

## Log on for some great gift ideas this Christmas

Ah, Christmas: the time for giving. Rather than being an occasion for joyous, selfless gift-giving, most people run around in a lather as December draws near, trying to find something – anything – to wrap up and put under the tree.

So where to find inspiration beyond the usual socks and undies for the boys and smelly soap for the ladies? If you're stuck for gift ideas, you could always wait for the weekend papers to put out their annual Christmas Gift Guides – but do you really have \$500 lying around to spend on the latest designer gold-plated corkscrew for the boss?

Didn't think so.

Here's a tip: the best place to do your Christmas shopping is on the internet. You can browse to your heart's content with just a click of your mouse, with millions of gift ideas laid out before you - so why battle the crowds when you can shop from the comfort of your own living room? You won't use up your entire shopping budget in petrol as you drive around for hours looking for a parking space, you don't have to drag tired, grumpy kids through busy shopping centres, and your feet won't even get sore.

You can buy just about anything online: clothes, sporting equipment, toys, electronics, homewares, books, [cookware](#), perfume, cosmetics, jewellery – that's just the tip of the iceberg. You can shop at specialist online stores (which are usually able to offer good deals as they don't have to pay the overheads that physical stores do), online auction sites, or at the online outlets of some traditional stores. Although Australia is well behind countries such as the US in this respect, many traditional retail brands are slowly beginning to realise the benefits of offering online shopping. Most online stores have great specials in the lead-up to Christmas as they compete for your business, so it's worth checking back every now and then to see what they have on offer.

If your gift recipient is a cook (and there's a good chance they are, even if they don't list it as one of their favourite hobbies – because everyone has to eat!), The Chefs Toolbox has a fantastic range of high quality kitchenware on offer through their online store. You'll find everything from kids' kitchen tools for the little chefs in your lives, to BBQ utensils for the outdoor cooks, to professional-quality knives for the serious foodies. If you don't have a big budget, or are just after some stocking-fillers, check out their range of funky kitchen gadgets and silicone utensils. Just order online and the goodies will turn up at your door within days.

Go on, give online shopping a try this year: you might even come across something that your gift recipients will actually use!

### About the Author

The Chefs Toolbox specialise in quality [cookware](#), [kitchen utensils](#), and gifts. For more information about The Chefs Toolbox and to browse their online store, visit [www.chefstoolbox.com.au](http://www.chefstoolbox.com.au).

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