

Holiday

Gift Guide IV

Stocking stuffers for everyone on your list

Before you can hang the stockings by the chimney with care, you have to figure out how you're going to stuff them. Nearly every family has a different approach, but practical presents that match the personality of the recipient is almost always a winning strategy for filling out your loved ones' stockings.

For example, Zebra Pen's wide variety of writing instruments offers useful, stylish and creative stocking stuffers for anyone on your shopping list. Consider these thoughtful and fun ideas for filling stockings and get a head start on your holiday shopping at zebrapen.com.

For Little Learners

Easy for smaller hands to hold and control with triangular barrels, Zensations Mechanical Colored Pencils provide smooth, rich, vibrant color. Available in 24 blend-able, non-toxic colors, the durable lead is built for beginning writers and never needs sharpening. Ideal for coloring books, journals, notebooks and other paper surfaces, they're made to last as long as your youngsters' love of coloring and doodling.



For those looking for some help in that department, an option like the Mildliner Double Ended Highlighter and Creative Tool can help organize bullet journals, planners or notes in a unique way. With 25 pastel shades, the Japanese-inspired highlighter's broad and fine point tips aid in hand lettering and allow for multiple line thicknesses.

For those who want to make a statement, the Sarasa Grand Retractable Gel Pen features a sophisticated barrel that can be coordinated to match other office essentials. Available in six barrel colors - navy, gold, rose gold, black, white and turquoise - with Rapid Dry Ink Technology, this refillable writing product doesn't smear or smudge, leaving hands and paper free from blemishes.



For Bullet Journal Hobbyists

Whether your recipient is organized or could use

For Fashionistas

Ideal for those looking for a fashionable pen that



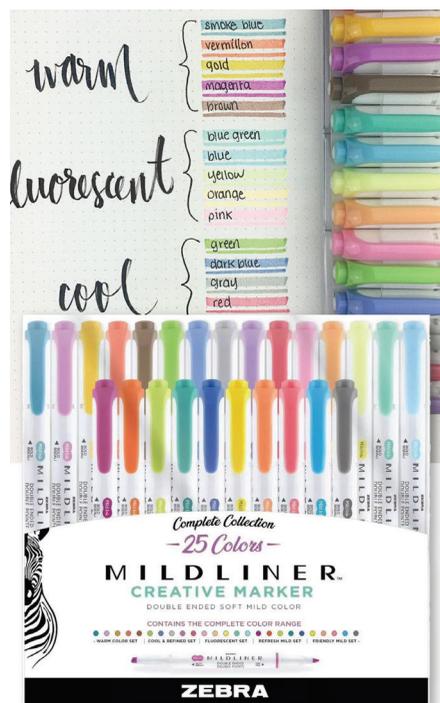
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shimmering metallic options, the non-smearing, gel ink is water-resistant to make a long-lasting impression. Plus, an alligator clip makes it easy to attach to notebooks, clipboards or artwork.

For Hard Workers

Featuring a designer stainless steel tip, barrel and clip with a textured metal grip, the Steel F-701 Ballpoint Retractable Pen offers a premium writing experience. Designed for the serious communicator looking to embody personal style in his or her writing instrument, this premium, refillable black ink writing product lets the recipient write with confidence.

For Adventurers

With a pressurized stainless steel barrel and the ability to write at extreme angles, the Steel X-701 Ballpoint Retractable Pen is made for those who need something sturdier than everyday plastic pens. Built to withstand temperatures ranging from -30 F to 250 F, this lightweight, matte black writing product is also an attractive option as a go-to daily writing utensil.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES (FAMILY FEATURES)

For Teens

Perfect for journaling, note-taking and studying, the Sarasa Clip Retractable Gel Pen can help the students on your list stay organized. Available in a wide variety of colors and finishes, including milky and

8 WAYS TO HAVE A SAFE AND FUN

HOLIDAY GATHERING

Whether you're celebrating in person or virtually this year, consider these tips to make your 2020 holiday safe and fun.

<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">VIRTUAL</div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>1 TURK-IFY OR CREATE CUSTOM VIRTUAL HOLIDAY BACKGROUNDS to make distanced online get-togethers more festive.</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>3 SEND A VIRTUAL "HOMESTYLE HUG," which is a farm-fresh way to send comforting food from local Restaurants to those who can't be with you this holiday season.</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>5 MAIL GIFTS ahead of time and open them together on the video call!</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>7 PLAY VIRTUAL GAMES, like trivia or a scavenger hunt, in between courses to keep remote guests engaged in the fun.</p> 	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">IN PERSON</div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>2 SIMPLIFY COOKING with a holiday meal to go, like a fully cooked meal with options for different group sizes.</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>4 MOVE THE PARTY OUTSIDE (weather permitting). Keep guests warm with space heaters and blankets.</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>6 CREATE A PIE DECORATING STATION with extra pies and festive, colorful toppings.</p> <li style="margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>8 DROP OFF A CARE PACKAGE TO A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR who might not be able to dine with others.</p>
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All prices are DSRP at participating dealers while supplies last. †The actual listed guide bar length may vary from the effective cutting length based on which powerhead it is installed on. Check out these reviews and others on the product pages at STIHLdealers.com. © 2020 STIHL




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A crafty Christmas

2020 has been year unlike any other. Many people found that engaging in creative pursuits is a great way to pass the time and alleviate anxiety related to self-quarantining. For those who prefer to continue to avoid crowds until COVID-19 is in the world's collective rearview mirror, producing handmade gifts is a good solution.

Those interested in making handmade gifts this holiday season can consider these ideas.

Jewelry: Most craft stores now have entire aisles dedicated to making jewelry. Jewelry crafters can create something fitting for the special people on their lists.

Candles: Candles add light, warmth and aroma to help a home feel cozy. With some basics, such as a mason jar or delicate teacup you can add light to someones day.

Handmade soaps: Those who dabble in candles may want to put those skills into soapmaking as well. Soaps can be crafted and packaged as part of a homemade spa package.

Oven mitts or handle covers: Gift



that special chef with custom oven mitts and a coordinating skillet holder for popular cast-iron cookery. Some durable fabric and some basic sewing skills are all that's needed.

Handmade blanket: Those who love to knit or crochet know the bounty that can be made with needle, hook and yarn. From afghans to slippers, to scarf and hat sets, the options are endless.

Food: Those whose talents lean more toward culinary can pour their holiday love into delicious tasty tidbits.

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A pop-up holiday treat!

Easy, elegant holiday popcorn

- 8 cups popped popcorn
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup white chocolate chips
- candy sprinkles

Line baking sheet with wax paper. Spread popcorn in thin layer on prepared pan.

Place chocolate chips in microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium 30 seconds; stir. If necessary, microwave in additional 10-second increments, stirring after each heating, until chips are melted and smooth. Drizzle over popcorn.

Place white chocolate chips in



separate microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium 30 seconds; stir. If necessary, microwave in additional 10-second increments, stirring after each heating, until chips are melted and smooth. Drizzle over popcorn.

Sprinkle desired amount of candy sprinkles over warm chocolate-coated popcorn.

Allow chocolate drizzles to set until firm. Break popcorn into pieces.

Note: Chocolate chips can be replaced with cut up chocolate bars.

(FAMILY FEATURES)

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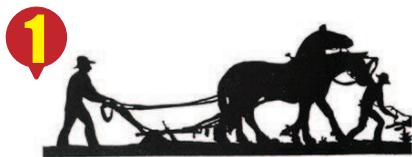
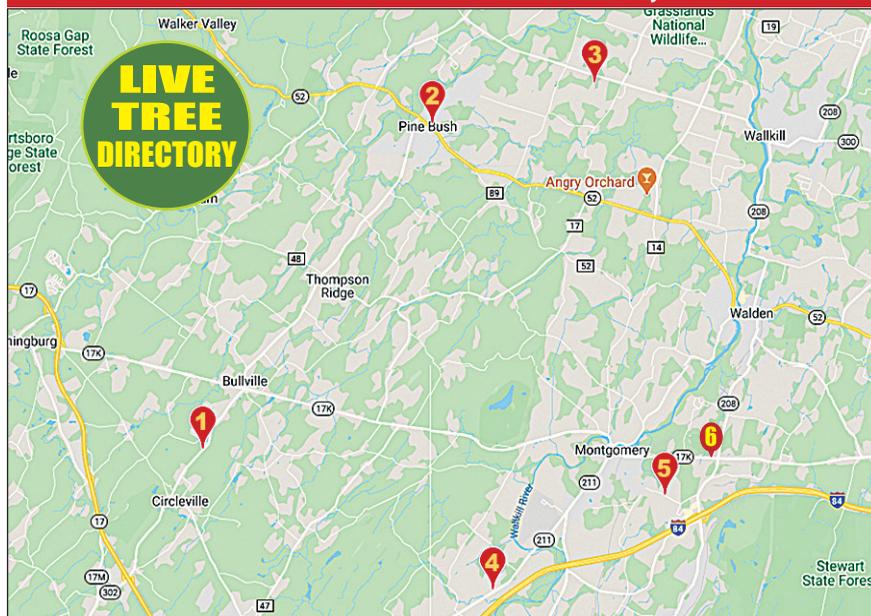
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211, Montgomery, 845-692-4364. manzafamilyfarm.
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MONTGOMERY FIRE HOUSE

Christmas Tree & Wreath Fundraiser Starts Black Friday,
9am-9pm Nov. 27 - Dec 24 or until sold out. Mon-Fri.
5pm-9pm, Sat. 9am-9pm, Sun. 10am-6pm 136 Ward
St., Montgomery. We have Douglas & Fraser fir trees!
Come out and support your local fire house!

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The Old Farmer's Almanac
offers ideas for post-holiday trees

- Prop up the tree near a bird feeder to provide another perch and shelter to birds that stick close to home in winter, such as chickadees and finches.
- String the tree with various treats for birds and put it in a sheltered location. Ideas include homemade suet, cranberries and millet.
- Mulch the tree and use it in the garden in the spring.
- Use boughs to insulate perennials in the garden.
- Keep some branches to use as kindling in a wood stove or fireplace, or as aromatic logs for next year's yule fire.
- Sink an old tree in a personal pond. Fish and tadpoles will live and lay eggs around this sheltered area.
- Collect some pine needles and sew them into fabric packets to make scented sachets for closets or drawers.

Live Tree Care

1. Consider the needles when looking for a real tree. Pull your hand toward your body along the branches. If many needles fall off, the tree is past its peak.
2. Think about the room in which the tree will be located. Leave at least 6 inches between the tip of the tree and the ceiling, accounting for the height of the tree stand as well.
3. If needle retention is a goal, the Scotch pine variety has the best needle retention and a high survival rate, lending to its popularity, offers Precision Tree and Landscape. Douglas fir and balsam fir are other durable trees.
4. Cut the bottom of the tree trunk before bringing it home to facilitate the uptake of fresh water daily. Trees can absorb as much as a gallon of water in a day, so make sure the tree gets fresh water every day.
5. Keep trees away from as many heat sources as possible and away from direct sunlight to prolong longevity.
6. To make a Christmas tree last longer, boil a gallon of water and dissolve one cup of sugar in the water. Allow to cool. After freshly cutting the trunk, pour in the warm sugar water. Continue to add fresh, cool, plain water to the tree stand afterward. Once needles begin to fall off with frequency, it's reaching its prime.

2020 LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE GUIDE



**MONTGOMERY FIRE HOUSE
CHRISTMAS TREE & WREATH
FUND RAISER**

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9am-9pm
NOV. 27 - DEC 24
or until sold out
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