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Entertaining  
& Gift Guide*  
2024

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*Holiday Entertaining & Gift Guide*



# 2024 Christmas gifts for teens and adults

Though it seems like Thanksgiving was just yesterday, Christmas is literally only a few days away, and if you haven't done your Christmas shopping yet, you're in trouble. Just kidding—there are so many last-minute gifts you can grab that will arrive just in time for everyone's favorite holiday. If you're too stressed to even think about it, we've done the hard work for you and gathered a list of the best Christmas gift ideas of 2023.

## Meer Mini Portable Projector

The best way to make any gathering more fun? Whip out this mini portable projector that'll easily connect to their phone or computer. All they need is a blank wall, a movie in mind, and a cozy setup to make movie nights a bit more interesting.

## Samsung The Freestyle

## Smart Portable Projector

Movie nights just got that much more impressive for whoever receives this gift. The Samsung Freestyle can turn any wall into a home theatre. Plus, it's also designed with premium 360-degree sound.

## Keurig K-Iced Single Serve Coffee Maker

A compact coffee maker that makes a cute addition to anyone's work desk or small apartment kitchen.

## Orastone Rechargeable Hand Warmer

It's hand warmer season, in case you haven't been outside. And sometimes you need a little more than gloves or pockets. Gift an extra boost with this electric warmer, which looks like a cool piece of jewelry.

## Pillow Go Neck Pillow

For that favorite jetsetter in your life who spends

more time on airplanes than at home, upgrade their travel pillow. This sleek, curvy option wraps gently around the neck to cradle the head in buttery soft memory foam, so they'll like sleep like a baby.

## iFox Creations Bluetooth Shower Speaker

Take the jams into the shower with this waterproof Bluetooth speaker that has five watts of powerful sound and up to 10 hours of charge.

## Lululemon Everywhere Belt Bag

Everyone wants to get their hands on Lululemon's belt bag, including the friend you're shopping for. Trust, this is a gift they won't return, and while some colors are often out of stock, there's still plenty more to choose from.

## Back and Neck Massager

Sure, you could give them a gift card to a spa, but this back and neck massager is

the gift that keeps on giving. With the touch of a button, they can sit back, relax, and knead the stress away whenever they want.

## Stanley The Quencher H2.0 FlowState Tumbler

There are tumblers and then there's *this* tumbler. The Quencher holds a whopping 40 ounces of liquid, keeping it ice cold and making it that much easier to meet daily hydration goals without constant refilling.

## Dodowin Mini Cordless Chainsaw

If you know a guy who secretly wishes he was a handyman who could do it all, indulge his fantasies with this fun gift. Powered by batteries, this mini cordless chainsaw can be used to prune bushes, trim branches, chop firewood, or prep DIY woodworking projects. It makes yard work a lot more fun.

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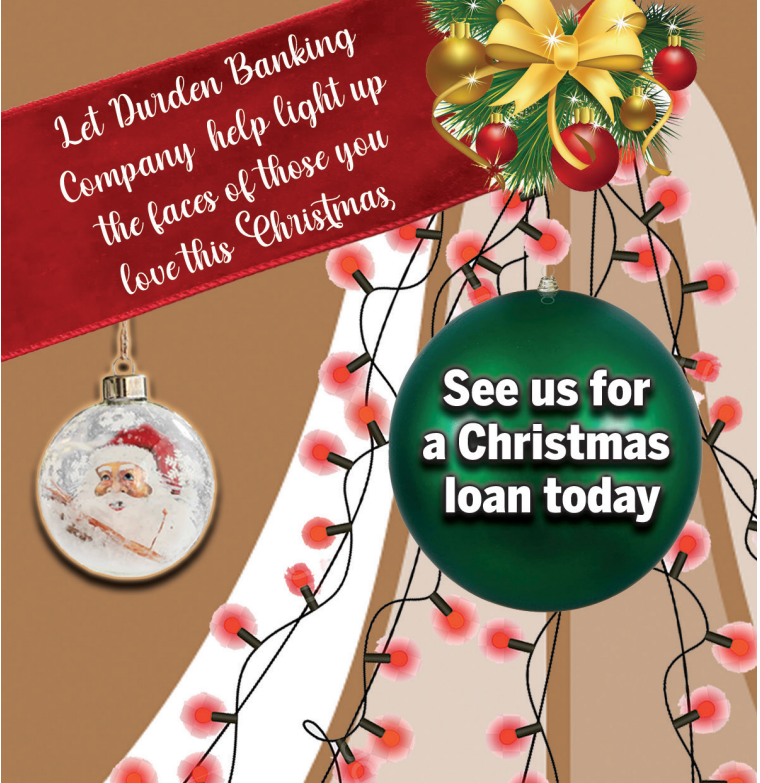
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# GIFTS YOUR LITTLE ONES ARE DREAMING ABOUT THIS YEAR

We all love getting ahead of the game when it comes to holiday prep. If you're looking to do some early Christmas shopping, just choose a few of these winners from our

carefully curated list of Christmas gifts for kids. From imaginative-play toys like the Ada Twist Kit that encourage your kids to step away from their screens and get immersed

into a new, magical world, to classic throwback toys created with an all-new audience in mind, we found all of the toys and games that your kid will want to get their hands on this year.

iLearn has figured out how to distill that into the easiest-to-use toy with this truck engine. It comes with the front end of a truck, engine parts, and tools — and kids absolutely love getting to work on it!

## Hawaiian Shaved Ice Snow Cone and Shaved Ice Machine

Help your kiddos make shaved ice, snow cones, snowballs, slushies — and margaritas for the parents — with this Hawaiian Shaved Ice machine! It's easy to clean, small enough to fit under your kitchen cabinet, and makes the most delicious cold desserts.

## Discovery Kids Space Projector

Planetarium projectors are not all equal. Discovery Kids proves that with their Space Projector. On top, it's a space projector, similar to many others. But what makes it stand out is the viewer on the bottom, which has three different sets of slides that project images like planets, constellations, and galaxies. This gift for kids doubles as an interactive STEAM experience and a nightlight.

## iPlay, iLearn Large Truck Engine Toy

There's something really cool about being able to take apart and put an engine back together again, and iPlay,

## Coodoo Water Marbling Paint for Kids

Even if you've never heard of water marbling, I guarantee your kids have seen videos of people marbling everything from iPhone cases to Nikes. It's a popular art form online, and kids are aching to learn how to do it. Indulge that desire with this all-inclusive kit from Coodoo.

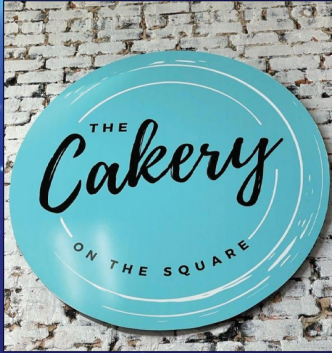
## National Geographic Volcano Bean Bag Toss Game for Kids

Imagine if you could make cornhole less like a chore and into an actual game you and your kids will want to play — that's this game. Similar properties, 100% more volcanic eruptions of laughter.

## National Geographic Pottery Wheel for Kids

The delight this brings to children is straight-up off the charts. It's a real pottery wheel set that even young children can use and understand. It comes with everything they need to start throwing pots and bowls. And I wouldn't be lying if I told you that I am as (Continued on page 5

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## GIFTS YOUR LITTLE...

(From page 4)

into this toy as the kids.

### Educational Insights Artie 3000 The Coding Robot

Artie 3000 is a friendly little robot that allows your kids to draw program-specific design patterns using intuitive drag-and-drop software. This gift for kids doesn't even require Wi-Fi to create super cool designs.

### Elmer's Celebration Slime Kit

I've made a ton of slime in the past few years, and this kit is the easiest, best, and most exciting slime kit. It's also the easiest to clean up, as it's reasonably water-soluble. Anyone who has tried to get slime out of fabric knows how important that is. Plus, look at all those sparkles that are already contained and not all over your floor!

### Basic Fun Lite-Brite Ulti-

### mate Classic Retro Toy

Parents, raise your hand if you owned a Lite-Brite or wanted to as a kid. This classic toy will bring back all of the feels when you watch your kiddo play with it.

This throwback toy has gotten a few major upgrades. With a bigger and brighter screen and more pegs, your kiddo will spend hours creating different sparkling designs.

### Amazon Kindle Colorsoft Signature Edition (32 GB)

Amazon's first full-color paperwhite-style Kindle does not disappoint. Kids who love to read will be bowled over by the clarity of the colors and pages combined with the ability to read in any light condition. It's perfect for the kid who always has a book in their hand but is running out of shelf space.



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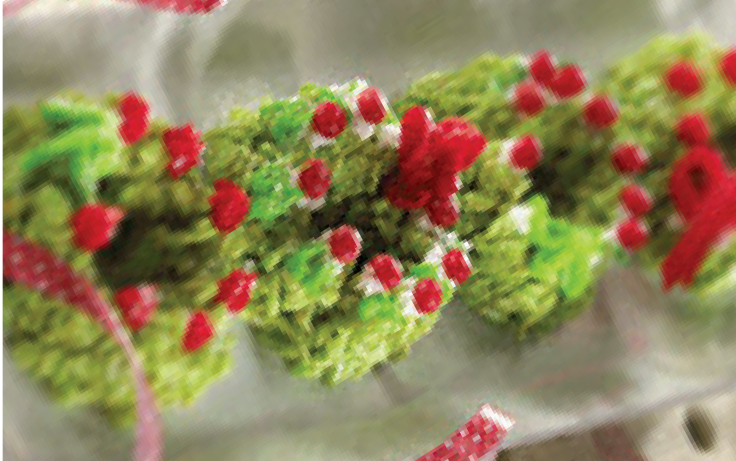
# HOLIDAY WREATHS

## Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 package (10 oz) JET-PUFFED Marshmallows or 4 cups JET-PUFFED Miniature Marshmallows
- 1 teaspoon green food coloring
- 6 cups Kellogg's® Rice Krispies® cereal
- Canned frosting or decorating gel
- Assorted candies

## Directions

1. In large saucepan melt butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until completely melted. Remove from heat. Stir in food coloring. 2. Add KELLOGG'S® RICE KRISPIES® cereal. Stir until well coated. 3. Using 1/4-cup measuring cup coated with cooking spray portion cereal mixture. Using buttered hands each



portion into small wreath. Decorate with frosting and/or candies. Best if served the same day. MICROWAVE DIRECTIONS: In microwave-safe bowl heat butter and marshmallows on HIGH for 3 minutes, stirring after 2 minutes. Stir until smooth. Follow steps 2 and 3 above. Microwave cooking times may vary. Note For best results, use fresh marshmallows. 1 jar (7 oz.) marshmallow crème can be substituted for marshmallows. Diet, reduced calorie or tub margarine is not recommended. Store no more than two days at room temperature in airtight container. To freeze, place in layers separated by wax paper in airtight container. Freeze for up to 6 weeks. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before serving.

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## PEANUT BUTTER SNOWBALLS

### Ingredients

- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 3 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1 pound white candy coating, coarsely chopped
- Finely chopped peanuts, optional

### Directions

- In a bowl, combine the confectioners' sugar, peanut butter and butter. Chill in freezer for 30 minutes or until the mixture is easy to handle. Shape into 1-in. balls and place on a waxed paper-lined baking sheet. Freeze for 30 minutes or until firm.
- Meanwhile, melt the candy coating in a microwave-safe bowl. Dip each ball and place on waxed paper to harden. If desired, sprinkle with chopped peanuts.

## Chocolate, Peanut & Pretzel Toffee Crisps

### Ingredients

- 40 Saltines
- 3/4 cup butter, cubed
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup cocktail peanuts
- 1 cup broken pretzel sticks
- 3/4 cup M&M's minis

### Directions

- Preheat oven to 350°. Line a 15x10x1-in. baking pan with foil; grease foil. Arrange Saltines in a single layer on foil.
- In a large heavy saucepan, melt butter over medium heat. Stir in brown sugar. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until sugar is dissolved, 2-3 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in vanilla. Spread evenly over crackers.
- Bake until bubbly, 8-10 minutes. Immediately sprinkle with chocolate chips. Allow chips to soften 2 minutes, then spread over top. Sprinkle with peanuts, pretzels and M&M's minis; shake pan to settle toppings into chocolate. Cool.
- Refrigerate, uncovered, 1 hour or until set. Break into pieces. Store in an airtight container.



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# History of Christmas traditions

Christmas brings many symbols, each one telling a part of the Gospel story.

**Evergreen tree** - known for its year-round color, it represents eternal life—our promise in Christ. Martin Luther, a leader of the Reformation, was said to have introduced the first Christmas tree in his home as a symbol of endless life in Christ. He adorned it with candles, a reminder that Jesus is the Light of the World (*Isaiah 60:13; John 8*).

**Holly** - with its pointed leaves, is like the crown of thorns Jesus wore as He carried the burden of our sins (*Matthew 27:29*).

**The color red** - prominent in Christmas decorations, speaks of His blood and the gift of His sacrifice.

**Giving gifts** - this tradition harks back to the Magi's offerings, which reflect Jesus' kingship, the sorrow of His death, and His divine role as God's perfect gift to us (*Matthew 2*).

**Yule log** - carried by the family to burn for twelve days—a symbol of identifying with Christ's sacrifice and finding warmth, unity, and joy in Him.

**Mistletoe** - has long represented peace. Through Christ, we find true reconciliation with God (*Romans 5:1; Romans 8:1*).

**Bells** - known for announcing news, remind us that Christ is the Good News, the ultimate message of hope and salvation.

## Coffee Punch

### Ingredients

- 6 cups hot strong brewed coffee
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup coffee liqueur
- 1 carton (1-1/2 quarts) vanilla ice cream, softened
- 1 carton (1-1/2 quarts) chocolate ice cream, softened
- Optional toppings: whipped cream, chocolate syrup and chocolate shavings



### Directions

- In a pitcher, combine coffee and sugar, stirring to dissolve sugar. Refrigerate, covered, until cold, about 45 minutes.
- Stir liqueur into coffee. Just before serving, spoon ice cream into a punch bowl. Stir in coffee mixture. Serve with toppings as desired.

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# True meaning of Christmas

Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25, as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. Christmas Day is a public holiday in many countries, celebrated religiously by a majority of Christians, as well as culturally by many non-Christians, and forms an integral part of the holiday season surrounding it.

The traditional Christmas narrative recounted in the New Testament, known as the Nativity of Jesus, says that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in accordance with messianic prophecies. When Joseph and Mary arrived in the city, the inn had no room, so they were offered a stable where the Christ Child was soon born with angels proclaiming this news to shepherds who then spread the word.

The term originates from the Old English Cristes maesse, or "Christ's Mass," first recorded in historical documents around 1038. This phrase evolved into Middle English as Cristemasse, beautifully capturing the heart of this holiday as a time to honor and remember the birth of Jesus Christ.

In Christian tradition, "Mass" refers to the celebration of the Eucharist—an essential and sacred observance commemorating the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. By coming together for "Christ's Mass," early believers celebrated His entrance into the world, setting the stage for a transformative message of hope and salvation.

Jesus was born in order to pay the price for the things we have done wrong...sin. God sent his only son to be the atonement for all our sins so that we would not be separated from God. Without Jesus, we would all die for our sins. We inherited our sinful nature from the first human beings God created...Adam and Eve. While being fully God and yet fully man, Jesus came into the world as an infant to save us all, and to bring us closer to God.

So, as we say, "Merry Christmas," let's remember its profound meaning—a celebration of Christ with us!

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