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COOLSHOES – We do it your way- Business Plan

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ABSTRACT:

The product emerges as a pioneering force in India's burgeoning sneaker culture, offering a unique blend of fashion, functionality, and affordability. This paper explores the inception and evolution of Cool Shoes, a brand that addresses the unmet needs of sneaker enthusiasts through its distinctive product offerings. Focused on providing practical solutions to common sneaker dilemmas, Cool Shoes introduces white sneakers equipped with cutting-edge glow-in-the-dark technology and integrated pockets housing shoe cleaning wipes. Through meticulous market analysis and strategic positioning, Cool Shoes aims to disrupt the Indian footwear market dominated by established players. This paper examines Cool Shoes' strategic approach, market feasibility, and potential impact on India's sneaker landscape. By combining innovation, consumer insights, and a commitment to excellence, Cool Shoes seeks to redefine the boundaries of fashion and functionality in the Indian sneaker industry.

Keywords: Sneaker Culture, Footwear innovation, Fashion, Functionality, Customization, Shoe cleaning wipes, Indian footwear industry

I. INTRODUCTION:

The footwear industry stands as a cornerstone of the global fashion landscape, encompassing a diverse array of products ranging from athletic shoes to high-end fashion footwear. With its extensive product offerings and broad consumer base, the market for shoes and boots represents a dynamic and ever-evolving sector that is influenced by a myriad of factors including consumer preferences, technological advancements, and market trends. This research paper endeavours to provide an in-depth analysis of the shoes and boots market, offering insights into key trends, challenges, and opportunities within the industry.

Consumer behaviour plays a pivotal role in shaping the footwear market, with discernible trends influencing purchasing decisions and product preferences. Notable trends include the rise of athleisure, which has propelled demand for fashionable and functional athletic shoes and sneakers. Additionally, there is a growing emphasis on sustainability within the footwear industry, with consumers seeking ethically produced and environmentally friendly footwear options. The advent of e-commerce has further transformed consumer shopping habits, offering convenience, accessibility, and a vast array of choices in the footwear marketplace.

The footwear market is characterized by intense competition, with numerous brands vying for market share through various strategies including product innovation, branding, and marketing. Moreover, the emergence of niche players and direct-to-consumer brands has reshaped the competitive landscape, challenging established players to adapt and differentiate themselves in an increasingly crowded market space.

While the footwear market presents significant opportunities for growth and expansion, it also poses challenges for industry participants. These challenges include rapid changes in consumer preferences, supply chain complexities, and the threat of counterfeit products. Additionally, fluctuating raw material prices, labor costs, and economic uncertainties can impact the profitability and sustainability of footwear businesses. Nonetheless, amidst these challenges lie opportunities for brands to innovate, diversify, and capture new market segments. By embracing technology, sustainability, and strategic partnerships, footwear companies can navigate the competitive landscape and achieve sustainable growth in the global shoes and boots market. The footwear industry represents a dynamic and multifaceted market that continues to evolve in response to changing consumer dynamics and market trends. This research paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the shoes and boots market, offering valuable insights and strategic recommendations for industry stakeholders. By understanding consumer trends, addressing challenges, and capitalizing on opportunities, footwear brands can position themselves for success in an ever-changing global marketplace.

II. MARKETING PLAN

A. Market Analysis

The footwear industry in India is witnessing a transformative shift driven by changing consumer preferences, technological advancements, and evolving fashion trends. Cool Shoes, as an emerging player in this dynamic landscape, aims to address the needs of sneaker enthusiasts by offering innovative and functional footwear solutions. This market analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the Indian footwear market, highlighting key trends, opportunities, and challenges relevant to Cool Shoes.

Market Size and Growth Potential:

The Indian footwear market is experiencing steady growth, propelled by factors such as population expansion, increasing disposable incomes, and a growing emphasis on fashion and self-expression. According to industry reports, the market was valued at USD XX billion in 2023 and is projected to grow at a CAGR of XX% over the forecast period. This presents a significant opportunity for Cool Shoes to establish itself as a prominent player in the Indian footwear industry.

Consumer Trends:

Sneaker culture in India is rapidly gaining traction, transcending traditional boundaries and becoming a mainstream phenomenon. Enthusiasts, ranging from fashion-conscious individuals to sports enthusiasts, are increasingly seeking unique and functional footwear options that reflect their personal style and preferences. Cool Shoes aims to capitalize on this trend by offering white sneakers with innovative features such as glow-in-the-dark capabilities and built-in pockets for shoe cleaning wipes. By catering to the needs of discerning consumers, Cool Shoes seeks to carve a niche for itself in the competitive Indian footwear market.

Competitive Landscape:

The Indian footwear market is characterized by intense competition, with both domestic and international brands vying for market share. However, there is ample room for new entrants like Cool Shoes to differentiate themselves through innovative designs, unique features, and targeted marketing strategies. By focusing on functionality, affordability, and style, Cool Shoes aims to challenge the dominance of established players and capture market share in the rapidly evolving Indian footwear industry.

Growth Opportunities:

Cool Shoes has identified several growth opportunities within the Indian footwear market, including:

- 1. Product Innovation: By continually innovating and introducing new features and designs, Cool Shoes can differentiate itself from competitors and attract a loyal customer base.
- 2. Brand Building: Investing in brand building activities such as marketing campaigns, influencer partnerships, and experiential events can help Cool Shoes establish a strong brand identity and connect with its target audience.
- E-commerce Expansion: Leveraging the power of e-commerce platforms can enable Cool Shoes to reach a wider audience and drive sales
 across geographies. A robust online presence coupled with seamless shopping experiences can enhance brand visibility and customer
 engagement.
- 4. Customization: Offering customization options such as personalized designs, colours, and materials can appeal to consumers' desire for unique and personalized footwear options. By providing customization features, Cool Shoes can enhance customer satisfaction and loyalty.

Cool Shoes is well-positioned to capitalize on the growing demand for innovative and functional footwear solutions in the Indian market. By understanding consumer trends, leveraging technological advancements, and differentiating itself through product innovation, Cool Shoes aims to become a leading player in the Indian footwear industry.

B. Market Segmentation

Market Segment	Description	
	Age: 16 and above, Income: Middle to High Income, Occupation: Various, including professionals, students, and fashion influencers	
Geographic	Primarily urban and semi-urban areas across India	
Psychographic	raphic Fashion-conscious individuals, sneaker enthusiasts, trendsetters, and those who value unique style	
Regular purchasers of footwear, particularly sneakers, interested in innovative features and designs		

C. Target Market

1. Demographics:

- Age: 16 and above
- Income: Middle to high income
- Location: Primarily urban and semi-urban areas across India

2. Psychographics:

- · Fashion-conscious individuals
- Sneaker enthusiasts
- Trendsetters

Those who appreciate unique and innovative designs

3. Behaviours:

- Regular purchasers of footwear, especially sneakers
- Willingness to invest in products offering innovation, quality, and value
- Interest in staying updated with the latest trends
- Drawn to brands providing distinctive designs and functional benefits

Understanding the demographics, psychographics, and behaviors of our target market allows Cool Shoes to tailor its marketing strategies and product offerings effectively, aiming to establish itself as a trusted and preferred choice among consumers who value style, functionality, and affordability in their footwear purchases.

D. Marketing Strategies

1. Direct-to-Consumer Approach:

- Establish an intuitive and user-friendly e-commerce platform for Cool Shoes, offering a seamless shopping experience to customers.
- Implement personalized marketing tactics such as targeted email campaigns and retargeting ads to engage with consumers directly and drive sales.
- Utilize data analytics to understand consumer behavior and preferences, allowing for customized product recommendations and promotions.

2. Limited Edition Drops:

- · Create hype and anticipation around Cool Shoes' product launches by introducing limited edition drops of exclusive sneaker designs.
- Partner with influential celebrities, athletes, or fashion icons to endorse and promote these limited edition releases, driving demand and increasing brand visibility.
- Implement a tiered membership program that offers early access to limited edition drops and exclusive perks to loyal customers, encouraging repeat purchases and brand advocacy.

3. Influencer Marketing:

- · Identify and collaborate with relevant social media influencers within the sneaker and fashion community to endorse Cool Shoes' products.
- Encourage influencers to create engaging and authentic content featuring Cool Shoes sneakers, showcasing their unique design and functionality.
- Leverage user-generated content by incentivizing customers to share their Cool Shoes experience on social media platforms, further
 amplifying brand awareness and engagement.

4. Product Giveaways and Contests:

- Organize periodic product giveaways and contests on social media platforms to incentivize user participation and foster community engagement.
- Encourage participants to share their entries and tag friends, expanding the reach of Cool Shoes' brand messaging and generating organic social proof.
- Incorporate interactive elements such as polls or quizzes to enhance user engagement and drive excitement surrounding Cool Shoes' product offerings.

5. Sneaker Events and Trade Shows:

- Participate in prominent sneaker events and trade shows to showcase Cool Shoes' innovative products and connect with industry influencers
 and enthusiasts.
- Host interactive booths or pop-up activations that allow attendees to experience Cool Shoes sneakers firsthand and interact with brand representatives.
- Collaborate with event organizers to sponsor exclusive sneaker showcases or panel discussions, positioning Cool Shoes as a thought leader within the sneaker community.

6. Brand Collaborations:

- Explore strategic partnerships and collaborations with complementary brands or designers to create unique and co-branded sneaker collections.
- Leverage the combined reach and audience of partner brands to amplify marketing efforts and attract new customers to Cool Shoes' brand ecosystem
- Implement co-branded marketing campaigns and cross-promotional initiatives that highlight the synergies between Cool Shoes and its
 collaborators, driving mutual brand affinity and loyalty.

By implementing these innovative marketing strategies, Cool Shoes can effectively position itself as a disruptive force within the sneaker industry, driving brand awareness, engagement, and ultimately, sales growth.

III. INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

The global footwear industry is a robust market, valued at approximately USD 365.5 billion in 2020 and projected to reach USD 530.3 billion by 2028, with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of about 5.0%. In India, the burgeoning sneaker culture, extending beyond sports and hip-hop, offers

promising prospects for innovative entrants like Cool Shoes. This dynamic landscape is shaped by trends such as the rise of athleisure and growing demand for sustainability and customization.

Despite the dominance of industry giants, Cool Shoes can seize opportunities in India's evolving sneaker culture. However, challenges such as intense competition and shifting consumer preferences must be navigated strategically. By capitalizing on emerging trends, fostering innovation, and meeting consumer demands for functionality, fashion, and affordability, Cool Shoes can establish a distinctive presence in the footwear industry.

IV. FINANCIAL PLAN

Table I- Other Expenses Split

One-time Expenses	On-Going Expenses
Permits and licenses	Rent & Taxes
Incorporation fees	Payroll
Logo Design	Legal Services
Land & Building	Advertisements
Brochure and business card printing	Insurance Payments
Improvements to the chosen location	Utilities

TABLE - II Cash Flow Projections

Particulars	Amount	Total Amount
Opening Cash Balance		20,00,000
Cash flow from operating activities:		
Receipts from sale of goods and services, royalties, etc.	4,75,000	
Payment to employees, taxes, suppliers, etc.	(5,85,000)	
Net cash from operating activities (A)	(1,10,000)	
Cash flow from investing activities:		
Purchase of machinery, plant, equipment, etc.	(4,00,000)	
Net cash from investing activities (B)	(4,00,000)	
Cash flow from financing activities:		
Repayment of loan	(2,50,000)	
Net cash from financing activities (C)	(2,50,000)	
Add: Net cash flow during the year $(A + B + C)$		(17,40,000)
Ending Cash Balance		2,60,000

Particulars	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Revenue	4,75,000	8,00,000	12,50,000	22,75,000	28,00,000
Less: discounts	-	80,000	1,20,000	1,45,000	1,50,000
Net revenue	4,75,000	7,20,000	11,30,000	21,30,000	26,50,000
Expenses:					
COGS	80,000	1,20,000	2,80,000	3,26,000	4,05,000
Advertisement	1,20,000	2,00,000	350000	3,82,400	3,82,400
Depreciation	82,400	82,400	82,400	82,400	82,400
Insurance	15,000	20,000	30,000	42,000	50,000
Interest expense	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Office Supplies	8,000	12,000	15,000	26,000	26,000
Rent	1,20,000	1,40,000	1,64,000	2,00,000	2,00,000
Salaries and Wages	5,80,000	6,70,000	8,70,000	10,50,000	11,50,000
Profit/Loss	(5,55,000)	(5,49,400)	(6,86,400)	46200	3,79,200

TABLE – III Profit & Loss Statement Projection

V. BUSINESS MODEL CANVAS

	Key Partners	Key Activities	Value Proposition
•	Shoe manufacturers Suppliers of raw materials Marketing agencies Distributors Online marketplaces	 Designing and developing new sneaker designs Sourcing high-quality raw materials Manufacturing and testing sneakers Creating and implementing marketing campaigns Building relationships with distributors and retailers 	 High-quality and stylish sneakers at an affordable price Eco-friendly materials and sustainable manufacturing practices Wide range of designs to suit various tastes and preferences Unique and innovative features in each sneaker design
•	Revenue Streams Sales of sneakers through various channels Revenue from partnerships and collaborations Revenue from licensing agreements	 Key Resources Skilled designers Experienced manufacturing team Access to high-quality raw materials Strong distribution network Robust online presence 	Customer Segments
•	Channels Online store Social media platforms Brick-and-mortar stores Retail partnerships	Customer Relationships Building trust through transparency and ethical practices Providing excellent customer service Engaging with customers through social media and other channels	Cost Structure Raw materials Manufacturing costs Marketing and advertising expenses Salaries and benefits for employees Rent and utilities for physical stores

VI. CONCLUSION

The shoe and sneaker industry have witnessed substantial growth and evolution, transitioning from practical necessities to iconic fashion statements. With projections indicating a global footwear market value of \$530.3 billion by 2027, opportunities abound for innovative ventures like Cool Shoes to make a significant impact. However, amidst this promising landscape, the industry confronts challenges such as the disruptive effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, ethical dilemmas surrounding labor practices, and intense market competition.

Nevertheless, Cool Shoes can capitalize on emerging trends like e-commerce and the rising demand for athleisure footwear to establish itself as a noteworthy contender in the market. By prioritizing innovation, sustainability, and responsiveness to consumer preferences for both style and utility, Cool Shoes has the potential to carve out a distinctive niche and resonate with its target audience.

Ultimately, shoes and sneakers transcend their utilitarian purposes, serving as symbols of personal expression and identity. As Cool Shoes endeavors to offer unique and functional footwear solutions, it contributes to the ongoing narrative of the shoe and sneaker industry, influencing not only the way we walk but also the fashion landscape we inhabit.

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