

the HERALD'S Christmas Gift Guide



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It's easy for your holiday gift list to grow to enormous proportions when you start adding all the "other" people in your life: the gardener, the newsboy, the mailman and the babysitter, to name a few. To whom should you give, and how much is appropriate? Liz Claiborne Cosmetics surveyed 100 professionals to find out what the guidelines were in their industries, and what they thought was a really great gift. Then they asked 200 men and women across the country what they do in those gray-area situations.

Mail carriers are government employees, and they aren't supposed to be tipped. The postmaster general suggests writing a letter to your carrier's supervisor, which will be entered into his or her permanent record. However, two mail carriers reported receiving highly unusual gifts. One was presented with a pile of junk mail he had delivered during the year, and another was given a watch (he took that as a hint that perhaps he was late a few times!).

Hairdressers, cleaning services,

babysitters, news delivery services and doormen welcome tips or gifts any time during the year. It is always appropriate. The type or size of gift is completely up to the individual, but a minimum of \$25 is suggested. One hair colorist reported getting cat food, another received a bluefish, and yet another was presented with a blank check — which he did not accept. A newsboy said he once got a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, and a maid said the most unusual (and least liked) gift she got was a bottle of Mop 'n Glo!

Teachers and clergy often get small gifts during the holidays, and that's fine, as long as they're kept small, under \$25. Fragrance, mugs and tree ornaments topped the list as the most popular gifts. A comfortable, free-spirited fragrance like Liz Claiborne is appropriate for day or evening wear, and is a great choice for gift giving.

Business vendors appreciate getting gifts during the holidays, but not at other times of the year. A food basket or gift certificate is a good choice.

A gift idea for car owners that won't slow down year-round

As the holiday season approaches, finding the ideal gift can be a trying experience.

Give the automotive enthusiasts on your list a gift that will be used year-round — a complete car care package from Armor All Products Corporation that includes:

• Car wash — liquid or powder to fight water spots without stripping wax.

 Wash mitt — designed to protect your car's finish while cleaning. •Non-abrasive car wax with an applicator pad.

 Car cleaner and protectant for vinyl, rubber and plastic surfaces.

Just in time for the holidays, Armor All has assembled special gift packs which contain all of the above products. These gift packs, available in most automotive supply and discount stores, can help bring you up to speed on your holiday shopping.

