



Holiday gift guide

The brightest ideas for spirited giving

If we could just rely on Santa to deliver the ultimate gifts. If he knew to bring diamonds or could fit a snowboard down the chimney, it would save us from shopping ourselves into a holly daze.

Alas, it's up to you to indulge the ones you love. And because stressful gift-giving defeats the spirit of the season, we got a one-up on Santy Claus and scoured the best local shops for the greatest gifts for men, women, teens, hostesses and more — right down to the very last gadget geek on your list.

"From Alberta to Sellwood to the Pearl, Portland now has so many homegrown, independent stores where you can find truly unique gifts," said Nikki Gersten of Chartreuse Public Relations, an expert on the Portland shopping scene. "It's important to find someone a gift that speaks to an interest or fascination they have — something with a basis in who they are and not just something random. Also, it should be something that's either so practical or so impractical they might not buy it for themselves."

Read on to discover the softest cashmere, trend-setting shoes, the hottest housewares, palate pleasers, games and more.



Men appreciate (and need) stylish accessories that will never go out of style.

W. KLEINBERG BROWN SUEDED CROCODILE BELT, \$500 AT MARIO'S, 833 S.W. BROADWAY AND BRIDGEPORT VILLAGE; WWW.MARIOS.COM.

COMPILED BY KAREN VITT

Men



Ante up the gift of a good game, complete with everything but snacks and beer.

TRADEMARK POKER 12.2G CLAY COIN INLAY POKER CHIP SET IN ALUMINUM CASE, \$99.99 TO \$149.99 AT JOE'S, 1140 N. HAYDEN MEADOWS DRIVE (AND MANY OTHER LOCATIONS); WWW.JOESSPORTS.COM.

GIFT GUIDE PHOTOS BY DOUG BEGTEL, BENJAMIN BRINK, JOEL DAVIS, MICHAEL LLOYD, BRENT WOJAHN AND SUPPLIED BY RETAILERS



Found in museum stores, galleries and boutiques nationwide, Portland-based artist Deborah Polonoff's intricate hand-screen-printed gloves and trouser socks make a gorgeous gift.

POLONOVA HAND-PRINTED VELVET GLOVES, \$70 AT GILT, 720 N.W. 23RD AVE.



This soft, sexy scent — a blend of vanilla, musk, cinnamon, peach and more — is named for a star constellation depicting a peacock.

LILY LAMBERT PAVO SPRAY FRAGRANCE, \$45 AT IMP, 1422 N.E. ALBERTA ST.; WWW.IMPONALBERTA.COM.

Women

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Fine jewelry crafted from recycled precious metals and conflict-free diamonds by a Northwest artist is the ultimate sustainable style statement.

TOBY POMEROY 18K ECOGOLD DIAMOND PENDANT, \$1,550 AT MARIO'S, 833 S.W. BROADWAY AND BRIDGEPORT VILLAGE; WWW.MARIOS.COM.



