

# DoorDash Mega Tips for Those Who Want to Thrive!

1. Acceptance rate does not matter!
  - a. Don't let DoorDash fool you with the "Top Dasher" program.  
It's complete bullshit.
  - b. Mine is literally between 1-20%, just depends on how lucky you are getting with orders! Don't let it bother you, it does not affect your earnings at all.
2. Put a strap of your hot bag on your passenger seat headrest. It will act as a third hand and is a very safe place to put cupholders.
3. If you ever get a cardboard cupholder like the one pictured below, always ask for a second one. Take the drinks out, put the two cupholders together, and then put the drinks back in. It will hold the drinks in way more and makes it super safe that way.



4. Don't be afraid to completely boycott certain food places. For example, I will NEVER go to Dunkin, Red Lobster, or Five Guys

because the wait is always at minimum 15 minutes. You can get an entirely different order done in that time!

5. If the restaurant tells you that the food is going to take more than 15 minutes, or if you get unlucky waiting more than 15 minutes, unassign the order if there are other places nearby. You won't get paid for the order at all, it's essentially cancelling it on your end so you can continue dashing other orders. To do this, hit the help button, can't do this order, select why, and done. You've unassigned. Be careful not to do this too often, as it affects your completion rate for each unassign. You MUST keep it above 80% to avoid getting deactivated from the platform.
6. Red Card orders are almost always a waste of time. Do not take them unless it is slow, because if the store doesn't have a particular time, the customer cannot always be available to contact for substitutes.
7. Track your miles with a spreadsheet for tax purposes. This can help you get a massive tax deduction, sometimes thousands of dollars' worth of savings.
8. Never use fast pay. The two-dollar fee really adds up if used constantly. Just wait for the weekly deposits like the rest of us 😊

9. Roughly check the items and see if the number of items make sense with what you carried out of the restaurant. As an example, there were actually two orders for the same person, and I almost walked out with the wrong one!
10. Don't take any orders from Walmart. It's a pain in the ass to deliver the items and you never know what they are until you get there.
11. Don't take anything under \$6. Remember, you are also getting paid for waiting for the food at the restaurant, getting out of your car twice and getting into your car twice. Just keep sitting in your car waiting for orders.
12. Don't take any grocery store orders. Too many items and not worth your time unless it's PETCO or PetSmart you might be ok if it's NOT a shop and deliver order.
13. DoorDash support is your angel. If something goes wrong, don't hesitate to contact the support number if you need help. Some of these cases (I've had to contact support about 15 times now) include:
  - a. Restaurant has never received the order and you are there for no reason (I like to call these ghost orders)

- b. Someone else already picked up the same order earlier and for whatever reason it was still being offered to dashers.
  - c. Customer puts in the incorrect address and asks you to go somewhere else (if it's a couple blocks just go there). Reason is that if you are a distance away from the address the customer put in the app, you won't be able to complete the delivery and you will have to contact support for this.
14. Parking zones are your best friends. If my dasher bag is in the front seat, I'm not worried about getting a ticket so just pull up in front of the restaurant and throw your hazards on and grab your order really quick.
15. Although this might not be smart, you might want to leave your car unlocked if you are in a relatively busy area. Imagine this: you come out of the restaurant, both hands full of food! Not that easy to grab your keys out of your pocket!
16. Order subtotals can sometimes estimate how much of a tip you will be getting. By clicking the hamburger icon, clicking on the delivery for a particular customer and scrolling down on the items pane, you may see an order subtotal. Higher orders will usually tip more, so definitely handle them with care!

17. Hidden tips are usually found at acceptances of around \$7.50 without peak pay considered. Therefore, take these orders as much as you see them if you see a decent number of items, as they are usually the bigger orders and they pay well! If peak pay is current \$1, this magic number will now be \$8.50, etc.

18. [Para Gig HQ](#) is an app that used to show these hidden tip amounts. Unfortunately, DoorDash changed their backend and displaying the hidden tips is not longer possible. Now they will show you an estimated tip based on the subtotal without you having to accept the order, which will give you an idea if the order is worth taking.

19. You can pick up/deliver stack orders in any order you want. For example (extensive so that everyone understands), if you were currently in Los Angeles, and had to deliver to Houston and Philadelphia, I would make sure that you deliver the Philadelphia order first and then deliver the Houston order. That way you will be most of the way back to the area that you reside in.

- a. Note that the app won't necessarily take you this route. You can manually change this yourself by using the hamburger menu, selecting the restaurant/house you want to go to first, then hit

“Jump to Task”. It might not work well, just mess around with the other order until you get what you want.

20. If you are unable to take the hidden tip orders because it's slow, aim for at minimum \$1.50/mile. It is way better to sit in your car for a longer period than practically lose money because of terrible gas prices. Wait for that order that kindles your heart!
21. It's okay if you get a few low-star ratings. I've had a few myself; if you are doing everything to the best of your abilities and are being as polite and respectful as possible, you will be fine. There are plenty of idiots out there that want to make you feel bad. Just suck it up and move on, it happens!
22. If you spill a drink in your car during a delivery, unfortunately that's on you! Go back to the restaurant and ask for another one, offer to pay for it but they will usually just refill it for you for free.
23. Create text replacements on your phone for when you may need to contact the customer because of a longer delivery, a stack taking forever, etc. For example, just by typing ddlong, it will fill in “Hi this is Matt with DoorDash, just letting you know that the restaurant is taking longer than usual to prepare your food.” Now imagine if you had to type this out every time you have this common problem.

24. Which brings me to my next point: keep your customer updated when things don't go as planned. Think about what you would want as a customer. If my second stack is taking a while, let the first guy know what's going on and they will appreciate your communication.
25. When on an order and you receive an offer to stack, make sure it's on your route or don't take it unless it pays unusually well for the distance. You're going to keep your first customer waiting longer than they should be which may result in a lower rating for you! For whatever reason the hidden tips for these usually are at around \$6.50 or higher, they don't follow the usual patterns for hidden tips.
26. When waiting for your food, review the delivery instructions and address. This will help you deliver the food faster because you'll already have an idea of where you need to go.
27. If anything seems strange with the delivery instructions, **ESPECIALLY IN APARTMENTS**, don't hesitate to **CALL** the customer. **DO NOT TEXT** because you need them now if you are stuck at a gate, can't find the apartment number, etc.
28. Panera Corporate (customer ordered through the Panera app and not the DoorDash app) orders like to hijack the app. It will try to force you to contact the customer for delivery instructions. Treat

these like any other order. If you look to the bottom of the massive paragraph of text, you'll see an "instructions from customer" section. Always make sure to hit "received instructions already" as this is just a waste of time. Just leave it at the door and move on if the customer didn't note otherwise.

- a. Note that if you do need to contact the customer, say you are with a Panera delivery, not DoorDash. Not every customer that orders through the Panera app knows that their delivery service is powered by DoorDash, so it's more understandable if you say you're with a Panera delivery instead.
29. Working during larger peak pays might seem like a good idea, but they may be terrible. This could lead to an oversaturation of drivers, causing you to get less offers. Avoid dashing during these times, although it may be very tempting.
30. If the food is too big to fit in the hot bag, don't worry about it. It's not a big deal. But still try to fit it in there if you can.
31. Some stores say "you need to have your hot bag to enter the store" just ignore it. They never update the delivery instructions anyway.



32. At least in the NJ area, you can get away without using a mask in any store. Unless you still see the sign on the door, don't bother. Breathe away.
33. Need more pause time because you're taking too long to eat your food you got from somewhere? Just resume the dash and pause it again, that way you won't have to end the dash. It will recycle the 35 minutes.
34. The reasons for declining or unassigning an order don't mean anything. They won't affect how your orders come in anyway, just select something random.
35. Sign up for DoorDash with someone's referral. You'll both earn money from completing a certain number of deliveries within a particular number of days. Easy money for the same amount of work.
36. Pick up time is just a recommendation, if you are still waiting for the food past the pickup time it does not hurt you. If customers rate you poorly *because* of the long wait, DoorDash removes these ratings regardless.
37. Delivering to a store such as Target or Walgreens? It's for the employees there, not the customers. Just ask the first person you see for the customer's name and they will route you to the proper

employee if they are not already at the front of the store waiting for you.

38. If you think the delivery dress is a particular business, double check the given address with apple maps to verify you are headed to the correct location. This will help you easily spot the place, and ensure you walk into the correct store the first time.
39. Delivery time is super important. Once you leave the restaurant, the app will calculate a delivery time based on current traffic conditions with several minutes added to it. If you are more than 10 minutes late to a delivery, you could get a contract violation which can lead to deactivation if it is a repeated offense.
40. Sometime a stack order will be to the same customer. The app will prompt you to deliver like it's a completely different address, but usually for the second one you can just say that you handed it to the customer if it's a leave it at the door order. If you take photos of both, the customer will get two photos of the food texted to them!