

Troopons Coupons

VOLUNTEER PROJECT FOR TEENS GRADES 6-12

For most of us, it is easy to collect and use coupons -- our papers and magazines arrive full of them. For military families on bases, it can be a bit harder. However, the stores on military bases (both overseas and domestic) accept manufacturer coupons -- even *recently* expired ones (see below). A non-profit organization, SupportOurTroops.Org, has taken on the project of distributing these valuable coupons to base stores worldwide, to help the financial well-being of American military families. Help out by participating in this project!

How to Complete this Project:

1. Collect coupons: Only "Manufacturer's Coupons" can be used. They can be from newspapers, magazine inserts, dispensers in grocery stores, tear-pads, etc. as long as they state "Manufacturer's Coupon" on them. Troopons does *NOT* collect assistance vouchers, food stamps, store coupons, restaurant coupons, or internet coupons.

2. Sort the coupons into two piles by date:

- *Expired, but still usable:* coupons ranging from two months prior to the current date through one month beyond the current date.
- *Unexpired:* coupons with dates two months from the current date and beyond.

Example: if today is Jan. 2021, coupons dated March 2021 and beyond are Unexpired; coupons dated Nov. 2020 to Feb. 2021 are all considered Expired, but still usable. If this is confusing, see the handy document named: Troopons Coupons Useful Info.

3. Cut the coupons. All coupons must be cut around the dotted lines into individual coupons, not just a sheet containing the coupon. Coupons that are not cut will be recycled at the Troopons offices without moving on to families, due to a shortage of staff on their part to cut uncut coupons.

4. Sort the two piles of coupons into eight piles by category: The Expired and Unexpired coupons should each have separate piles of the following categories: Food, Non-Food, Baby Items, and Pet Items.

5. Bag up the eight categories: Use sandwich-sized Ziploc bags for each of the eight categories. Write the specific category on the bag in sharpie (Expired or Unexpired and Food, Non-Food, Baby, or Pet). Then, use a calculator to count the total retail savings in each bag and write the amounts on the outside of the bags.

6. Take a picture: Arrange all the bags on a surface and snap a picture. Send the picture, along with your full name, phone number, and grade level to help@hauppaugelibrary.org with the subject line: Volunteer - Troopons.

7. Mail the finished project to:

Support Our Troops®
P.O. Box 70
Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0070

You will receive three (3) hours of service credit for this project. It can only be completed once per newsletter season, for a maximum total of three (3) hours of credit: Winter (Dec/Jan/Feb); Spring (Mar/Apr/May); Summer (Jun/Jul/Aug); Fall (Sept/Oct/Nov). You can expect a confirmation email of your service credit from the Hauppage Public Library usually within 5 business days.

Read more about the Troopons project here: supportourtroops.org/troopons