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containers make wrapping presents easy and almost as much fun as unwrapping them on Christmas morning.

Once wrapped, not all gifts can be hand-carried to the recipient. That's when effective wrappings for Christmas mailing come in handy.

"Whether you're mailing Christmas cookies to your son at Penn State or shipping a china teapot to Aunt Emma in Omaha, take special care in wrapping and packaging your holiday gifts so they arrive in perfect condition," Madill says.

**SOME POINTERS** for wrapping: ter, heavier paper has a better chance of arriving without being torn.

• Consider a designed gift box. Many boxes come decorated with holiday motifs. Cylindrical containers in quart and half-gallon sizes are good choices for packing nuts, candies and

cookies. These come printed with holiday designs, as do bottle bags, handle bags and handle containers.

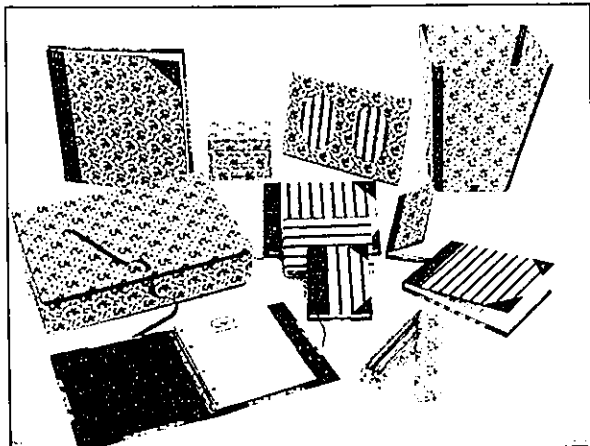
• Bows don't travel well. Instead, use flat trims, stickers, yarn and tinsel for decorating packages.

• No matter what your choice of wrapping, always ship a wrapped present inside another box. Be sure to choose one that is sturdy enough to support the contents and withstand the wear and tear of delivery.

• Protect the gift by surrounding it with tissue paper in the gift box. Also, use tissue to cushion the mailing box.

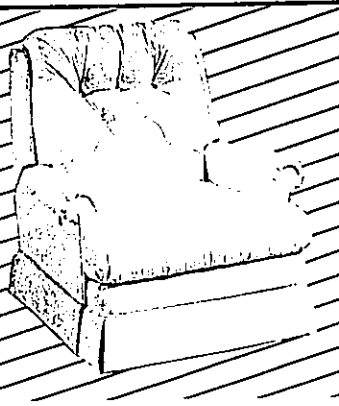
• Other good packing materials include plastic foam chips or egg cartons cut into pieces, packing straw, bubble wrap and shredded newspaper.

By carefully packing holiday gifts, you'll ensure those presents sent throughout the mails will arrive looking as pretty as those under your own tree.



Handsome desk accessories always make great gifts. These are from Laura Ashley.

Remarkable  
Recliners

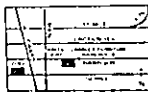


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