

Holiday Gift Guide

2022

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tech with top
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SUPPLEMENT

How to master holiday shopping in 2022

By Jennifer Manfrin

BEST REVIEWS

The focus of the holidays should be on making memories with friends and family, not stressing about finding the right gifts or scrambling to buy them at the last minute. The good news is that you can simplify the holidays by setting a few goals for hassle-free shopping. In addition to checking in frequently with BestReviews to find outstanding deals on top-quality products, following our tried-and-tested shopping advice will make it possible for you to spend more time on what matters most during the 2022 holiday season.

Assess your budget

The first step to successful holiday shopping is to determine how much you can comfortably spend on gifts. This will allow you to find nice

items you can afford without taking on debt that you'll be paying off long into 2023. When deciding how much to spend, factor in your overall and disposable income along with the number of people on your list.

Make a list

You'll be prepared to shop and find deals when you create a comprehensive list. Include the names of family, friends and co-workers along with possible gift ideas for each person so you'll have a guide to follow as you shop.

Shop online

E-commerce is now more popular than ever, and for good reason: Not only is it simple to shop from the comfort of home, but there are also numerous online merchants offering popular products across all categories. Additionally, most trusted retailers ship quickly.

Will I find worthwhile deals online during Black Friday?

Black Friday isn't just for brick-and-mortar stores. Most online retailers also offer money-saving deals on this popular shopping day and throughout the weekend that follows.

Is Cyber Monday worth it?

Cyber Monday takes place on the Monday following Black Friday, and it's the shopping day when most online retailers offer big bargains. Tech, toys and household items are some of the most popular categories where you'll find the deepest discounts, making the event well worth your time.

Comparison shop for the best deals

When shopping online, it's easy to visit different websites to find the items you want at the lowest prices. Sometimes just a little extra digging can score you substantial savings.

When should I order gifts for delivery before the holidays?

It's never a good idea to wait until the last minute to do your holiday shopping, especially when you buy online. Purchasing your items weeks in advance will ensure they arrive on time. As the holidays get closer, be sure to check for arrival times and additional shipping costs on the retailers' websites.

Buy quality products

When it comes to gifting, no one wants to give an item that's difficult to use, breaks easily or stops working prematurely. That's why it's important to know that you're buying quality products. You can feel confident in your purchasing decisions when you turn to BestReviews. Our website is packed with product reviews, testing results, gift guides and daily deals to keep you informed of the best products on the market.



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

BESTREVIEWS

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With the holidays around the corner, the thought of finding the perfect gifts for everyone on your list can feel daunting. That's where BestReviews comes in. Since 2014 we've been helping shoppers find quality presents for the special people in their lives.

Throughout the year, BestReviews tests and re-views products to ensure that we're only recommending the best products. We track shopping trends to ensure that we're highlighting must-have products in popular categories including toys, tech and fitness. This year, we're seeing more people gifting books so we also have curated a list of the 16 best books to give this season.

Many of the products you'll see in our gift guides have been approved by the BestReviews Testing Lab. Our testing lab has tested everything from TVs and blenders, to massage guns and eyebrow pencils. We believe the best way to determine if a product really does what the manufacturer claims is to test it in a real-world environment. To do this, we test products in our own homes, which means all of the vacuums we recommend are pet tested and all the kitchen appliances can hold their own against our favorite recipes.

When it comes to helping consumers find the right product for their needs and budget we turn to our team of expert advisors for tips on the best products for each type of consumer. Our team includes medical doctors, nutritionists, tech experts and DIY experts.

Ahead of this holiday season, we asked our DIY expert, Beth Allen, and our fitness expert, Judd NeSmith, and our baking expert, Andrea Boudewijn, to put together gift guides for the DIYers, the fitness enthusiasts and home chefs in your life. On behalf of the entire BestReviews team we hope this gift guide makes your holiday season a little less hectic and a lot more merry.

— Meredith Gallo,
Sr. Editor, Testing & Research

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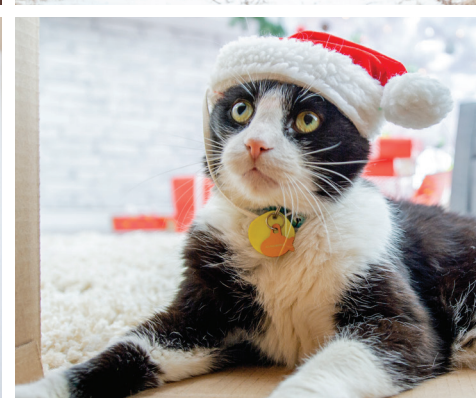
Department 56 Villages ★ Snowbabies ★ Enesco Cherished Teddies
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THURSDAY - Beef Stroganoff
w/Potato Soup \$10.99 • Liver & Onions \$9.99

FRIDAY - Tuna Melt w/FF \$7.99
Lake Yellow Perch Dinner w/Clam Chowder

SATURDAY - Slow Cooked Prime Rib Dinner w/Seafod Bisque
(4:30pm til Close) 10 oz. \$18.99, 12 oz. \$21.79, King Cut \$24.49

SUNDAY - Breakfast/Brunch Buffet until 1:00pm • Dutch Fried Chicken
w/Cream of Mushroom Soup \$9.99

9 Tips to Save on Holiday Shopping

(Family Features) Between navigating stores, searching for items at the top of wish lists and preparing for inevitable delays and last-minute requests, shopping for the holidays can make the most wonderful time of the year one of the most stressful times as well.

Even though the holidays seem to creep up faster and faster every year, and inflation adds an additional worry, there is still hope for your budget this season. To help reduce stress and avoid overspending on gifts, consider these money-saving tips from Regina Conway, consumer expert for Slickdeals, a one-of-a-kind online community of shoppers working together to shop smarter and save more.

Avoid procrastinating. Due to shifting shopping habits, there may be excess inventory in certain categories such as home goods. While it's possible categories with extra inventory may see deep discounts later in the holiday season, don't expect every item you want to be available at the last minute.

Set your budget with hidden costs in mind. When setting budgets, many people stop at the number they think they'll spend on gifts alone. Make sure to factor in additional costs such as child or pet care services, shipping fees and travel costs so there are no surprises.

Tap into technology. Whether shopping for toys and technology or travel and home goods, starting your search by visiting a site like Slickdeals can help you find the best deals this holiday season. Deals from top retailers are vetted and voted on by a community of 12 million shoppers working together to save to help ensure you're getting the best products at the best prices. You can also set Deal Alerts to be notified when a deal matching your criteria gets posted.

Buy online, pick up in-store. Where available - including at many big box retailers - shopping online then picking up your purchases in-store (or curbside for even more convenience) can help you avoid paying shipping fees and confirm your items



will arrive on time. Some retailers even offer exclusive discounts for curbside or in-store pickup.

Take advantage of membership programs. If you haven't been a member before, many retailers that offer memberships allow for free trials to test the perks, which often include free shipping. However, remember to cancel the trial before it auto-subscribes you for a full year. If you've previously done a trial, consider buying just a one-month membership to take advantage of the benefits during the holiday shopping season.

Abandon your shopping cart. When shopping online, add items you're interested in to your cart, go through the check out process to the point where the retailer has your email address then simply close the browser or tab. Often, if you have not shopped from the site previously, the retailer will send you a discount code or coupon to incentivize your purchase decision.

Stock up on discounted gift cards. Taking advantage of discounted gift card sites is a simple way to save some cash on holiday purchases. Not only can you give a gift card you bought at a discount as a

gift, you can also use it to shop. Just be sure not to overbuy or you may end up wasting unused cards.

Ask for a price match or adjustment. If you bought something and find a lower price within a week of that purchase, ask the retailer for a price adjustment. While this typically won't work with special promotions, many stores, both online and brick and mortar, will price match during the holiday season. If you're shopping in-store, take your smartphone with you and ask for the retailer to match online pricing, which can sometimes be a better deal. Asking for this match can save you time and money on shipping fees you might incur ordering online.

Check return policies. Many retailers offer extended return windows during the holiday shopping season. Make sure you look at the details of retailers' policies to ensure you understand how much time you have to make returns and don't have to pay return shipping or other unexpected costs.

Find more tips to get the best deals on holiday gifts at Slickdeals.net.



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What to buy the home chef in your life



3. Anova Culinary AN500-US00 Sous Vide Precision Cooker

Available at Amazon

This smart sous vide machine prepares restaurant-quality meals with ease. It comes with a full-service app that lets users control and monitor cooking from a distance.

4. Philips Viva Pasta Maker

Available at Amazon and Sur La Table

Forget the struggles of using a manual pasta maker with this convenient automatic model. It can make up to three servings of pasta in less than 20 minutes and offers a compact design that can fit in most kitchens.



J.A. Henckels International Graphite Self-Sharpening Cutlery Set

Available at Macy's

A made-to-last design, this seven-piece cutlery set is forged from high-grade German stainless steel. The knives slice, dice and filet with ease, thanks to their self-sharpening butcher block.

By Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS

Whether you're shopping for a seasoned chef or a culinary novice, a new tool for the kitchen is always a hit.

1. Cuisinart Pure Indulgence Ice Cream Maker Available at Amazon and Kohl's

Thanks to a double-insulated freezer bowl, this Cuisinart ice cream maker whips up two quarts of homemade ice cream in less than 30 minutes. It has a heavy-duty motor for reliable, powerful churning.

2. Lodge 12-Inch Seasoned Cast-Iron Skillet Available at Amazon and Home Depot

Every kitchen deserves a cast-iron skillet like this one for sauteing, grilling and even baking. It has an assist handle for easy maneuvering around the stove and is pre-seasoned to keep food from sticking to it.



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Kevin Boissoneault



Jonathan Ashton



Le Creuset Enameled Cast-Iron Signature Round Dutch Oven:

Available at Amazon

This classic Dutch oven is the perfect pot for slow cooking, braising, roasting, frying and more. It offers excellent durability, so it resists chipping and cracking. It's also oven-safe up to 500 degrees and available in several striking colors.

Aroma Housewares 20-Cup Digital 3-in-1 Rice Cooker

Available at Amazon

This rice cooker can make up to 20 cups of rice at a time, so it's convenient for home cooks feeding a large family. It offers set-it-and-forget-it operation and can also steam other foods.



Nordic Ware Covered Bowl Set

Available at Amazon

This set of mixing bowls includes plastic covers, making them ideal for storing food. They come in four different eye-catching colors, so they look great on kitchen shelves or as serving bowls.



Oster Express-bake Bread Maker:

Available at Amazon

With this convenient bread maker, you can take the hassle out of kneading, rising and baking a loaf of bread. Its nonstick aluminum pan allows for even cooking and easy cleaning. It offers 12 settings for various types of bread and other baked goods.



Ninja AF101 Four-Quart Air Fryer

Available at Amazon, Kohl's and Home Depot

This decent-sized air fryer can cut the fat in classic fried foods like french fries and chicken tenders by 75%. It heats up quickly and can hold up to three pounds of food at a time, so it's a suitable option for families.



Sweese 10-Inch Porcelain Cake Stand

This simple ceramic cake stand shows off homemade cakes for serving. It has a wide base that allows the cakes to easily slide onto the surface and can support heavy, dense cakes. It doesn't scratch or chip if you cut on it.



Granite Ware Covered Casserole

Available at Amazon

This durable, light-weight casserole dish is perfect for weekday dinners or side dishes for large family gatherings. It has a carbon steel core for fast heating and can withstand temperatures up to 932 degrees.



Chicago Metallic Nonstick Roasting Pan

Available at Amazon and Kohl's

With its nonstick surface, this roasting pan makes cleaning up after dinner a breeze. It's oven-safe up to 450 degrees and comes with a rack that puts the roast at the perfect height within the pan.



Ninja 6-in-1 Smart XL Indoor Grill

This countertop grill allows you to cook steaks, hot dogs and burgers in any weather. It can also bake, roast, broil and air fry, making it one of the most versatile appliances for the kitchen.




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Bartesian Premium Cocktail Machine Available at Amazon, Sur La Table and Kohl's
Make happy hours as easy as possible with this intelligent cocktail system. It uses capsules with mixer ingredients that are automatically blended with your spirit of choice for perfect cocktails every time.

Ivation 18-Bottle Compressor Wine Cooler Available at Amazon and Wayfair

Wine enthusiasts can enjoy their favorite vino in its finest form with this temperature-stable wine cooler. It has removable racks and easy-touch controls to help users customize bottle storage.



Basic Essentials Stainless Steel Mix and Measure Set Available at Kohl's

This 10-piece set comes with everything your favorite baker needs to make anything they like!



Shopping list from our baking expert

By Andrea Boudewijn
BEST REVIEWS

I'm Andrea Boudewijn, a Cordon Bleu-trained pastry chef, and I love to talk all things baking and cooking. To get you ready for the holiday season, let's take a look at the latest hot items for home bakers across the country!

1. Breville Mini Smart Toaster Oven Available at Amazon

This toaster oven is perfectly sized to fit on any countertop and handles everything from small jobs like toasting nuts and reheating pizza to bringing cold leftover french fries back up to their original crispy state. The best feature is the button called "A Bit More," which allows you to add 30 seconds to the cook time at any point.

2. Pyrex Prepware 1-Pint Measuring Cup Available at Kohl's

This Pyrex measuring cup is all your favorite baker or cook needs. Not only does it measure accurately with durable tempered glass, but it's also every chef's go-to pitcher for mixing and pouring any liquid. They'll reach for it every time they need to pour something.

3. Tovolo Flex-Core Spatula With Stainless Steel Handle Available at Amazon

This is the most durable silicone spatula on the market, and it looks great, too. The



head pops off for easy cleaning, and the steel handle doesn't absorb fluids the way wood does, so it's much more sanitary. Buy two for the chef in your life.

4. Ninja Professional 1,100-Watt Blender Available at Amazon

This Ninja blender is fast becoming everyone's favorite. It's a great buy for anyone looking to make smoothies, vegetable purees, baby food, soups — even my favorite, a piña colada. Get your friends blending something for you this holiday season.

5. Cuisinart Mini Prep Food Processor Available at Amazon

This handy helper is easy to store, easy to use and easy on the wallet. I use mine for making pesto, quickly chopping nuts, grinding coffee and whipping up mayonnaise and salad dressings. Every piece but the body can go in the dishwasher, and it's pretty to boot!

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BEST REVIEWS

Upgrade their tech

The top gadget gift options of 2022

By Chris Thomas, Anthony Marcusa & Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS

1. LG C1 Series OLED 4K Smart TV Available at Amazon

Part of the most widely acclaimed lineup of TVs for multiple years, the C1 is LG's 2021 midrange OLED model. It performs nearly as well as its replacement, the C2, but it costs significantly less and sports many of the same advanced features.

2. HTC Vive Pro 2 Virtual-Reality Headset Available at Amazon

This top VR headset brings games to life in stunning 5K resolution, with a 120-hertz refresh rate for a smooth experience. It offers an improved fit and design compared to its predecessors as well as a 120-degree field of view for a more immersive experience.

3. Amazon Fire HD 8 Kids Tablet Available at Amazon

Its rugged, 8-inch body is outfitted with a durable case that even the most determined youngsters will have a hard time breaking. Instead of the full slate of available apps, its ecosystem is relatively small and easy for parents to manage.

4. Apple Watch 7 Available at Amazon

Arguably the most innovative and user-friendly on the market, Apple's seventh-generation smartwatch contains advanced sensors and supports an evolving range of wearables. It comes in 41- and 45-millimeter sizes with GPS and optional cellular connectivity.

5. Ember Temperature-Control Smart Mug Available at Amazon

Available at Amazon

Most coffee tastes best at high temperatures, but you probably don't want to drink it as fast as possible. This electric mug boasts in-depth app control to keep your beverage hot and enjoyable for up to 80 minutes at a time.

6. Meater Plus Smart Meat Thermometer Available at Amazon

Available at Amazon

Looking inside your oven or grill to check temperatures means you have to physically walk over to it, then let some of the precious heat and smoke escape while opening it. Avoid both by using a wireless meat thermometer that connects to your smartphone.

7. Soundcore by Anker Life Q30 Active Noise-Canceling Headphones Available at Amazon

Available at Amazon

Despite costing less than \$100, these comfortable over-ear headphones offer sound quality and active noise cancellation that's nearly on par with models that cost two or three times more. Their robust Bluetooth connectivity ensures a strong signal and multipoint connection support.

Tozo NC7 Hybrid Active Noise-Canceling Wireless Earbuds Available at Amazon

These are about as compact and well-balanced as earbuds get, and they use Bluetooth 5.0 to minimize dropouts and interference. Their battery lasts an impressive 10-plus hours per charge and their IPX6 water-resistance rating means they're even safe in the rain.

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Crosley C62B-WA Vinyl Bluetooth Turntable with Speakers Available at Amazon

If you're a fan of modern vinyl records or want to dust off your old collection, this three-piece bundle is perfect. It has the features needed for safe, consistent playback, including a full-width platter, adjustable tonearm counterweight and anti-skate technology.

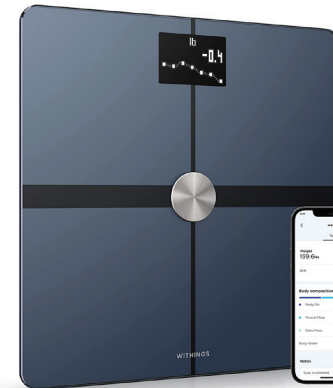
Cosori Pro Smart Air Fryer Available at Amazon

Cosori makes a number of great air fryers, and this one offers smartphone control over Wi-Fi. With 12 cooking functions, support for Alexa and Google Assistant, and a capacity of nearly 6 quarts, it's one of the most versatile options.



Lenovo IdeaPad 3 Laptop Available at Amazon

Buying a laptop can be a big decision, but it can also be easy thanks to this powerful model, which costs less than \$500. Its AMD Ryzen 5 5500U central processing unit, 8GB of RAM and quarter-terabyte of storage promise a smooth Windows experience.



Withings Body+ Wi-Fi Smart Scale Available at Amazon

Probably the most advanced body weight scale ever made, it offers Wi-Fi connectivity and can sync with over 100 fitness apps, such as Apple Health, Fitbit and Google Fit. It's accurate to within 100 grams and comes in white or black to match your bathroom's decor.

Honor X8 Unlocked Smartphone Available at Amazon

Thanks to the advancement of technology and manufacturing processes, you no longer have to spend a fortune on a high-performing smartphone. This one's routinely praised as one of the top affordable options, with plenty of storage and system memory and a bright, high-resolution screen.



Lumos Ultra Smart Bike Helmet Available at Amazon

A headlight and remote-controlled rear turn signals help the Lumos Ultra bring cycling into the 21st century. Not only is it convenient and helpful for avoiding collisions, but there's also an upgraded version that boasts the highly sought-after MIPS protection technology.



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Powerup 4.0 Electric Paper Airplane Kit Available at Amazon

It consists of a battery and electric motor that power a gyroscopic stabilizer and a pair of propellers that can drive your paper airplane at up to 20 miles per hour. Don't think it's just a kid's toy, either, as it's also quite a bit of fun for adults.

Sphero Bolt Programmable Robot Available at Amazon

This gyroscopically driven sphere is designed to help children learn JavaScript, Scratch and Swift programming to get a head start in today's tech world. It's equipped with a large collection of sensors and is perfect for the budding robotics enthusiast.



Purrble Calming Plush Toy Available at Amazon

This novel plush toy has a personality of its own. It shows emotion by sighing, giggling, and grunting, and experiences a fast "heart rate" when it's stressed. It helps relieve anxiety by focusing anxious kids' attention on speaking softly and being gentle with their furry friend.



Gevi 10-Cup Drip Automatic Coffee Maker Available at Amazon

You can program this dependable coffee machine hours in advance to make a pot with the perfect size and strength for an energizing breakfast. Its integrated burr grinder ensures peak freshness and full flavor with each cup.



Viante Electric Tea Kettle Available at Amazon

Brewing temperature makes a huge difference in getting the most out of different types of tea. In addition to a high-efficiency electric heating element, this



kettle sports four temperature settings and a warming function for the perfect cup every time.

Tangram Smart Jump Rope: Available at Amazon

The perfect gift for the fitness lover, this smart jump rope tracks their workout to ensure they're getting the



most out of this classic cardiovascular exercise. It monitors the number of jumps, calories burned and the amount of time spent jumping.

Sony XB33 Bluetooth Speaker Available at Amazon

You'll get a higher



volume and bass output with this wireless Bluetooth speaker than anything else its size. Durable and waterproof, it offers up to 24 hours of battery life and programmable party lights.

Tile Mate Essentials Available at Amazon

If you know someone who's always misplacing their wallet or keys, this Tile Mate kit is a must-have. It allows them to attach trackers to four items of varying sizes and monitors their whereabouts via Bluetooth. If the missing item is out of Bluetooth range, all is not lost — the Tile app will show it's most recent location on a map.



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Gamer in your life?

Here are your best options

By Chris Thomas,
Anthony Marcusa
& Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS



◀ Nintendo Switch Lite Available at Amazon

Given its compact, light-weight design, the Nintendo Switch Lite is ideal for gaming on the go. It's compatible with all Switch games that support Handheld mode.



◀ PlayStation 5 DualSense Controller Available at Amazon

One of the best features of the latest PlayStation console is its dynamic controller that features variable tension, feedback and vibrations. The console includes one, so be sure to pick up a second for multiplayer!

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Alienware Aurora R10 Gaming Desktop Available at Amazon and Dell

Among the most powerful gaming desktops, the Aurora R10 is powered by a Ryzen 9 processor, features AMD Radeon RX 6800 XT graphics and includes 2 terabytes of storage. With a sleek design and front-facing ports, it's both stylish and accessible.



Acer Predator Helios 300 Available at Amazon and Acer

Serious gamers need a powerful laptop to handle immersive worlds and rapid gameplay. The Helios features eight cores for powerful handling and RTX 3060 for fast rendering. A 144-hertz refresh rate and 3-millisecond response time mean you won't miss a beat.



Xbox Game Pass Ultimate Available at Amazon

An Xbox Game Pass opens up a vast library of on-demand, playable games for those who enjoy the

Microsoft console. It also offers discounts, access to new titles on day one and the ability to play on PC, mobile and consoles.

HyperX Cloud Stinger Core Gaming Headset Available at Amazon

A quality headset, like this wireless HyperX model, allows gamers to hear every audio detail in games, including faint sounds like wind or footsteps. The headset delivers immersive 7.1 surround sound and up to 17 hours of battery life per charge.



Razer Enki Gaming Chair Available at Amazon

For long hours of gaming, you need a comfortable chair that supports your spine and lower back while still keeping you alert. The back reclines and the armrests adjust to your body. Most notably, the synthetic fabric provides a soft, comfortable surface.



Razer BlackWidow V3 Gaming Keyboard Available at Amazon

This versatile gaming keyboard boasts tactile keys that give a satisfying click upon use as well as customizable lighting. It includes a port for a compatible mouse and allows you to connect to your platform in three different ways, including Bluetooth.

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Best functional upgrades for your home office

By Chris Thomas,
Anthony Marcusa & Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS



◀ **Amazon Echo Show 10**
Available at Amazon and Kohl's
There isn't much this all-new Echo Show can't do. It's a smart home hub and streaming device, plus it's handy for work-related video calls. When it's not being actively used, it displays a custom photo slideshow.



◀ **Sonos Move Available at Amazon**
This smart speaker offers durable, weather-resistant construction and built-in Alexa and Google Assistant for hands-free control. It provides crisp, clear sound and continuously runs for 11 hours to keep the party going.



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Logitech Ergo K860 Wireless Ergonomic Keyboard and Mouse Available at Amazon

Many professionals swear by this Logitech duo featuring a split keyboard and a vertical mouse. They're contoured to place hands, wrists and fingers at more comfortable positions, which may reduce fatigue and cramping.



HP DeskJet 2755e Wireless Color All-in-One Printer Available at HP and Amazon

This all-in-one printer can print, copy and scan in color. It offers a wireless design so it doesn't require any cables. You can print from your desktop computer, laptop, smartphone or other Wi-Fi-enabled device.

Poweroni USB Charging Station Dock Available at Amazon

With slots for six devices, this charging station can keep your smartphone, tablet, wireless headphones and more charged and ready for work. It also has built-in LED status lights that let you know when a device is fully charged.



Amazon Eero Pro 6 Mesh Wi-Fi System Available at Amazon

This mesh system boosts the Wi-Fi to create a more efficient, dependable home office. It's quick and easy to set up and offers coverage up to 6,000 square feet. It automatically updates each month.



Cubii Jr. Under-Desk Elliptical Available at Amazon

This mini elliptical lets you exercise when sitting at a desk. It's a low-impact workout for the joints, making it suitable for all ages. It also has a built-in LCD display that tracks calories burned, strides pedaled and distance traveled.



Keurig K-Cafe Coffee, Latte and Cappuccino Maker Available at Amazon and Keurig

This feature-packed Keurig makes espresso-based drinks with the press of a button. It has a built-in frother to make cappuccinos and lattes, plus it accommodates tall mugs and travel mugs up to 7.2 inches.



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Oceanstar Bamboo Cooking Utensil Set
Available at Amazon, Kohl's and Wayfair

This seven-piece utensil set includes a spatula, fork, several spoons and a convenient holder to organize it all. The utensils are made of fast-growing bamboo for a more eco-friendly option and are easy to clean with soap and water.



Best cheap gifts

By Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS



Le Creuset Stoneware Mug
Available at Amazon

Made by a beloved kitchen brand, this mug stands the test of time with a chip-resistant finish. Like other Le Creuset stoneware, it offers superior thermal retention so that coffee, tea and hot cocoa stay warm as long as possible.



BEST REVIEWS

1. National Geographic Mega Fossil Dig Kit Available at Amazon

Give your child the experience of digging up prehistoric fossils with this fun activity set.

2. Dash Mini Waffle Maker Available at Amazon

This compact waffle maker is perfect for single servings of a much-loved breakfast treat. Its nonstick hot plates offer easy waffle

retrieval, and they're easy to clean.

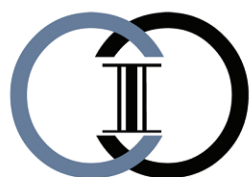
3. Primula Burke Deluxe Cold-Brew Iced Coffee Maker Available at Amazon

This convenient coffee maker helps prepare delicious cold brew at home. It can make up to six cups at a time and comes with a removable filter to keep the grounds out of your coffee. It's also dishwasher-safe.

Teabloom Glass Teapot

Available at Amazon

Tea drinkers will appreciate this striking clear glass teapot that's safe for use on the stovetop and in the microwave. It can hold up to 40 ounces or five cups of tea and includes an infuser for loose-leaf teas.



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Pat McGrath Labs Major Mini Lip Trio Available at Sephora

This set of mini lip products from a makeup artist-created beauty brand contains a long-wearing lipstick, lip liner and lip gloss, giving you everything you need for a complete look. It's available in pink and red shade options.



Levi's All-Season Classic Knit Beanie Available at Amazon

Everyone can use a cozy hat for the winter, and this one is lined with fleece for added warmth. It's available in several colors and stays put even when you're skiing, snowboarding or running in cold weather.



Contigo Jackson 2.0 Tritan Water Bottle Available at Amazon

A convenient design in many ways, this reusable water bottle offers one-handed drinking and has a wide mouth so users can add ice cubes or fruit slices. It also has a pop-up lid that allows for easy sipping and seals shut to prevent leaks. **BeeGreen Reusable**

Grocery Bags Available at Amazon

Eco-minded friends will appreciate these reusable grocery bags decorated with fun patterns. Each bag can hold up to 40 pounds and is made of a durable, lightweight material. The bags fold into a compact square, so they won't take up much space in your backpack, purse or glove compartment.



Baketivity Cake Pop Kit for Kids Available at Amazon

This baking kit allows children to make their own delicious cake pops. It includes all the pre-measured dry ingredients, a shopping list for wet ingredients and detailed instructions.

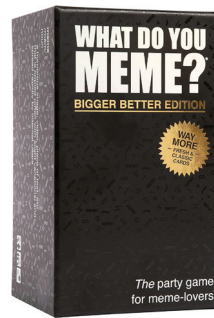


XXXFlower Plant Terrarium with Wooden Stand Available at Amazon

Featuring a sturdy wooden frame, this set has three bulb terrariums made of heat-resistant glass. It can grow all types of hydroponic plants, including flowers like tulips and roses and herbs like mint and dill.

What Do You Meme? Adult Party Game Available at Amazon

A big hit for game nights or parties, this meme-themed card game keeps players on their toes — and in stitches. Players win rounds by coming up with the funniest caption card to match the meme.



Amazon Fire TV Stick Lite with Alexa Voice Remote

Available at Amazon and Home Depot Give the gift of streaming with this Fire Stick that allows users to access top streaming platforms like Netflix, Disney+ and Hulu. The voice-activated remote makes finding movies and TV shows a breeze.

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Here are our favorite luxury gifts of 2022

By Jennifer Manfrin
BEST REVIEWS



BEST REVIEWS

◀ Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra Available at Amazon

The S22 Ultra boasts gorgeous 8K image quality and adaptive color contrast for awesome photos and videos. The embedded S Pen brings out the user's artistic side. Impressively long battery life is also a selling point.



1. Theragun Pro Available at Therabody and Dick's Sporting Goods

This top-of-the-line percussive massage gun eases muscle tension, especially after tough workouts. The unique design features a rotating arm and ergonomic grip so users can maneuver around hard-to-reach areas.

2. Drybar Buttercup Blow-Dryer Available at Sephora, Amazon and Macy's

Creating beautiful blowouts in minutes, the Buttercup is a powerful model that's lightweight and almost effortless to maneuver. What's more, it's powered by ionic technology that keeps hair soft, smooth and shiny.

3. Breville Barista Express Espresso Machine Available at Amazon and Sur La Table

Breville's high-end espresso machine pulls cafe-quality espresso drinks, thanks to integrated precision grinding and extraction. It has a powerful steam wand so users can create latte art with foam.



▶ Bose Smart Soundbar 300 Available at Amazon

With a trim design and wireless Bluetooth connectivity, this Alexa-enabled Bose soundbar is a solid upgrade to any home theater. It creates a multidimensional sound experience that won't compromise on clarity, no matter how loud the volume is.



▶ Yves Saint Laurent Couture Clutch Eyeshadow Palette Available at Macy's

This luxurious palette, available in two collections, features 10 Parisian-inspired shades. The palette itself is a work of art with gold YSL accents and a quilted clutch design.



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Samsung QLED Q70A 4K UHD Smart TV ▶

Available at Amazon

With true-to-life color, a speedy 4K processor and intuitive smart technology, this Samsung QLED TV delivers a premium viewing experience. It has a trim design that integrates seamlessly into entertainment spaces, including when it's mounted.



Dolce & Gabbana The One for Men Eau de Parfum ▲

Available at Macy's, Amazon, Ulta and Sephora

Characterized as "striking and charismatic," this cologne has a memorable, statement-making scent. It features uplifting top notes of grapefruit and basil with soft, warm base notes of sensual amber and warm cedar.

iRobot Roomba i3+ EVO

Available at Home Depot and Amazon

Not only does the i3+ EVO clean hard flooring and carpet with ease, thanks to its three-stage cleaning system, but it cuts down on the work its human has to do by self-emptying into a dirt collection bin at its base after the cleanup is complete. It works by voice command via Alexa or Google Assistant.



All-Clad D5 Cookware Set ▲

Available at Amazon, Macy's and Sur La Table

With five-layer construction, a modern look and 10 versatile pieces, this stainless steel set is an essential addition to any kitchen. The set is compatible with all cooktops, and it's oven- and broiler-safe to 600 degrees.

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▼ **Stamina Magnetic Rower 1110**
Available at Dick's Sporting Goods and Kohl's
 A rowing machine provides a comprehensive workout that's ideal for any serious athlete who wants to put their body's endurance to the test. This machine offers eight levels of resistance that are ideal for creating a personalized training program.



▲ **Apple MacBook Pro Laptop Available at Amazon**
 Speedy performance and impressive storage make the Apple MacBook Pro an excellent device for work and play. It gets up to 20 hours of battery life with a full charge. The trim design comes in handy when stashing it in a backpack or bag and heading to class or the office.

▼ **PearLustre by Imperial Freshwater Cultured Pearl Necklace Available at Kohl's**
 A pearl necklace is an iconic piece of jewelry that never goes out of style. Both elegant and classy, this beautiful strand features freshwater cultured pearls ranging from 6 to 6.5 millimeters in size. At 23 inches, the length is versatile to wear with numerous fashions.



▲ **Capresso Infinity Conical Burr Grinder Available at Amazon**
 For the coffee connoisseur who can't go a morning without a cup of joe, a burr grinder is an excellent gift. This model grinds to perfection and features controls that are straightforward to operate.



▲ **Waterford Lismore Essence Stemless Red Wine Glasses Available at Macy's and Amazon**
 Modern yet timeless, these stemless wine glasses sparkle at every meal or intimate gathering. The elegant design lets the wine breathe while its aroma takes shape, thus delivering a more immersive wine-drinking experience.



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Outdoor gift guide

By Lauren Corona
BEST REVIEWS

1. Yeti Tundra 35 Cooler

Available at Yeti and Amazon

When it comes to keeping cold stuff cold, it doesn't get any better than a Yeti cooler. These insulated chests keep ice frozen for three to five days, and they're indestructible.

2. Buff CoolNet UV+ Print Buff

Available at Amazon

This bestselling buff offers UPF 50+ sun protection, but that's not all; it's made with odor-repellent microfiber that is breathable and quick-drying. The buff can be worn in different ways, including as a balaclava or headband.

3. Solo Stove Mesa Tabletop Fire Pit

Available at Amazon

For those with a small outdoor space, this tabletop option provides warmth for intimate gatherings and is perfect for roasting marshmallows. It burns wood or pellets and conveniently folds up for easy storage.

4. Solo Stove Bonfire Fire Pit

Available at Amazon

Ideal for camping, tailgating or entertaining in the backyard, this portable wood-burning fire pit is engineered to create a low-smoke flame and fine ash, so there's little mess to clean up. It features an attractive stainless steel design, and no setup is required.



▶ Coleman 6-Person Skydome Tent Available at Amazon

In this updated Coleman tent, occupants will enjoy 20% more headroom, thanks to nearly vertical walls. The tent sets up in less than five minutes, and it offers superior weather protection with inverted seams and patented welded corners.



Cliq Camping Chair Available at Amazon

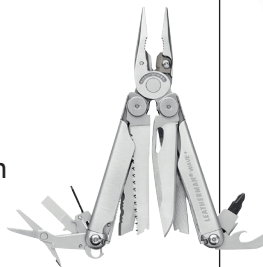
Not only does this new camping chair support up to 300 pounds, which is more than most, but it also folds down into a bottle-sized bundle for easy packing. The

simple, pop-up design only takes seconds to set up and break down.

Leatherman Wave Plus Multi-Tool ▶

Available at Amazon

While everyone can benefit from owning a multi-tool, those who frequent the outdoors stand to gain the most from owning one. The Wave Plus, Leatherman's update to the classic Wave, is made of durable stainless steel and will last for decades of use.



▶ LifeStraw Go Water Filter Bottle Available at Amazon

Clean drinking water can be hard to come by when you're away from civilization. LifeStraw's water filters let you drink from creeks and rivers without having to worry about swallowing bacteria, viruses or parasites.

Salomon X Ultra 3 Mid GTX Hiking Boots Available Backcountry and Dick's Sporting Goods ▶

There's an old saying in the backpacking community: For every pound you add to your feet, you add five to your back. These lightweight, supportive and waterproof boots are a favorite for all-day rugged excursions.



▶ Mountainsmith Carbonlite Pro Trekking Poles Available at Backcountry

These high-performance hiking poles are ideal for traversing rocky or muddy terrain. They have a spring-loaded anti-shock system to reduce fatigue during use, plus they have locking pins that are compatible with snow baskets.



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Hydro Flask Wide-Mouth Water Bottle Available at Amazon

Hydro Flask's insulated water bottle keeps warm drinks piping hot and cool drinks ice cold for several hours. It has a rugged stainless steel body and a slip-resistant coating to offer a solid grip even when hands are sweaty.

Dexas Pets Collapsible Travel Cup Available at Amazon and Chewy

This collapsible travel food and water bowl is durably made and dishwasher-safe. It comes with a carabiner so users can clip it onto backpacks or leashes to keep it easily accessible.



Texsens Pet Backpack Carrier Available at Amazon

If you know someone who wants to take their cat with them on their outdoor adventures, this is the perfect gift. While not all cats will love it, felines comfortable with carriers who like seeing the outside world will be safe and comfortable inside.



WeatherBeeta Comfitec Reflective Parka 300D Deluxe Dog Coat Available at Amazon

Outdoorsy pet owners needn't worry about their dogs on cold days with this warm and cozy parka coat. It's extremely rugged and has reflective piping for better low-light visibility.

Kurgo Dog Saddlebag Backpack Available at Amazon and Chewy

This dog backpack lets medium and large dogs carry some of their own gear on an all-day hike to lighten the load for their humans. There's plenty of space for essentials such as food, water, treats and poop bags.



Celestron Nature DX 8x42 Outdoor and Birding Binoculars Available at Amazon

With powerful magnification and quality lenses that provide bright, high-definition images, these binoculars are perfect for spotting birds and other wildlife. They even come with a handy case for on-the-go use.



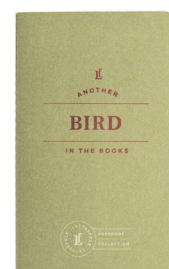
Oakley O-Frame 2.0 Pro XL Snow Goggles Available at Amazon

These midrange snow goggles by a trusted brand feature a low-profile frame design that boosts visibility. Besides 100% protection against UVA, UVB and UVC rays, the goggles filter out blue light and have an anti-fog coating.



Garmin Instinct Solar Rugged Outdoor Smartwatch Available at Amazon and Backcountry

A top-of-the-line model, this Garmin smartwatch is specially made for the outdoors with solar-charging capabilities, a rugged case and a three-axis compass. Besides tracking activity levels, it offers comprehensive health monitoring by tracking heart rate, sleep and pulse ox.



Letterfolk Bird Passport Journal Available at Amazon

This super compact birding journal has space for bird-watchers to record their spots. It features 20 entry pages and another eight pages of checklists, bucket lists and activities.



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SAVE THE DATE: The Lochaber Pipe Band's 54th Annual Pub Night Saturday, April 15, 2023 at The Amherst Eagles (1161 Milan Ave., Amherst, OH)



Best gifts for pets

By Jennifer Manfrin
BEST REVIEWS

1. Feliway Multicat Calming Pheromone Diffuser Available at Amazon

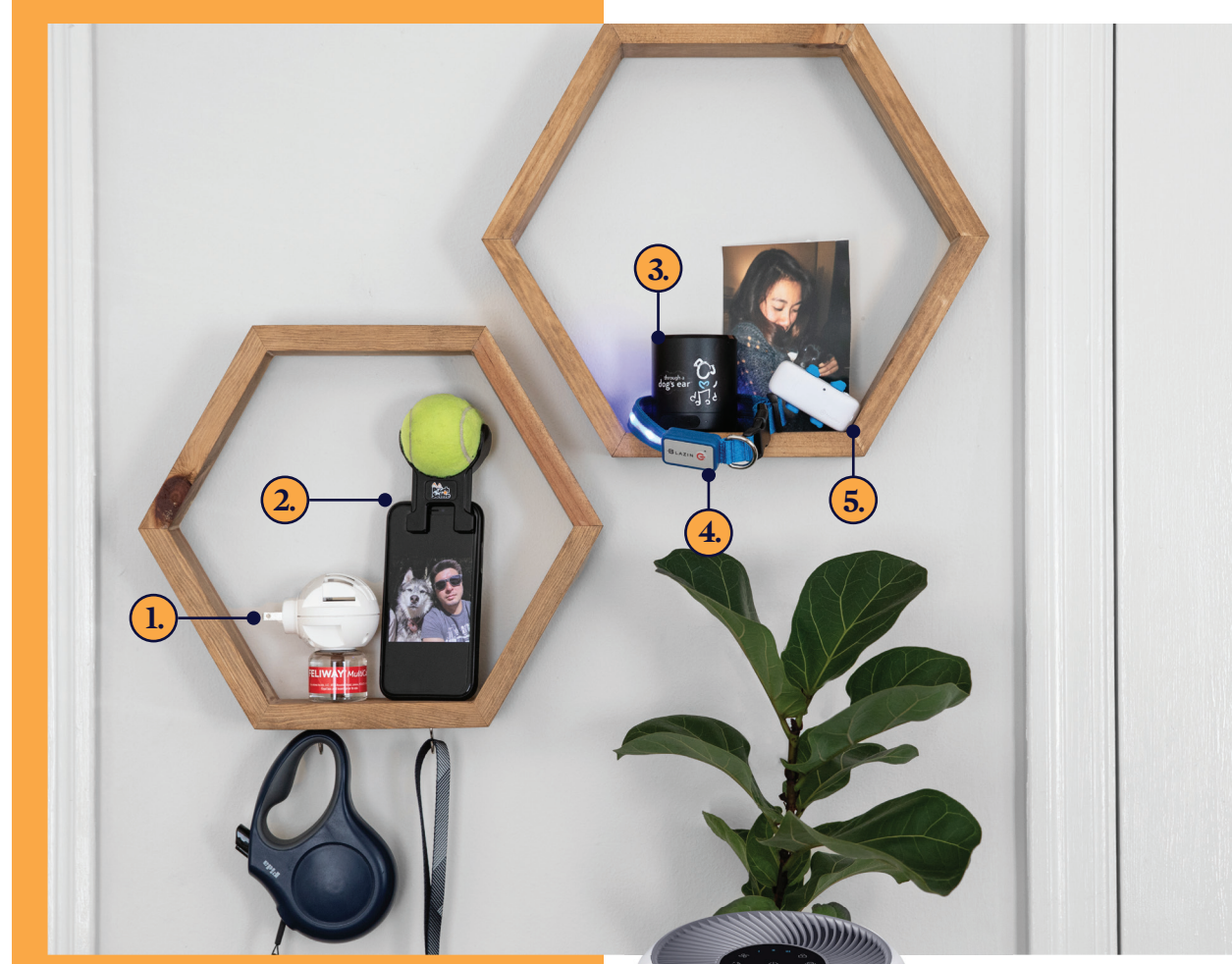
For those with more than one cat, this diffuser emits soothing pheromones that keep cats calm and helps reduce conflict among them. Simply plug it into an electric outlet and watch the tension in the room disappear.

2. Pooch Selfie The Original Dog Selfie Stick Smartphone Attachment Available at Chewy

Humans who are far more interested in taking selfies with their dogs than their dogs are in appearing in these selfies will enjoy receiving this dog selfie stick attachment as a gift. The ball catches dogs' attention, for better selfies.

3. iCalmDog 5.0b Bluetooth Speaker Available at Amazon

Soothing music helps relieve canine anxiety, especially when their people are away from home. This speaker emits music that's engineered for dogs to calm stress from storms, fireworks or separation anxiety. It keeps the music playing with up to 24 hours of battery life per charge.



4. Furbo Dog Camera Available at Amazon

Users can see and hear their dogs in real-time from anywhere using a smartphone app, so it's the ideal present for a dog parent who's anxious about leaving their canine companion home alone.

5. Tractive Waterproof GPS Dog Tracker Available at Amazon and Chewy

Keeping track of your pooch is easy with a tracker that has built-in GPS and a waterproof design. Since it's adjustable, it provides a good fit for most collars.



Levoit Air Purifier Available at Amazon

From pet dander to pet odors, the Levoit air purifier features HEPA filtration to improve the air quality in homes with pets. It has a sleek, modern design that looks great in any room and doesn't take up a lot of floor space.

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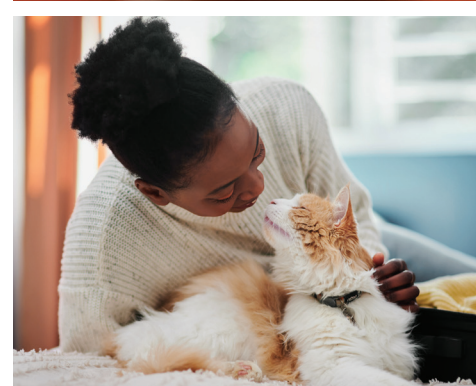
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Kooltail Basic Dog Hoodie

Available at Amazon

Dogs will feel cozy and look adorable in one of these hoodies. They're available in six colors and a range of sizes from extra-small to extra-extra-large to fit most dogs. It's the ideal option for a canine companion who feels the cold.



Furhaven Self-Warming Pet Blanket

Available at Amazon

Dogs and cats who love snuggling will adore this cozy pet blanket with a reflective internal layer that reflects pets' body heat back at them for even more warmth. It's a lovely gift for your pets or for a pet owner who wants to keep their furnishings free of pet hair.



Oxbow Simple Rewards Banana Small-Animal Treats

Available at Chewy and Amazon

Made from nothing but bananas, these sweet treats will excite any small critter. You do need to monitor how many you give your pet in one go because of their naturally high sugar content, but they're all-natural, so there's no need to worry about artificial additives.

Friscoll Refillable Catnip Toy

Most cats can't get enough catnip. Fortunately, this plush toy is refillable and comes with enough catnip for lots of feline enjoyment. The cute critter design is enticing to cats, too.



Chuckit! Ultra Rubber Ball + Classic Launcher Dog Toy

Available at Amazon

If your dog is a fan of fetching balls, you can't beat this ball launcher. It allows you to throw the ball farther than you'd be able to by hand, while the included tennis ball is highly durable.



Fashion's Talk Cat Toys Variety Pack

Available at Amazon

If your cat likes to pounce, bat and chase toys, this bundle is an excellent choice. It's a collection of 20 toys that entice most cats to play, including balls, mice and catnip packs.



Embark Dog DNA Test

Available at Chewy and Amazon

This canine DNA test checks for 200-plus genetic markers for hereditary diseases and searches a database of more than 350 breeds. This is an excellent gift for a dog owner who doesn't know their dog's mix of breeds or who is worried about genetic diseases.



Nylabone Dura Chew Souper Bacon Dog Bone

Available at Chewy and Amazon

Dogs who love to chew will thank you for buying this tough Nylabone. It's perfect for pups who shred or gnaw their way through less sturdy toys.

PetSafe Drinkwell Platinum Dog and Cat Water Fountain

Available at Amazon

If your dog or cat hates drinking water from the bowl, they might prefer drinking from this pet fountain. Cats are especially fussy about water and are often more likely to drink from a moving source than a bowl. This fountain also filters the water.

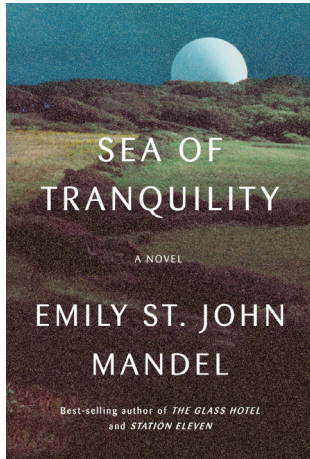


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"Sea of Tranquility"
by Emily St. John Mandel

Available at Amazon

This post-apocalyptic science-fiction epic spans centuries and lives, with a nice sprinkling of magic throughout. You'll have no trouble escaping into Mandel's beautiful, frightening and all-encompassing world with this page-turner of a novel.

Best books to gift

By Jennifer Manfrin

BEST REVIEWS

Books are experiencing a resurgence in popularity as a gift option. Whether you're giving them the latest novel or an insightful biography, a good book is always appreciated. Here's something for everyone.



"Mi Cocina: Recipes and Rapture from My Kitchen in Mexico" ▲
by Rick Martinez Available at Amazon

If the photos alone don't draw you in, the flavor-packed recipes in this delightful cookbook will have you hooked. This is a go-to book for anyone who craves straight-from-Mexico flavors at home.

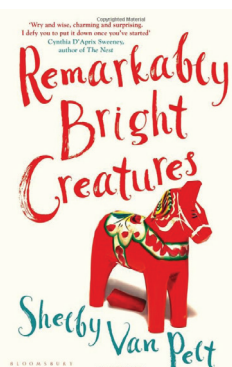


"Change Sings: A Children's Anthem"
by Amanda Gorman

Available at Amazon

Written by the youngest inaugural poet in U.S. history, this picture book is a dazzling read,

featuring beautiful illustrations by Loren Long. Gorman's evocative words convey to young readers that they have the power to be agents of change, both in the community and the world.



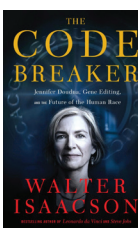
"Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt Available at Amazon

This novel follows the unique relationship between a grieving wife and mother and a giant Pacific octopus at the aquarium where she works. Together, the two work as detectives to solve the mystery of her son's disappearance.



"Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of Our Nation" by Linda Villarosa Available at Amazon

Villarosa presents disturbing statistics and deeply personal stories about what it means to be a Black woman in the current American healthcare system and the forces that must be stopped to open the door for progress and equality.



"The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing and the Future of the Human Race" by Walter Isaacson Available at Amazon

This deep-diving biography explores the exciting life of Jennifer Doudna, Ph.D., winner of the 2020 Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work developing CRISPR, a gene-editing technology. It chronicles her groundbreaking discovery and personal experiences along the way.



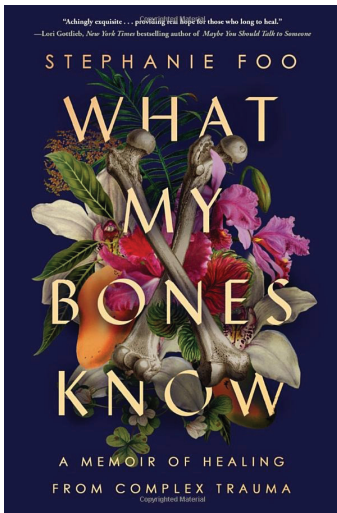
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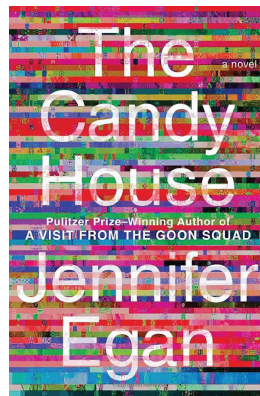


"What My Bones Know: A Memoir of Healing From Complex Trauma" by Stephanie Foo Available at Amazon

In this deeply touching personal memoir, Foo writes about growing up with abusive parents and her emotional journey to heal and recover from post-traumatic stress disorder.

"The Candy House" by Jennifer Egan Available at Amazon

Egan returns to her characters from her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, "A Visit From the Goon Squad," to explore what life would be like if a technology existed that allowed you to look back at all your memories and share them with others.



"Dilla Time: The Life and Afterlife of J Dilla, the Hip-Hop Producer Who Reinvented Rhythm" by Dan Charnas Available at Amazon

This riveting biography delves into the acclaimed producer's too-short life, detailing his countless contributions to music before his untimely death at the age of 32.



"Sir Ladybug" by Corey R. Tabor Available at Amazon

This cute graphic novel from the Caldecott Medal Honoree is full of laughs for all ages. Join the gallant Sir Ladybug on quests to rescue his buggy friends from predators.



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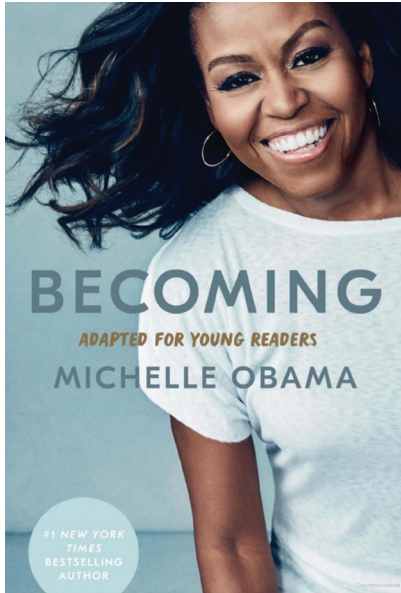
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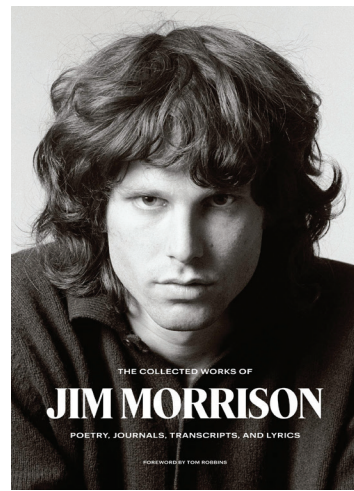
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"Becoming: Adapted for Young Readers" by Michelle Obama

Available at Amazon

Michelle Obama's bestselling autobiography is now available in a more accessible form that speaks directly to young people about life. Most notably, Obama asks readers, "Who are you, and what do you want to become?"



"The Collected Works of Jim Morrison" by Jim Morrison, with a foreword by Tom Robbins

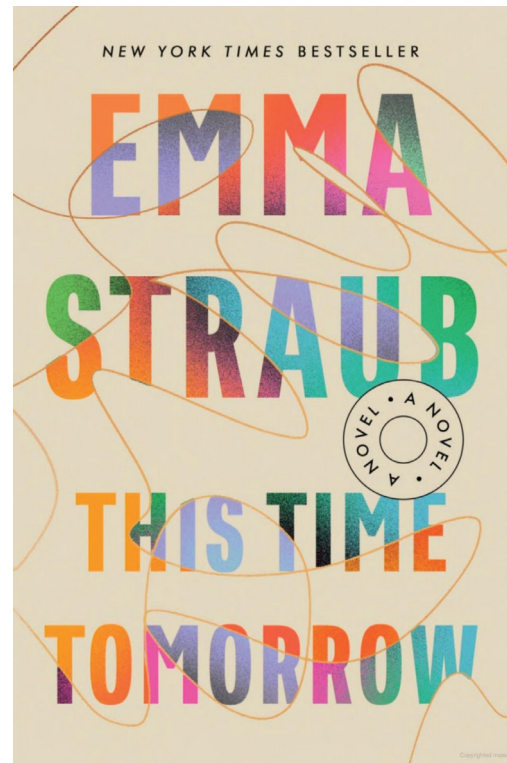
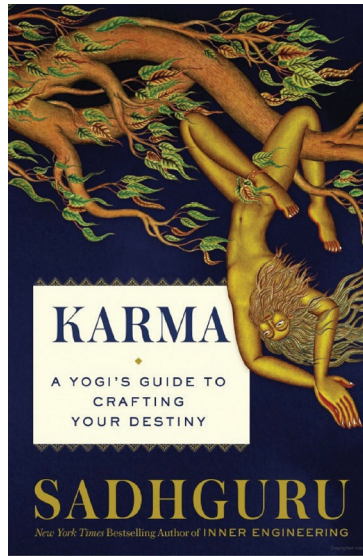
Available at Amazon

This definitive anthology of Morrison's body of work includes poetry, journals, transcripts, lyrics, and even rare photos. Immersive and introspective, it shares unique insight into the legendary singer's creative process.

"Karma: A Yogi's Guide to Crafting Your Own Destiny" by Sadhguru

Available at Amazon

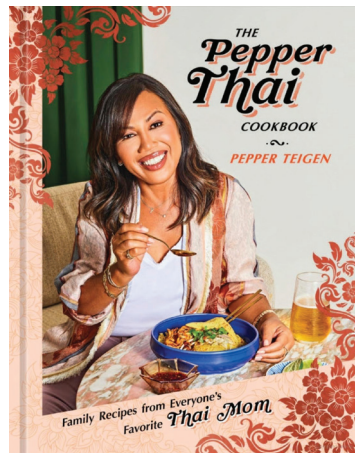
In this meditative book on karma, Sadhguru helps readers transform from fearful "passengers" into confident "drivers" who can navigate their destinies.



"This Time Tomorrow" by Emma Straub

Available at Amazon

Set in New York City, Straub's bestselling novel follows a 40-year-old who magically travels back in time to her 16th birthday. As she attempts to do things differently to make her future better, she questions what it means to be truly happy and successful.



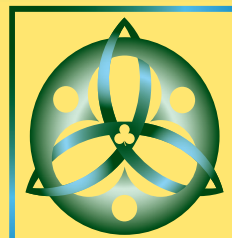
"The Pepper Thai Cookbook: Family Recipes from Everyone's Favorite Thai Mom" by Pepper Teigen

Available at Amazon

When Teigen moved from Thailand to the United States at age 10, she had to get creative with new ingredients and recipes from her homeland. Now, decades later, she shares some of her most-loved recipes, ranging from succulent chicken larb to colorful mock-papaya salad.

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By Bre Richey, Anthony Marcusa
and Jennifer Blair
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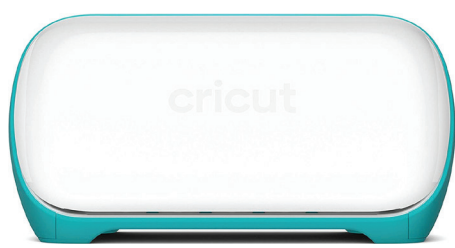
Baby Mushroom Handprint and Footprint Keepsake Frame
Available at Amazon

Capturing a baby's handprints and footprints makes a timeless keepsake. This impression kit includes baby-safe nontoxic clay for casting tiny prints and a photo frame for displaying these priceless memories.



Eufy RoboVac X8 Available at Amazon

Cleaning up after the kids is easy with this mighty robot vacuum. Its powerful twin-turbine technology ensures it doesn't miss a crumb, and the dirt is compressed so more can be packed into the waste box before it needs to be emptied, giving parents extra time to enjoy their little ones.



Cricut Joy Machine Available at Amazon

DIYers and crafters will love receiving this Cricut compact cutting machine that cuts over 50 types of material with ease. After designing a project, this portable machine does the rest of the work. Since it draws any shape and writes in any style, there's nothing it can't do.

Cuisinart Convection AirFryer Toaster Oven Available at Amazon

This air fryer and toaster oven combo is the ideal small appliance for any family. It's spacious enough to toast six slices of bread, bake a 12-inch pizza or roast a 4-pound chicken at once. Cleaning is also simple with its nonstick interior.



Keurig K-Duo Coffee Maker Available at Amazon



With multiple brewing sizes, it's capable of brewing a 6-, 8-, 10- and 12-ounce single cup of coffee, as well as a 6-, 8-, 10- and 12-cup carafe. It's also programmable to automatically brew a carafe up to 24 hours in advance.



Canon Ivy Mini Photo Printer for Smartphones Available at Amazon

Printing photos doesn't have to be complicated. This portable photo printer is compatible with Bluetooth so that users can print fun memories from social media. The pictures are 2 by 3 inches and feature

a peel-and-stick backing, so they stay put anywhere.



JBL Charge 4 Portable Bluetooth Speaker Available at Amazon

With up to 20 hours of playtime, this speaker will keep any party or gathering going all day and night. Connect up to two smartphones or tablets to take turns choosing the music while simultaneously charging those devices. It's also waterproof and great for the pool or beach.



Lifewit Collapsible Cooler Bag Available at Amazon

From juice to snacks to milk, this insulated cooler bag is a must-have for parents on the go. The exterior is water-resistant and dirt-proof for easy cleaning.

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Instep Bike Trailer for Toddlers

Available at Amazon

It's easy to bring kids along for casual rides with this bike trailer, which is available in single- or double-seat styles. The trailer has a folding frame design that is travel-friendly and easy to store when it's not in use.



Diono Radian 3QXT All-in-One Car Seat

The Radian 3QXT car seat is the only one you need to safely transport your child from the newborn stage through the toddler years, as it accommodates youngsters ranging from 4 to 120 pounds. It's engineered with next-generation safety in mind with ultra-protective side panels.



Hatch Rest+ Baby Sound Machine

The Hatch Rest+ acts as a two-way audio monitor, a night light and a sound machine to help babies sleep through the night. Not only is it useful for infants, but it's great for toddlers and kids, too, so the recipient will potentially get years of use from it.

Little Hippo Mella Ready-to-Rise Sleep-Training Alarm Clock

Available at Amazon and Buy Buy Baby

This training alarm clock may allow parents to sleep just a little longer. It illuminates a green light that lets kids know it's time to wake up the family and emits soft sounds and lights to help kids sleep.



4Moms MamaRoo Multi-Motion Baby Swing

Available at Buy Buy Baby and Amazon

It might be a splurge, but parents swear by the MamaRoo for soothing their babies. It can rock in a range of motions, including one that simulates the motion of a car ride, helping to lull fussy babies to sleep.



Toniebox Audio Player

The Toniebox allows kids to choose their favorite bedtime story or song both at home and on the go. Not only

does it inspire their imaginations, but it also eliminates over-stimulation that so often happens with screens.

Crazy Forts! Buildable Indoor / Outdoor Play Fort

Being stuck inside doesn't have to be boring with this 69-piece fort-building kit. However, it can also be used outdoors. It comes with 44 sticks and 25 balls so kids can create a pirate ship, castle or anything else they can dream up.



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OPTIONS for teens, tweens & everything in between

By Bre Richey, Anthony Marcusa and Jennifer Blair
BEST REVIEWS

Throw Throw Burrito by Exploding Kittens Available at Amazon

This family-friendly game is particularly fun for teens who want something silly and active. The simple goal involves collecting cards, but it incorporates a fun element: a soft burrito that must be thrown at the opponents in order to win.



Eldritch Horror Board Game Available at Amazon

Teens are sure to embrace this immersive, cooperative board game that involves dimensional portals, ravenous monsters and a ticking doomsday clock. Inspired by the stories of H.P. Lovecraft, this game calls for strategy, teamwork and imagination as they work to save the planet from destruction.



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Lego Star Wars: The Mandalorian Imperial Light Cruiser Available at Amazon

This large set, inspired by the second season finale of “The Mandalorian,” comes with over 1,300 pieces and six minifigures, including Mando and the Child. It’s a great way to engage younger teens and foster creativity, problem-solving and patience.



Kan Jam Original Available at Amazon

This popular outdoor game is simple yet difficult, as two teams compete to land a frisbee into a large barrel. While it may be hard to hit from a distance, teammates can assist and redirect the frisbee at the last moment, making this active game one that involves a fair amount of cooperation and finesse.

Spikeball Available at Amazon

This game played by two to four people is made for the outdoors, particularly on soft surfaces like sand. That’s because they may need to dive to keep the ball in the air in this competition that blends volleyball and the popular children’s pastime four-square.



JBL Clip 4 Available at Amazon

JBL offers some of the best portable Bluetooth speakers available, with crisp sound built into a colorful and durable shell. This lightweight speaker features a sturdy clip so they can hook it to a backpack or whatever is handy.

Amazon Kindle Paperwhite Kids Available at Amazon

Encourage a teen to read with a convenient and equipped e-reader by Amazon. This special Paperwhite edition is geared toward young readers: It includes a one-year subscription to Amazon Kids, which offers access to thousands of titles, including audiobooks.



Mike Hayward 2.0 Backpack Available at Amazon

Whether they’re going to school, sports practice or on vacation, this roomy backpack has enough space to fit everything. It features padded adjustable straps and several pockets of all sizes. Plus, the polyester shell has a dense weave for added durability.

Hobed Life Cozy Fur Backrest Available at Amazon



This comfy pillow provides a backrest and arm support, making it perfect for reading or scrolling in bed. The swirl of pastel fur is incredibly soft and fluffy. Throw in a pair of fuzzy slippers for a bonus gift.

Dr. Martens Jadon Leather Platform Boots Available at Amazon

Since they’re constantly designing new styles like these platform boots, Dr. Martens will never stop being trendy. They’re made with 100% leather that perfectly molds to the foot. Also, they feature the classic bouncing air-cushioned soles for comfort and slip resistance.



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By Bre Richey,
Anthony Marcusa and
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BEST REVIEWS

Here are the toys everyone will be competing for this year



GETTY



National Geographic Mega Science Magic Kit Available at Amazon

This 50-piece National Geographic STEM kit shows kids "the magic behind the curtain" through fun experiments like making snow appear or creating square bubbles. The set even comes with a magic wand.



Echo Dot 4th Generation Kids Available at Amazon and Kohl's

This smart speaker is designed specifically for kids so that they can ask Alexa for help with homework or other questions. It also comes with a one-year subscription to Amazon Kids+, which provides access to thousands of books, games and videos.

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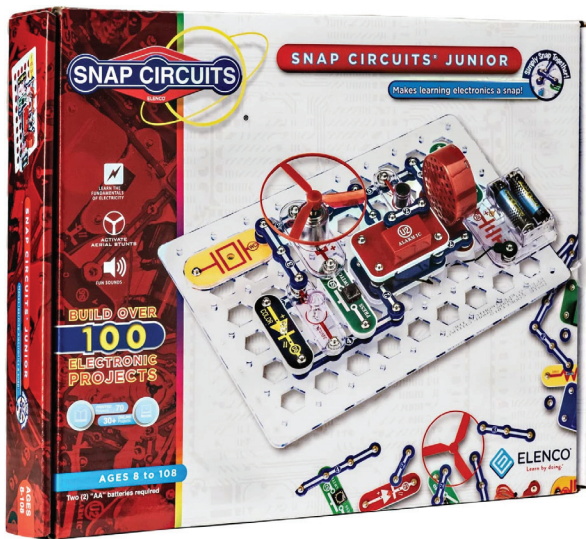
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Elenco Snap Circuits Jr. Electronics Exploration Kit Available at Amazon

This kit is perfect for children with interest in engineering. It contains supplies for more than 100 electronic circuit projects, so children can build working models of items like a photo sensor or flashing light.



Little Tikes Ice Cream Truck Ride-On Toy

Available at Amazon and Kohl's

This fun ride-on toy mimics the look of every kid's favorite vehicle: the ice cream truck. It has an ice cream cone-shaped speaker that plays music and can move via your child's feet or by an adult pushing the handle at the back.



Magna-Tiles Safari Animals Set Available at Amazon

These popular magnetic tiles let kids build structures without frustration for

hours of fun. This set comes with movable animal figures that easily attach to the tiles.

Learning Resources City Engineering and Design Building Set Available at Amazon

Perfect for kids ages 5 and up, this building set lets children construct skyscrapers, bridges and more. It also comes with activity cards that offer design challenges to inspire your child.



Stoie's International Wooden Music Set Available at Amazon

For children who can't get enough of music, this set includes more than eight wooden instruments to help them explore the musical possibilities. It includes instruments from all over the world, too, so kids can learn about other cultures.



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Disney Princess Dress-Up Trunk Deluxe

Available at Amazon

Featuring over 20 pieces, this set contains costumes that let your child dress up as Cinderella, Belle, Aurora and Snow White. It comes in a keepsake storage trunk and includes jewelry and accessories.



Snacking Grogu

Available at Amazon

It's no secret that The Child is a hungry little creature. This animatronic toy snacks on four different delights as seen in "The Mandalorian," including its much-loved bauble from Mando.



Amazon Fire HD 10 Kids Pro Tablet

The latest Fire Kids tablet features a sleek new design with the look and feel of a full-fledged tablet. It has a rugged, kid-proof case and comes with one year free of Amazon Kids+ with access to over 20,000 apps, games and educational content.



Melissa & Doug Examine and Treat Pet Vet Play Set

Available at Amazon

Kids who love animals will love this play set that lets them pretend to be veterinarians. It includes a plush dog and cat for children to "treat," plus all the tools needed to do an exam.

Avengers Action Figure Set

Available at Amazon

From Spider-Man to Iron Man, this eight-figure set includes all your child's favorite Marvel characters. The costume designs are inspired by the blockbuster films and include character-specific accessories.



VTech KidiZoom PrintCam

Available at Amazon

This kid-proof camera can take photos and selfies, printing them instantly. It lets kids dress up their photos with more than 40 effects, including speech bubbles and stamps. It also comes with three video games to keep children entertained.

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By Ben Allen
BEST REVIEWS

Everyone needs tools to tackle the uh-ohs of life. As a DIY expert and homeowner, I can't live without my toolbox. Tools are the ultimate empowerment gift. Below is a list of my favorite gift ideas for homeowners, newlyweds and those young people starting off in their own place. Your family and friends will be thanking you when your practical gift gets them out of a jam and saves them time and money.

Tip #1: Know the drill

Every home in America needs a cordless drill/driver. From drilling holes to driving screws to stirring paint, it's the most useful power tool of all.

DeWalt 20-Volt Max Cordless Drill

Available at Amazon

This DeWalt drill is the go-to drill for any homeowner or property manager. It comes with two 18-volt batteries and a carrying case, plus it is a great starter tool for building a power tool collection.



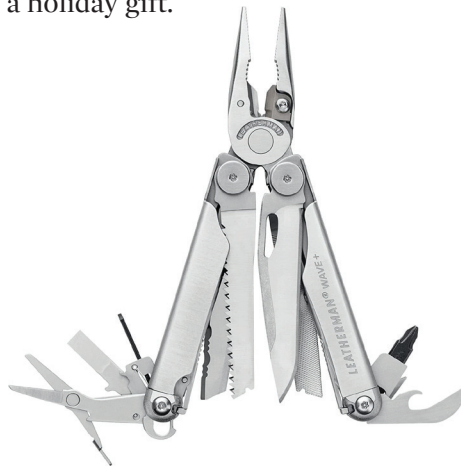
Tip #2: MacGyver moments

A multi-tool can get you out of a lot of trouble. It makes a great gift for DIYers, crafters, outdoorsy folks and travelers alike. This gadget is a winner as a holiday gift.

Leatherman Sidekick Multi-Tool

Available at Amazon

This multi-tool comes with 14 tools, including knives, pliers, screwdrivers, wire cutters, a bottle opener, saw and ruler.



Tip #3: How do you measure up?

We all need to measure things and measuring properly matters. Treat your people to a solid tape measure that will last a lifetime in the home, on the job or in the yard.



Stanely 25-Foot Tape Measure

Available at Amazon

From a trusted brand, this tape measure is sturdy, durable and affordable. A must-own for every home.

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Tip #4: Shine on

Don't leave anyone in the dark. A quality headlamp is ideal for DIYers, mechanics, dog walkers and anyone who wants to be hands-free while doing their favorite thing at night.

Black Diamond Headlamp **Available at Amazon**

This comfortable LED headlamp features six settings and comes in eight colors.



Tip #5: Socket to me

Flexibility is the name of the game with odd-shaped parts. A universal socket tool tackles nuts, hooks and fasteners of varied sizes. It's a great addition to any toolbox.



Hanpure Universal Socket Tool

Available at Amazon

This universal socket tool is made of solid steel and works with any standard power drill.

Tip #6: Power trip

Give the ultimate gift of power and security with a portable generator, and keep your loved ones safe with hours of extra power. It's great for the home, office, campsite or RV.



Champion 2,500-Watt Portable Generator

Available at Amazon

This lightweight portable generator is gas-powered and offers an easy-start feature.

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Tip #7: Good vibrations

Oscillating multi-tools are the MacGyver of all tools. They can fix a multitude of dilemmas and make a great gift for any homeowner. Once you own one, you will wonder how you ever worked without it.

Dremel Multi-Max Oscillating Multi-Tool *Available at Amazon*

This multi-tool is corded and comes with 30 accessories for cutting wood, drywall, grout and plastic. It also works as a mini sander.



Tip #8: Cut the strap

Strap cutters can save a life. These tools are a must for every car. They can cut seat belts as well as other plastic or mesh straps. They're a great stocking stuffer for a driver of any age.



CRKT Strap Cutter *Available at Amazon*

This compact keychain-style cutter also features a bottle opener, screwdriver and two wrenches.

Tip #9: Store it

Big Red ANTBD133-XB Torin Portable Steel Tool Box

Available at Amazon
This heavy duty tool box features a powder coat red paint finish, making it easy to clean.



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By **Judd NeSmith**
BEST REVIEWS

I'm Judd NeSmith, NASM-CPT, PES, founder of Serious Fitness, and I specialize in training men and women age 50 and up to achieve optimal fitness by helping them regain strength, rebuild lean muscle and restore lost mobility. Here, I'd like to share with you some of my favorite exercise equipment that can make great gifts this holiday season.



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Hypervolt 2 Pro Massage Gun ▲ **Available at Amazon**

Percussion therapy is all the rage right now with physical therapists and personal trainers, as it is a highly effective version of massage that allows the user to target a specific muscle group. The Hypervolt 2 Pro Massage Gun has been a favorite of my clients for years. Although a little pricey, your friend or loved one will certainly enjoy the therapeutic benefits.



Trigger Point Grid Foam Roller 1.0 ▲
Available at Amazon

Do you know someone battling chronic low back, hip or knee pain? If so, I'd highly recommend this foam roller to help them ease and even prevent their aches and pains from resurfacing. Foam rolling is a form of self-massage that can quickly help ease muscle tension and knots caused by repetitive strain and poor posture.



SKLZ Dual-Sided Slider Pads ▲
Available at Amazon

These slider pads are a great choice for anyone who needs to build a stronger core. This handy piece of equipment can easily fit in a gym bag or even luggage for those who frequently travel. They're designed to allow someone to perform some awesome and unique core exercises.

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Theragun Mini ▲ Available at Amazon

For a percussion massage gun that's compact but mighty, this option from Theragun is a hit. Offering three speeds, it's quiet, easy to grip and small enough to fit in your pocket.

Perfect Pushup V2 Handles ▼

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Do you know someone who enjoys strength training and needs to add some variety to their upper-body workout? These pushup handles allow users to perform pushups with correct form while targeting their chest, triceps, shoulders and core muscles. Easy to store in gym bags and luggage, this equipment is always a nice gift for exercise enthusiasts.

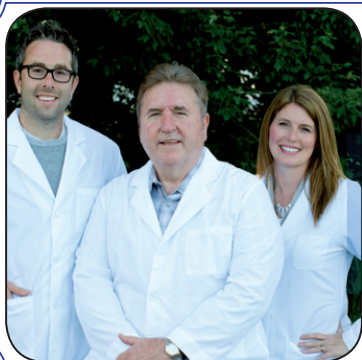


GoFit Therapeutic Massage Bar ▲
Available at Dick's Sporting Goods

Wow! This is a big favorite of mine and my go-to gift for many clients. The GoFit 18-inch massage bar is a wonderful and inexpensive gift for anyone who wants to ease muscle tension especially in their calves, thighs, shoulders and neck muscles. It's simple to use and your recipients will thank you for helping them feel so much better.

Gaiam Total Body Balance Ball Available at Amazon

This Gaiam exercise ball offers a lot of bang for the buck and is an ideal gift for someone who prefers to exercise at home. It allows users to perform some of the most effective core exercises to build stronger abdominal, glute and hamstring muscles. Plus, if your friend or loved one has dumbbells, they can use them with this ball to really add some variety to their exercise program.



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How to stay committed to fitness during the holidays

By Bre Richey
BEST REVIEWS

Making time for regular exercise is always challenging. However, between traveling, nonstop delicious goodies and parties, staying committed to fitness during the holidays is nearly impossible without the proper preparation. Regardless of the time of year, certified trainer Judd NeSmith emphasizes the importance of exercise, saying, "It's hard to be the most productive person in the office, and it's hard to be a successful parent or partner if you don't take care of your health first." So, if you want to stay on track this year, here are the best tips to keep fit.

Plan ahead

Being prepared is one of the best ways to ensure you maintain your exercise routine during the holidays. Before guests arrive for Thanksgiving or you head out of town for Christmas, write out specific fitness goals. For example, you can set a goal to run three miles a day during the week. If you prefer strength workouts, you may want to schedule a 30-minute session each day.

One of the main reasons for abandoning fitness during the holidays is travel, so investing in portable fitness

equipment is an excellent idea. If you're unsure where to find quality equipment, NeSmith advises, "Go to a trusted source like BestReviews. They work with experts like myself to help consumers identify and purchase the right gym or fitness equipment to help them achieve their goals."

Be flexible

After you write down your fitness goals, think of ways you can stick to your plan during a busy holiday schedule. For instance, under-desk workout equipment can help you stay on track if you're working longer hours before your holiday trip. Or when you're scheduling family outings, look for activities that keep you moving, such as ice skating or a walk through the zoo to see Christmas lights.

Monitor your progress

Keeping track of your progress will make it harder to miss a workout. Schedules are constantly changing during the holidays, and there are so many family members and friends to catch up with. However, when you get a notification from your device or have to check a box off your to-do list, it keeps your goals at the front of your mind.



Sports Research Sweet Sweat Mini Loop Resistance Bands Available at Amazon

With resistance levels from 5 to 40 pounds, these resistance bands are ideal for a variety of exercises while traveling.

Cubii JR1 Under-Desk Pedal

Available at Amazon

When there's no time for the gym, this pedal exerciser, which offers eight levels of resistance, will help anyone maintain their fitness goals during the holidays.



Fitbit Versa 3 Health and Fitness Smartwatch

Available at Amazon

Set goals, monitor your fitness and receive notifications directly to your wrist with this powerful smartwatch.



TRX PRO3 Suspension Trainer Available at Amazon

NeSmith recommends this suspension trainer for anyone looking to strengthen their muscles. It also comes with a convenient mesh travel pouch.

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