

WHOLE FOODS MARKET
Day in the Life
In-Store Shopper

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DON DRAKE: My name is Don Drake and I've been a Whole Foods shopper since April of this year, April of 2020. Well, I've been a customer of Whole Foods myself since 1998. I used to drive down here from Fort Hood when there were like four stores. And when COVID hit, I thought this was an awesome opportunity to help people. I typically do the 4 a.m. to noon shift. You know, you get used to that schedule, you just get to bed on time and have your cup of coffee. Get in here and get to work in the morning. Now, we have carryover items from the night before and we may have 40 shops waiting for us when we get in here at 4 in the morning. I probably do between 15 and 20 shops a day, depending on the day and how busy it is.

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DON DRAKE: You get your phone and that's your guide to everything. That's where your orders come in and that's where you fulfill the orders, that's where you stage the orders and that's where you scan them in. To get one item that takes five minutes. You get, oh, a 120 item order and that could take an hour. Then you take your cart back, finish bagging in the staging area, seal everything up, label it, and then you put it either on a shelf in a cooler or in the freezer, complete the order and then it's ready in the system for a driver to come pick up and deliver. And honestly, I've gotten more fit doing this job because of the walking and moving around and all of that stuff. You know, we get that great 20 percent discount here. I buy the food already. Now I've got a discount on it.

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DON DRAKE: And my girlfriend loves it cause when I need to buy something, I can... I can shop in no time. I feel good every day at the end of the day

knowing that I'm helping people. That... that, far and away, to me is the best thing about this job hands down, bar none.

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