

Holiday shopping at your fingertips

It's not uncommon for a shopper to equate the holiday season with completing a marathon—much like running, holiday shopping requires mental and physical preparation and sheer determination to succeed as we're faced with the stress of long lines, overcrowded malls and parking lots, not to mention out-of-stock items.

For shoppers looking to forego the stress of the season and kick off their shoes, the Internet puts holiday shopping at their fingertips. It's never been easier to browse and buy from the comfort of your own home.

Whether you're a novice navigator or an expert explorer like me, following a few simple tips will make it easy to find exactly what you're looking for this holiday season:

1. Start with a simple search. A creative or unique gift doesn't have to be a complicated one. I like to start my search for the perfect holiday gift by visiting eBay.ca and browsing the endless assortment of items. A simple search can lead to a spectacular find.

2. Think about the person, not the present. Use keywords that are associated with the gift recipient. What's their favourite hobby? Do they collect something? What's their favourite colour? A simple search on eBay for "red" reveals more than 2 million items from shoes to chandeliers.

3. Finally, pick the perfect time of day.



Online shopping doesn't have to happen between 9 and 5. Take 30 minutes out of your workday or set aside an evening to tackle your holiday shopping. There's nothing better than browsing and buying from the comfort of your favourite chair.

To get a head start on your holiday shopping, visit eBay.ca to find an endless assortment of new, unique and rare, and one-of-a-kind items and the perfect holiday gifts.

Tommy Smythe is one of Canada's top home décor designers. When it comes to gift giving, the sky's the limit, according to Tommy, as long as the gift is both useful and beautiful. An incurable collector, Tommy can often be found scouring eBay for unique items to add to his collections or to give to others.

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