

Holiday GIFT GUIDE



For the Expectant Parents

If holidays aren't joyous enough, choosing a gift for parents expecting a new baby can add to the excitement.

From interactive toys to smart gadgets, the new parents on your list will love unwrapping a gift to prepare for their newborn's debut.

When searching for baby products, the American Academy of Pediatrics urges us to buy new. Investing in used items like cribs, strollers or car seats can put a little one at risk if it is past the expiration date or was mistreated by a previous owner. This year, pledge to only introduce goods that are still in the box to ensure they meet the strict safety standards set by its manufacturers.

FUTURISTIC SWINGS

A baby swing provides infants with a peaceful, soothing motion, but modern technology has stepped in to change the way they relax. Parents can take advantage of preset sway settings to find

their child's favorite swinging or gliding motions. Many modern swings offer Bluetooth to stream music from any smart device. To provide premium comfort, look for options that offer different recline positions and a plush or breathable cushion.

CONVERTIBLE CAR SEATS

A convertible car seat can take a child from infant to booster, all in one purchase. The AAP suggests kids should rely on additional support from a car seat or booster until they are between the ages of eight and twelve or have reached 4 feet, 9 inches. Since most convertible seats are built to support older children too, some require an additional insert, often sold separately. Avoid gifting a car seat that isn't ready for the trip home from the hospital.

STROLLERS

For active moms and dads, consider gifting them a stroller that's suitable for jogging. Daily use options make navigating tight corners at the grocery store easier and many include waterproof pouches, so the rain won't slow anyone down.





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The Avid Learner

This holiday season is your chance to give someone a whole new skillset.

According to the Harvard Medical School, successful active aging requires more than being physical as challenging oneself to tackle new hobbies can enhance cognitive abilities and mental health.

If you have a loved one on your list who loves to learn, consider purchasing lessons

in these unique fields to promote brain activity and introduce someone to their new favorite hobby.

MUSIC LESSONS

Learning to play an instrument doesn't have to be an expensive investment. Most entry-level guitars, keyboards and drums can be found in value packs with great savings. When purchasing this type of gift, it's a good idea to start with an inexpensive option in case the recipient loses interest in the new skill.

Another gift you should

consider is a professional music lesson. This will help someone with little knowledge of an instrument learn at their own pace. It's easy for self-learners to overlook the beginning steps when learning an instrument and moving too fast. Leaving behind the basics of music can hinder the progress they experience with their new venture.

PAINTING LESSONS

Becoming a quality painter can provide an artist with a stress-relieving outlet and even turn into more than a

hobby.

Lessons are important for beginners and those who haven't held a brush for some time. An expert can show them different ways to express themselves and open new creative avenues.

When choosing a location for a lesson, consider the recipient's experience and confidence in their ability. They may be more comfortable with a private instructor or feel more at home in a public class where multiple painters partake and share their experiences.

LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE

Learning a second language can be a rewarding experience for someone. Whether they use it to propel their career or simply challenge their mind, it can be a gateway to researching and understanding different cultures.

You can find in-person lessons, online tutors and even programs that use software to teach users. Consider your loved one's schedule to ensure the type of lesson you gift them will work with their lifestyle.

Gifts For Him

If you have a man in your life who never knows what he wants for the holidays, you're playing a difficult guessing game.

You don't want to pester him with ideas, but you still want his face to light up when he unwraps your present. When you're having trouble shopping for the man on your list, consider these unique ideas.

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES

Give your man a new gift that arrives in the mailbox each month. Subscription boxes are a great way to surprise him with new products associated with his favorite subjects. Here are a few fun packages available.

FOOD BOX

The way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Find the perfect variety box that excites his taste buds and introduces new flavors. During your search, you can find subscriptions filled with beef jerky, candy and even restaurant-quality steaks.

GROOMING PRODUCTS

Men may be less likely to buy grooming products for themselves. You can give them the latest and greatest in skin and hair products by subscribing to a service that sends it right to their door.

NOSTALGIA BOXES

Find niche subscriptions that take him back to when he was younger. There are packages that feature items from the '90s and items that remind them of their favorite video games and movies.

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

If he loves customizing and fixing up his vehicle, gift certificates for different automotive services can make a great present. Consider purchasing from a general service shop where they can perform a tune-up to

get extra horsepower or a custom wheel business. Another popular option would be an audio or window tint facility. Boosting a vehicle's sound system or darkening its windows is a great way to make it stand out.

TICKETS TO AN EVENT

Buy him tickets to his favorite activity. Whether it be a day at the ballpark or a night on the town to watch his favorite band, an event will be a wholesome experience for himself and his guests.



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For the Resolution Guru

Once the busy holiday season is over, Americans set their goals and expectations as they welcome the new year. Find out what your loved one is committed to accomplishing as the calendar turns to find them the perfect gift to assist them.

GETTING IN SHAPE

When your recipient plans to improve their health, show your support by providing them with tools to enhance their efforts. Look for workout clothing that they can wear while they burn extra calories and socialize at the gym.

At-home workout equipment is another idea to help them stick to a new physical lifestyle. Affordable options like dumbbells, pull-up bars and informative workout guides are great ideas to consider. Also consider a cookbook that lays out recipes for quick and healthy meals they can prepare to help their body recover from workouts.

TRAVEL MORE

Many Americans make a New Year's resolution to leave their comfort zone and travel to see more of the country. They can benefit from prepaid



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credit cards, books about the best places to visit, and new clothing to accommodate the weather of their planned destinations. If you have a credit card that racks up mileage points, talk to your cardholder about transferring your rewards to help them hit the road. You can also consider

investing in luggage for their trips like suitcases with wheels, carry-on bags with plenty of storage and cases to hold all their gadgets.

APPRECIATE NATURE

Spending time outdoors can give people an overwhelming sense of awe.

Witnessing the natural wonders like mountains, canyons or lush forestry gives us a new perspective of the world we live in. Help your loved one along on their commitment to enjoy nature by gifting them with gear like tents and cooking tools. You should also consider items to keep them safe

while navigating the trails. Some high-end options include GPS systems, satellite communication equipment and fire-starting kits.

Ensure those who are committed to becoming in tune with nature have the resources to reach out to others in times of emergencies.



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For the Do It Yourselfer

Many people make their own repairs or renovations to their home or cars.

Support your loved one's attempts to become more self-sufficient and building their DIY knowledge.

AUTOMOTIVE

Understanding how cars operate and what it takes to repair them requires hands-on experience and an appreciation of mechanics. Check out the idea

of buying an owner's manual for your loved one's specific vehicle. It offers a detailed explanation on how the car works and step-by-step directions for common repairs. Even if there is nothing wrong with the vehicle at the time, this guide is a valuable resource to have on hand when problems do arise.

Another invaluable tool for a DIY mechanic to own is a diagnostic scanning tool. This handy gadget can pinpoint causes of check engine lights and offer common solutions for the issue. You can find very affordable options that simply provide a code to be researched or high-end models that offer literature and repair advice.

AT-HOME HANDYMAN

The DIY handyman likely has a wide variety of tools at their disposal, but you can surprise them with an advanced twist on common repair equipment. Check out these unique ideas to make repairs and renovation easier.

DIGITAL TAPE MEASURE

Precise measurements can be the difference between completing a job right the first time or making several attempts. While traditional tape measures can work if someone can decipher each marking, their digital counterparts make accuracy a breeze.

AUTOMATIC PAINT ROLLER

While they won't spread the paint for you, these innovative rollers will automatically refill your roller with color. They alleviate the chore of bending to add more paint and eliminate the risk of messy drips and drops, making painting an overall easier job.

SMART HAMMER

Did you know that technology has stepped in to enhance the basic hammer? These smart gadgets dispense nails on their own, so its users can avoid holding them in awkward positions and accidentally injuring their fingers.

For the Wine Connoisseur

For many, drinking wine is more about the experience rather than having a glass to relax and settle down for the evening.

Some appreciate the exquisite combination of pairing it with the perfect food, while others are satisfied by checking out local vineyards to learn about the process.

An exciting adventure to give your favorite wine lover is an all-exclusive trip to nearby wineries. Try to schedule it for a weekend where they are hosting live events like music or special tastings to get the most out of the experience. Don't forget to be responsible by appointing a designated driver or hiring the service of a party bus or limousine driver to make the visit even more luxurious.

For the at-home wine fanatic, here are some innovative ideas to take their tasting to the next level.

SHOWER WINE GLASS HOLDER

You are probably familiar with the shower beer, but for wine fanatics there hasn't been a solution to enjoy a relaxing glass in while rinsing off – until now! Gift your loved one with this fun gadget so they can bring their favorite drink with them in the shower or tub.

WINE PRESERVER

Preserve the freshness of an opened bottle of wine with a preservation system. They work by sealing a bottle to airtight conditions to keep oxygen and taste-altering bacteria out for a fresh glass, every time.

DIGITAL THERMOMETER

Different wines perform best at their ideal temperature. Your gift recipient can monitor the condition of their favorite bottle with this thermometer that mounts around the neck. Its compact design

makes it easy to store in any drawer in the kitchen or as a pleasing decoration on a wine cooler.

DECORATIVE WINE HOLDERS

Every proper wine enthusi-

ast love displaying their favorite bottles as a part of a home-design scheme.

Consider someone's current home aesthetic to match the new centerpiece to the same color temperature and type of material.



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For the Sports Fanatic

Does someone in your life bleed the colors of their favorite sports team? If so, finding a gift to make an impression on them can be easily done.

From gear to memorabilia, sports fans take pride in pres-

ents that remind them of their team and proudly showcase their love of the game.

ATTIRE

An easy and popular gift for a sports fan is a licensed jersey recognizing their favorite player. You may have to do a little more digging to source a throwback jersey, but it can be a rewarding experience that familiarizes yourself with a loved one's passion. If the vendor allows, you can make

your present even more personal by ordering their last name or nickname on the back.

MEMORABILIA

Autographed pictures can be welcome accessories in offices, man caves or she sheds. Finding legitimate memorabilia may take some research and efforts to authenticate, so make sure you begin the hunt long before the holiday arrives.

A good place to start your search is at a local collectible shop. They can point you in the right direction of reputable sources for items like signed balls, posters and team pictures. If you decide to venture to an e-commerce outlet, make sure they have great ratings from other users and have a proven record of quality transactions.

CUSTOM ART PIECES

For many professional

sports teams, there are photographs which capture historical moments and are easily recognized by fans. Consider printing these images on high-quality paper and framing them. For a more customizable option, commission a local artist in your area to reimagine the moment. If you are unsure where to find these talented creators locally, consider stopping by a local art gallery or visit an event where artists show their latest pieces.