

XCentric Ideas

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Are you experiencing an instant headache when thinking of buying a present and wrapping it? Stressing about Mother's Day and Father's Day? Stress no more! We fill this issue with creative gift ideas and amazing ways to wrap it—when last have you peeked in your spice drawer?

Gift Ideas Galore!

SPORT FAN

Fill a large bowl purchased at the Excitement Store with candy bars, bags of microwave popcorn, sodas/beers, chips, dips, their team's flag or hat and a calendar of game days.



GARDENER

Line a small terracotta pot with coloured tissue paper. Fill with packets of seeds, a pair of gardening gloves, a garden magazine and a hand digging fork.

BREAKFAST GIFT

Package of cold meat, eggs, jam, croissants/muffins and cheese. Wrap this with cellophane paper in a cast iron frying pan.



RELAXATION BASKET

Line a basket with a hand towel. Add a lavender candle, bath oil or bubble bath, bath salts, a favourite magazine, scented soap and a "DO NOT DISTURB" sign. (Make one out of a piece of cardboard.)

ICE CREAM LOVER

Place pastel coloured tissue paper on the bottom of a basket. Add an ice cream scoop, nuts, hot fudge sauce, Maraschino cherries and a big container of decadent ice cream.



PASTA LOVER

Take a large cheeky red-and-white striped dishcloth. Fill it with a packet of spiral pasta, a pasta sauce, a packet of black olives, some fresh chillies and fresh basil leaves. Tie the dishcloth together at the top with a stick.

When you have chosen 1 of the previous gift ideas, your wrapping solution is included. But you have bought something else and still don't know how to wrap it. Remember, creativity belongs to YOU! **What you do, is unique.** So don't be afraid. Go explore your drawers and cupboards!

Let's Get Wrapping!

FROM THE GARDEN

Wrap your gift in plain brown paper. Use project glue and stick on fresh green leaves, dry leaves, dry seeds, or a fresh flower from the garden.

Cut a bunch of fresh rosemary, thyme or basil out of your herb garden, tie with string and tie to your gift.

Pick up small dry branches and glue them on top!



OUT OF YOUR KITCHEN

Why not wrap your gift in tinfoil? You don't have any? What about a new dish cloth? Or if your gift is small, use white copier paper. Scratch for some leftover piece of material – use dressmaker's pins (koppiespelde)/diaper pins or stitch material loosely.

Glue some red chillies on top.

Grab a few boiled sweets and glue them to the gift.

Got a bagel? Tie string through and tie to your gift.

String macaroni or penne pasta on a string and tie gift with that.

Glue cinnamon sticks to your gift and decorate with a few peppercorns.

Take a fork and glue upside down on your package.



TISSUE PAPER

Rushing off to meet a friend, I had a chocolate bar. Scratching through my "creative" drawer, I decorated it with tissue paper, ribbon and a little silk rose.



XMAS GIFT BAG

This was a small gift bag. With 1 big feather, a small ribbon, 3 jolly snow men and tissue paper I have given the bag an unique look.

By now you should be confident in buying a present and wrapping it. Once you have started to look at normal objects in your house with a creative eye, the possibilities are just endless.