analysis

Building Data-Driven Buyer Personas for Retention

Objective: Use customer behavior and engagement data to explain why churn happens and how to reduce it.

[Github Project link](#)

Dataset & Problem

- 50,000 customers from a global e-commerce + subscription platform
- 25 features: behavior, engagement, purchases, support, value
- Binary churn indicator (Churned vs Loyal)
- Retention matters more than acquisition cost

Key question:

Why do customers with **real spending power** still churn?

Why Buyer Personas (Retention Lens)

- Numbers alone don't explain churn
- Personas turn metrics into **clear customer stories**
- Help teams spot **early churn signals**
- Support **targeted retention actions**, not assumptions

Goal:

Move from “*what happened*” → “*what to do next*”

Methodology (How This Was Built)

- Analysis done in **Excel** using pivot tables
- Customers segmented by **Churn_Status**
- Compared **averages, counts, and percentages**

Four persona layers used together:

- Behavioral (logins, sessions, purchases)
- Engagement (email, support, social, app)
- Value (AOV, LTV, purchases)
- Categorical (gender, country, signup quarter)

Missing values were left untouched to avoid assumptions.

Churned Buyer Persona (Who Leaves)

Behavior

- 9.12 logins / month
- 23.69 min per session
- 7.37 pages per visit
- Purchases every **36.94 days**

Engagement

- Email open rate: **15.89%**
- Support calls: **6.90**
- Low social + app usage

Value

- AOV: **\$134.76**
- LTV: **\$1,425.42**

What the Churned Persona Tells Us

- Customers **do buy**, but not often
- They engage lightly, then disappear
- High support calls signal **confusion or friction**
- Churn is driven by **low clarity**, not low value

Insight:

This customer doesn't leave because of price.

She leaves because the platform feels hard to use.

Loyal Buyer Persona (Who Stays)

Behavior

- 12.64 logins / month
- 29.21 min per session
- 9.30 pages per visit
- Purchases every **26.89 days**

Engagement

- Email open rate: **22.93%**
- Support calls: **5.19**
- Strong social + app usage

Value

- AOV: **\$118.38**
- LTV: **\$1,446.81**

Key Comparison (Churn vs Loyal)

Loyal users

- Log in more
- Explore more
- Buy more often
- Need less support

Churned users

- Spend **more per order**
- But feel unsure and disengaged

Core churn driver:

Low engagement + high friction, not low spending.

Content Strategy (Retention, Not Marketing)

Why content matters

- Churned users still show purchase intent
- They need **guidance**, not promotions

Content goals

- Reduce confusion
- Increase confidence
- Shorten time between purchases
- Lower support dependency

Where Content Is Used (What & Why)

Blog (Mid-Bottom Funnel)

- Product usage clarity
- Common issues & fixes
- Purchase decision support

Email

- Short, educational, value-based
- Feature reminders
- “Before you contact support” guidance

In-App

- Tooltips and walkthroughs
- Inactivity prompts after long gaps
- Real-time friction removal

Reducing Support Calls Through Content

- Churned users make **6.90 calls**
- Loyal users make **5.19 calls**

Content replaces support by

- Answering repeat questions early
- Preventing confusion in-app
- Offering self-serve help

Result

Lower frustration → lower churn risk

Cross-Department Impact

Marketing

- Trigger retention campaigns before churn
- Segment by engagement decline, not discounts

Customer Success

- Identify high-risk users early
- Shift from reactive to proactive support

Sales

- Upsell loyal, high-LTV users
- Avoid pushing churn-risk users

Product

- Fix usability gaps
- Improve onboarding and feature clarity

Final Takeaway

- Churned users are **valuable but disengaged**
- Personas explain **why churn happens**
- Content becomes a **retention tool**, not noise
- Data → Personas → Actions → Business impact

This project shows how analytics supports real decisions, not just dashboards.