

Perfect presents

Where to find great gifts for less than \$50 for everyone on your list—even impossible-to-buy-for friends!

Need some gift-giving inspiration that won't clear out your bank account? We found 34 sites where you can buy inexpensive presents that will delight everyone on your holiday list—including the girly girls, the foodies, and the gadget-obsessed. Each site meets our requirements for privacy, contact-info disclosure, and customer service, so you can shop securely. The order-by dates are the deadlines for Dec. 24 delivery with standard shipping; expedited shipping will cost extra. So if you really want to save, start shopping now!

PLUS
40 of our
favorite
sites of the
year



PHOTO: PHOTOALTO/MICHAEL CONSTANTINI/GETTYIMAGES

for the girly girl

Fun and indulgent gifts for those who deserve a little treat—and don't we all?

Dogeared.com

Gorgeously Zen jewelry and other goodies, such as bags and bookmarks.

Order by Dec. 16

Shipping \$7, free for orders \$100 or more

Gift wrapping Free; all products come wrapped

Returns 30 days from receipt

GoodToBeYou.com

Girly essentials including after-pedi booties, lingerie bags, and sparkly tees.

Order by Dec. 19

Shipping Starts at \$5.95

Gift wrapping No

Returns Seven days from delivery

Lush.com

Body products and cosmetics handmade from fresh, organic fruits and veggies; perfect for vegans.

Order by Dec. 16

Shipping Starts at \$6

Gift wrapping For gift sets only

Returns 45 days from shipment

Savvyskirts.com

Create custom "girl baskets" packaged in purses and totes; shop by emotion, occasion, style, color, price, or age.

Order by Dec. 20

Shipping Starts at \$10

Gift wrapping Free for baskets, charge for individual gifts

Returns 30 days from delivery

Touchofeurope.net

"Inspired imports" include vintage linens, spa products, and more.

Order by Dec. 16 to 21, depending on state

Shipping \$3.50, free for \$50-plus orders

Gift wrapping Free, and includes handwritten note card

Returns Three days from delivery, 10 percent restocking fee on some items

NOTE: The products featured here are examples of great gifts that you'll find at the sites we recommend; they were not tested in our labs.



SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT

Shemergency Survival Kit, \$25, at GoodToBeYou.com; Infinite Love bracelet, \$40, at Dogeared.com; Hello Gorgeous gift set, \$40, at Lush.com. (Click on Holiday tab for gift sets from \$11.)

Only
\$25





GUY BUYS
Nebraska Cornhuskers
Vintage Bobblehead, \$20,
at FansEdge.com; Instant
Beer Stein grip handle, \$4,
at KegWorks.com; Art of
Shaving Starter Kit, \$25,
at Theartofshaving.com



Only \$4



for the manly man

Whether he's into the art of getting the perfect shave or drinking beer, a gift from one of these sites is sure to please.

FansEdge.com

Gear for every sport, game, and team you can think of—boxing, minor-league baseball, NASCAR—they're all here.

Order by Dec. 10
Shipping \$4.99
Gift wrapping No
Returns 60 days from receipt

KegWorks.com

Everything beer and beer-related.

Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping \$6.99
Returns 21 days from receipt

OmahaSteaks.com

Meat and more in the mail.

Order by Dec. 15, can preschedule delivery
Shipping Starts at \$13.99
Gift wrapping \$6.99
Returns Anytime

Roundtablegifts.com

Find an elegant surprise for the man who has everything—we're talking engraved Zippo lighters, flasks, and pocket watches.

Order by Dec. 6 for personalized items
Shipping Starts at \$8.99, free for orders of \$100 or more
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from order

Theartofshaving.com

Find everything he needs to get a smooth, perfect shave, including brushes, razors, and skin products.

Order by Dec. 17 to 22
Shipping Starts at \$5
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from receipt

for the techie

Not sure what to get the geek in your life who has every gadget? Click here! (For more great gifts for geeks, see page 71.)

ComputerGear.com

T-shirts with scrolling LED messages and kinetic motion clocks are among the gifts for the computer whiz in your life.

Order by Dec. 20
Shipping \$6.95
Gift wrapping \$5
Returns Anytime

Jinx.com

If you have a gamer on your gift list, this is the go-to place for video-game-inspired clothing.

Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Starts at \$5
Gift wrapping No
Returns 120 days from shipment

ThinkGeek.com

Gifts for the tech geek, including solar-cell lamps, video watches, and Wi-Fi-detecting shirts. (No, we're not kidding.)

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$6.59
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from shipment

Twelvesouth.com

Super-useful goodies for Mac addicts.

Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Free
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from receipt

GEEK CHIC

Control Freak women's tee, \$20 to \$21, from Jinx.com; Cable Monkey cable organizers, \$5 each, from ThinkGeek.com; Compass Mobile Stand for iPad, \$40, from Twelvesouth.com.



Only \$5



ALL PHOTOS EXCEPT FANSEGE.COM: JAMES WOBRELL; MARKET EDITOR AND STYLIST: GENEVIEVE YRAOLA



Only \$10

GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT

Avian Companions Tea Mug Gift Set, \$40, at Teavana.com; Herb Sampler, \$10, at Tspices.com; Taza Chocolate Gift Box, \$28, at Zingermans.com

for the foodie

Whether it's yummy food or something that's used to make yummy food, your epicure friends will gobble up gifts you buy from these sites.

Earthy.com

Specialty foods, including fresh wild mushrooms, aged balsamic vinegar, and Himalayan salt crystals.

Order by Dec. 20
Shipping Starts at \$8.50
Gift wrapping \$7.50

Returns Notify immediately, return within two weeks of receipt

Prepara.com

Find cool tools that blend form and function for serious home chefs.

Order by Second week of December

Shipping Starts at \$2.50
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from order

Shopterrain.com

Great gifts for the foodie who's as comfy in the garden as in the kitchen.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$5.95
Gift wrapping \$5
Returns Anytime for some items, 30 days from delivery for others

Teavana.com

From loose blends to traditional pots, this site offers everything tea.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$4.75, free for orders of \$50 or more

Gift wrapping \$6.95
Returns 30 days from receipt

Tspices.com

Buy organic herbs and spices in single-serve packets.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$7
Gift wrapping No
Returns Anytime

Zingermans.com

Home to delicious products as varied as sweets, cheeses, and olive oils.

Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Starts at \$8.99
Gift wrapping Free
Returns No need to return items. Site will refund, exchange, or replace.

for cool kids

Find the teens in your life something they'll love enough to tweet about—and get the little ones something they'll love more than the box it came in. (For more great gifts for kids, see page 60.)

Chiasso.com

Cool, mod stuff for a teen's room.
Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Free for most items
Gift wrapping \$4.50
Returns 30 days from order (for furniture, 30 days from receipt)

Frecklebox.com

Awesome personalized gifts for children: coloring and story books, journals, lunch boxes, and posters.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$7.95
Gift wrapping No
Returns Anytime

Landofnod.com

Home to tons of wooden and eco-friendly toys. The site's gift-finder tool uses your price range and the recipient's age and gender to point you in right direction.

Order by Dec. 20
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping \$4.75
Returns 30 days from receipt

Oompa.com

Thoughtful gifts for kids and babies. The site promises "No batteries. No blinking lights. No cartoon-themed toys. Period."

Order by Dec. 20
Shipping \$5.95, free for \$65-plus orders
Gift wrapping \$4.99
Returns 30 days from order

KID STUFF

Personalized growth chart, \$40, at Frecklebox.com; Aquatic Condo fish bowl, \$28, at Chiasso.com; Oodles of Doodles place mats, \$11, at Landofnod.com.



Only \$11

HOW TO SHOP SAFELY

Make sure a site is trustworthy before you give your credit-card number and other personal info. We verify that every site we mention in ShopSmart lists full contact info (in case you have a return or a complaint), a posted privacy policy with a clause that allows you to "opt out" if you don't want the site to share your personal info (a site with a solid policy displays the TRUSTe seal), and a satisfactory or better rating with the Better Business Bureau. You should look for "https" before the Web address and a padlock symbol when you check out to ensure that you have a secure connection before you pay. Here are more tips for shopping safely, for the holidays or at anytime:

- 1 Pay with a credit card.** That way, if you're not satisfied or a retailer goes out of business, you have some protections.
- 2 Get a gift receipt.** It makes returns easier without revealing how much (or how little!) you spent.
- 3 Check return policies.** If gift items are at final sale, you might want to think twice. Ditto if you get only store credit, have little time to return, or if return shipping fees are costly.
- 4 Watch out for restocking fees.** They're common on electronics and other items.

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GIVE AND GIVE BACK
Batik Soap Gift Box, \$28, at Globoexchange.com; Jonathan Adler Umbrella, \$25, at GiftsThatGive.com; beaded animal collars, \$13 to \$16, at WorldofGood.com.

Only
\$13



for the do-gooder

Make your socially conscious friend smile with a fun gift that benefits the greater good.

GiftsThatGive.com

Twenty percent of your bill goes to the school, private foundation, or nonprofit of your choice.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$4
Gift wrapping \$12
Returns Completed within 30 days of receipt

Globoexchange.com

Many items, including hot cocoa and scented bath rugs, are produced

through fair trade.

Order by Dec. 10
Shipping Varies based on ZIP code and weight, free for orders of \$100 or more
Gift wrapping \$4.25
Returns 30 days from receipt

Globalgirlfriend.com

Find gorgeous apparel, accessories, and body products, made by women in rural communities around the world. A portion of the proceeds goes to help the women start businesses.

Order by Dec. 17
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping No
Returns 45 days from order

Teesforchange.com

A tree is planted for every organic cotton or sustainable-bamboo-blend T-shirt purchased.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping Free
Returns Call or e-mail within 14 days of receipt

WorldofGood.com

Each unique item comes with details about how its purchase helps the world.

Order by Varies by seller
Shipping Varies by seller
Gift wrapping Varies by seller and item
Returns Varies by seller

where to shop for the person who doesn't want a gift

Even the scroogiest Scrooge won't be able to resist a gift from one of these offbeat sites.

CharityGiftCertificates.org

Buy a gift card, and the recipient can choose a charity to benefit from your 100 percent tax-deductible donation.

Order by Dec. 15
Shipping \$4.95 per order
Gift wrapping No
Returns No

Spoonsisters.com

The place for quirky stocking stuffers.

Order by Dec. 13
Shipping Starts at \$6.50
Gift wrapping \$4.25/gift box
Returns 10 days from receipt

Dailygrommet.com

A gift a day, handpicked from "nice companies."

Order by Dec. 15
Shipping Starts at \$2
Gift wrapping No
Returns 30 days from ordering

MoMAstore.org

Shop the fabulous gift store at New

York City's Museum of Modern Art.

Order by Dec. 15
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping \$5/gift box
Returns 90 days from receipt

Uncommongoods.com

Affordable home and personal gifts, some handmade by artists. Easy to browse by gift type or recipient.

Order by Dec. 16
Shipping Starts at \$4.95
Gift wrapping \$4.95/gift box
Returns Anytime

OUR FAVE SHOPPING SITES OF THE YEAR

We wrote about hundreds of shopping sites in ShopSmart in 2010—and we shopped at plenty of them ourselves, on our own time. After all, we love to shop, too! Here are our favorite sites of the year:

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Anntaylorloft.com
- Anthropologie.com
- Athleta.com
- Bananarepublic.com
- Gilt.com
- Landsend.com
- Like.com

- Titlenine.com
- Urbanoutfitters.com
- Victoriassecret.com

FOODIE STUFF

- Surlatable.com
- Williams-sonoma.com

HOME DÉCOR & MORE

- Allmodern.com
- Areahome.com
- Ballarddesigns.com
- Chiasso.com
- Crateandbarrel.com
- Garnethill.com
- Ikea.com
- Peacockalley.com
- Plowandhearth.com
- Potterybarn.com
- Restorationhardware.com
- Unisonhome.com
- Westelm.com
- Zgallerie.com

SHOES

- 6pm.com
- Endless.com
- Ninewest.com
- Shoesofprey.com

EVERYTHING ELSE

- Alibris.com (books)
- Alice.com (everyday household stuff like paper products)
- Amazon.com
- Apple.com (computers and more)



WE WANT ONE! Pom-pom Mini-Scarf, \$26, at Etsy.com; Give Me Some Lip lip-gloss gift set, \$40, at Sephora.com.

- Case-mate.com (cell-phone cases)
- eBay.com
- Etsy.com (handmade items)
- Petco.com (pets)
- Sephora.com (cosmetics and personal-care products)
- Target.com



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