



# holiday gift guide

## MOM gift ideas

Stumped on what to give mom for the holidays? The MOM staff shares some of their favorite gift ideas they have received or would like to receive.

### AI Naturlista Mary Janes

These shoes are a staff favorite and for good reason—they are comfortable and so cute! Moms today want to be comfortable and stylish—these shoes provide just that. We recommend the red color “Tibet.”

~ Linda Blair, Mid-Valley Business Development Manager



### Quiet time

What is the best gift for a mom? Quiet time. Two of the best presents I have received as a mom involved quiet time to focus on me. The first was from my husband who cleaned the entire house with the children and gave me a day to stay at home to do whatever I wanted. I love to paint and make necklaces and so that is what I did. It was so refreshing and felt great to be creative at home. Time and a clean house are wonderful gifts that are reasonably priced as well.

The second present I loved getting was a gift certificate for a massage and pedicure. My mother-in-law said I needed to take a break last Christmas and decided the only way I would do it was if she gave me a certificate instead of just cash (I usually spend that on family needs). The massage was one hour of bliss. Total silence and pampering.

~ Kyra Storojev, MOM Blogger



## Christmas Decorating

What better gift for mom than to take away some of the work and stress associated with holiday prep? If mom has been good, surprise her with an early Christmas gift by hiring someone to decorate the house. Shonnard's in Corvallis does Christmas light design, as well as the installation, removal and storage of lights.

~ The Mid-Valley MOM team

## Cookie Jar

My sister gave us this personalized cookie jar—full of cookies! She made every holiday cookie, then delivered the special gift to friends and family. And she'll continue to fill our jar with cookies throughout the year. At least I thought that was the plan. Plan a cookie trade party to fill your jar with a little less work. Everyone makes a few dozen of one kind of cookie and leaves with a huge variety. Make your own jar at a local ceramics store or find this jar at [www.personalizationmall.com](http://www.personalizationmall.com).

~ Raeann Van Arsdall, Publisher



## Nike+ Ipod Sport Kit

I've always hated running—I grew up playing team sports where running was often punishment, and have often tried to be a "runner" but never truly enjoyed it. This summer I was on a "I-want-to-be-a-runner" kick, so my husband got me the Nike+ Ipod Sport Kit, and a new Ipod Nano for my birthday. The sensor pops in your sneaker and the Ipod tracks your running progress—it tells you how far and how fast you go. You can set goals based on time, calories, or distance, and it updates you along the way. My favorite feature is the "power song"—if you are feeling a little sluggish on your run, you can tap your Ipod and it'll play the song you have set as your "power song" to give you a boost. I've been running for about six months now and can finally say that I love it, thanks to my nifty Nike+ sensor.

~ Krista Klinkhammer, Editor-in-Chief

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## Kid gift ideas



### Wanna be a cowboy, baby?

Burnt River Ranch Camp sends a Wild West Gift Box with summer Ranch Camp reservations made before December 15th. You'll be prepared for summer camp next year, and have a wild and woolly gift under the tree today. This is a great gift idea to plant for grandparents who dreamed of riding Trigger. [www.BurntRiverRanch.com](http://www.BurntRiverRanch.com). Mount up locally at Riverbottom Stables, [www.RiverbottomStables.com](http://www.RiverbottomStables.com).

~ Raeann Van Arsdall, Publisher

### Zoob

Zoob is a great gift for boys and girls of all ages. It encourages creativity and imagination. Children can follow the simple design instructions that come in the package or have fun coming up with their own unique designs. Best of all—no electronic noise. The only sound you hear is your child's laughter.

~ Candy Welch, MOM Blogger



### Mini Marshmallow Shooter

The kids (and parents too!) will have a blast firing marshmallows in these mini shooters up to 30 feet away. The small size makes them the perfect stocking stuffer.

~ Krista Klinkhammer, Editor-in-Chief

One lucky MOM reader will win a Mini Marshmallow Shooter! Click below with your smart phone to enter the drawing to win.



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### **KaZAM balance bike**

Balance bikes are the best way to teach young kids to ride a bike. The theory is that they learn to balance before they pedal. My three-year-old daughter will be getting one under the tree this year. You can pick one up for \$99.95 at the Toy Factory in Corvallis or Albany.

~ Linda Blair, Business Development Manager, Mid-Valley

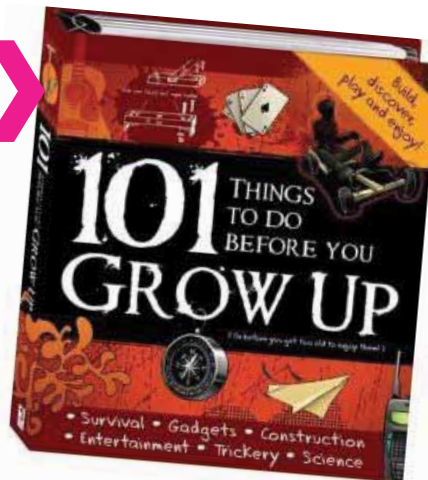
## **Love your MOM?**



### **“101 Things to do Before You Grow Up”**

Call me old-fashioned, I like this as a gift for older children. My son Jason, age 10, brought the book on a road trip with his classmates. Every kid in the car (including the parents) were having fun with the riddles, games and survival tips. It’s a great book with projects that are adventurous and fun to make solo or with the family.

~ Kyra Storojev, MOM Blogger



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