

Personal Care Items Have Become A Popular Gift

The spa industry is a booming one. Over the last three years, visits to spas have increased by 16 percent.

More than half of the men and women visiting spas to engage in facials, manicures, pedicures, massages and restorative baths do so for relaxation purposes, say reports by Intelligent Spas. What's more, many spa visitors want to recreate the services and relaxation values of spa visits in the comfort of home.

Building upon this idea, gifts involving personal care can appeal to many on your holiday shopping list. Plus, gifts of this type can be put together to meet a variety of interests and budgets. Here are a few ideas:

• **Pampered pedicures.** Feet take the brunt of daily activity. That's why routine pedicures can keep them in top shape and provide comfort.

Pedicures can be done at home with a few supplies, easily packaged into a gift basket. Fill a gift basket with nail clippers, cuticle pushers, cotton balls and swaps,

nail polish remover, moisturizing foot lotion, warm fuzzy socks, as well as a Microplane® Foot File. The Microplane® Foot File has been described as a "must have" foot-care product by users around the globe.

The product features 95 tiny files that create a bi-directional exfoliating system that quickly and safely removes dry or callused skin.

The end-result is baby soft, smooth, beautiful feet. For a set that is already prepackaged, making gift-giving a snap, try the Microplane® Essentials Gift Set, featuring moisturizing cream, spa socks, and the patented Microplane® Foot File.

• **At-home facial.** There are many products sold at area department stores and even drug stores that offer the convenience and lower price of a facial at home.

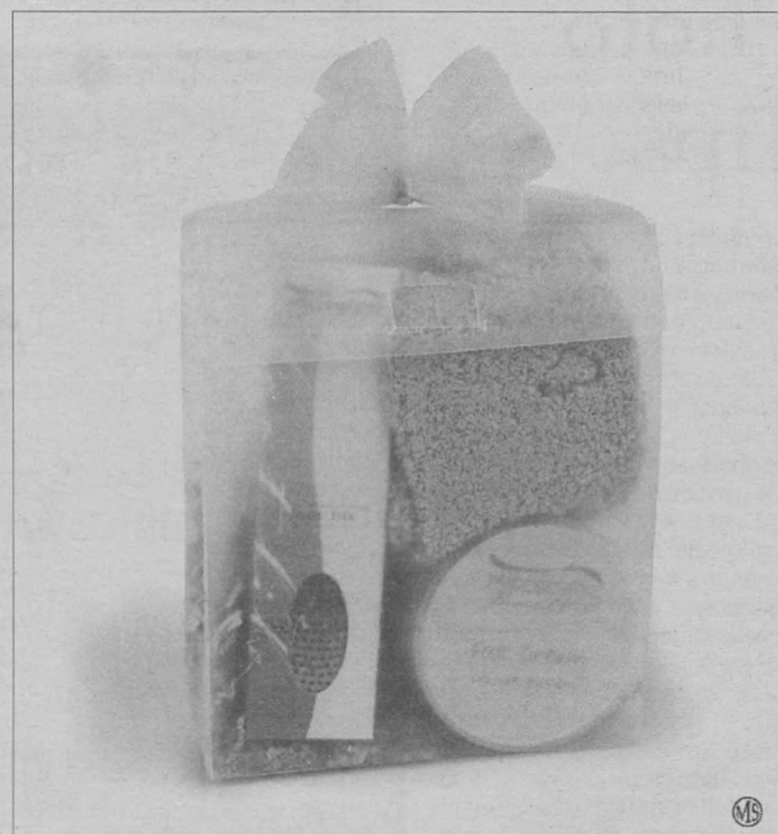
From exfoliating facial scrubs to mechanized devices that slough off the signs of aging, you can find items to cater to your gift recipient. Complete the package with a CD of relaxing music, gentle cotton cleansing pads and makeup remover.

• **Merry massages.** Professional spa employees are certified in massage therapy and make easy work of loosening up muscles and melting away stress and tension.

However, similar results can be achieved at home with a few handy items. For massage-lovers, recreate the spa experience with a gift of a luxe robe, candles, scented (or unscented depending upon sensitivity) massage oil, and a book of massage basics. If you're gifting a romantic partner, include a certificate for your massage services.

• **A pampered day out.** Treat a friend or family member to a day out by purchasing a gift card to his or her favorite spa or personal-care salon. A simple massage or pedicure "on you" will be appreciated. When offering pedicure gifts, a complementary present is a Microplane® Foot File, which is more gentle and safe than straight-razor callus shavers, and more sanitary than the pedicure tools used on all of the salon's clientele.

For more gift ideas and information about Microplane® Foot Files in Canada, visit www.microplaneintl.com.



Hints For Successful Last-Minute Shopping

Time got the best of you and you're in the 11th hour having purchased nary a gift. Now that the holidays are on your doorstep, what can you get that won't look like you shopped in a rush?

It's possible to give last-minute gifts that won't appear so. Here's a guide to some gifts you can pick up in a snap.

For Adults

* Pull from the spirit of the sea-

son. Choose among holiday music, ornaments or table decorations. What's more, at this late date prices may be slashed.

* **Go with a picture frame.** Take a family portrait or a picture you want to share and place it within a frame. This is a great idea for grandparents or other special people.

* **Put together themed cooking supplies.** For example, an ice cream lover may enjoy an ice

cream maker, an ice cream scoop, assorted toppings, and glasses for holding sundaes.

* **Choose area attractions** that adults may enjoy. A night out at the movies or a gift certificate for a local restaurant are ideas.

* **Liquor** can be a nice gift when appropriate. Many liquor stores will gift-wrap, or choose a nice wine and a decorative wine bag to house it.

* **Food** never falls out of favor.

Choose some exotic treats, such as fine chocolates, smoked salmon or caviar, and place in a decorative basket.

For Children

* **Family movie DVDs** are fun for kids of all ages. If you don't know what flick will fit the bill, give a gift card and let the child do the choosing.

* **Books, puzzles and coloring activities** will all spark creativity and lead to hours of fun.

* **Don't underestimate the power of a little green.** A few dollars tucked into a card enables children to feel responsible, and allows them to select a favorite gift of choice.

For Teenagers

* **Teens** often want to stay abreast of the latest styles and fashions. However, you may not know what they are. So if you're

thinking of gifting with clothing, it may be best to choose among some of the hot stores, such as American Eagle Outfitters, Abercrombie & Fitch or Hollister for your finds. Or simply give a gift card.

* **For female teens**, gifts that pamper and enable them to go glam could be appreciated. Various bath gels and scented lotions packaged together would be a nice offering.

* **Give a teen a subscription** to a favorite magazine so they can follow celebrities or sports teams.

* **Find out if you can pre-pay** for texting or minutes on a mobile phone for the teen who is always in touch.

* **A trial membership** to one of the mail-in movie services from Netflix or Blockbuster enables teens to catch up on all of their favorite flicks.

Holiday Movie Trivia Quiz

How much do you know about your favorite yuletide movies and television specials? See how many answers you can guess correctly.

1. In "Home Alone," young Kevin is forgotten at home when his entire family rushes to a vacation in

- a. New York
- b. Great Britain
- c. Florida
- d. Paris

2. "Miracle on 34th Street" focuses on what renowned department store?

- a. Macy's
- b. Lord & Taylor
- c. Neiman Marcus
- d. Saks Fifth Avenue

3. George Bailey's guardian angel in "It's a Wonderful Life" is

named ____.

- a. Tom
- b. Clarence
- c. Charlie
- d. Carmine

4. In what movie does Ralphie request a Red Rider BB Gun for Christmas?

- a. "A Christmas Carol"
- b. "A Christmas Story"
- c. "It's a Wonderful Life"
- d. "Bad Santa"

5. What comedian starred in "The Santa Clause"?

- a. Bill Cosby
- b. Howie Mandel
- c. Tim Allen
- d. Jon Stewart

6. Where was the movie "White Christmas" with Bing Crosby set?

- a. Colorado
- b. Montana

- c. New Hampshire
- d. Vermont

7. What mythic character makes an appearance in the animated classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"?

- a. Abominable Snowman
- b. Bigfoot
- c. Loch Ness Monster
- d. Dragon

8. When Clark Griswold's Christmas tree is burned to a crisp by a cigar, what does he do?

- a. purchases a new tree from a lot
- b. digs one up from his yard
- c. forgoes the tree
- d. sets the rest of the house on fire

Answers: 1. d 2. a 3. b 4. b 5. c 6. d 7. a 8. b

If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5-17

Knives By Charlie

Box 264
Sheridan, TX 77475
Home: 979-234-5074
Mobile 979-758-1947

Custom Knives and Repairs

knivesbycharlie@gotisky.com
www.knivesbycharlie.com