

March 18, 2021

## **Delivery Services - Can't live without them?**

By Jenny Castillo, Neighborhood News Staff Writer

Before quarantine, I considered delivery services a specialty—I used them when I was in a pinch—but for the most part visited my grocer every week. Fast forward a year, and I don't think I'll ever go back. It's a way of life, reflective of the times, and pretty much available for whatever you desire.

### **Convenience delivered**

Sometimes you simply don't feel like driving, leaving the house, or wearing pants. Have no fear, the delivery age is here. New options for delivery items pop up every day. Some of the most unique options—delivered in markets like New York and Los Angeles—are things like clothing and alcohol. I guess the age-old excuse of not having a thing to wear won't hold up. What about late-night ice cream cravings? Yep, you can have dessert delivered. And that's not all; try having massages, tans, Christmas trees, personal hair stylists, diapers, and let's not forget take-out and groceries, all delivered to your door.

### **There's an app for that**

Grocery and take-out delivery apps have many features. When choosing an app, look for subscription fees, limits on how many orders you can make, stores available, last minute additions and order time frame. With take-out delivery apps, it's gotten so easy, some food can be ordered with a food emoji! Keep in mind that restaurants must pay a fee to use the app, so when it comes to eating at a local establishment, call ahead to see if they prefer you order for curbside pickup instead of delivery.

### **Will the trend last?**

Test markets are trying different delivery methods—drones, parachutes, robots. Delivery doesn't show signs of fizzle any time soon; in fact, delivery services have a long history. Home delivery of mail order products can be traced back to the days of Montgomery Ward catalogues. Food delivery goes back even farther, as early as the 18th and 19th centuries! It was no surprise to discover that those early food deliveries were pizza. Tastes haven't changed, but technology has made it easier than ever to bring convenience to our busy lives.

For further reading:

- <https://rubygarage.org/blog/food-delivery-trends-2019>
- <https://www.apartmenttherapy.com/13-things-you-had-no-idea-you-could-get-delivered-241178>
- <http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/pages/779.html>

