

Bazaar-hopping can score good gift for young adult

Who says Christmas is just for kids?

Their early Christmas recollections of Santa Claus may be dim but young adults between 18 and 25 are too youthful to entirely lose holiday enchantment. Like their younger sisters and brothers they eagerly anticipate the day when their special Christmas wishes are answered with a gift.

Not all gifts for the young adult need to be store bought. Create a personalized gift from your home workshop. Craftsmen can construct an etagere, bookcases or sandalwood plant ladder. A needlepoint pillow, crocheted afghan, macrame planter, decoupage box, tailored shirt—products of your handcrafted artistry—provide cherished gifts.

But if you're not up to making presents, imaginative gifts can be discovered browsing through antique galleries, specialty

shops, boutiques and the imported gift sections of major department stores. Don't forget charity bazaars and art shows as sources of unusual presents.

An original art print framed in shells or wood, handcrafted pottery, Oriental motif-lacquered boxes and miniature stained glass windows embedded with pressed wildflowers are collectibles this holiday season.

The range of sporting equipment has expanded to involve just about everyone. Pup tents, backpacks, and other camping gear are ideal for outdoor enthusiasts. Smaller gifts such as packets of freeze-dried food and socks for hiking will be appreciated. Even a sled or toboggan can fit under the Christmas tree, helping to make a heavy snowfall a welcome event.

Warmest Christmas wishes can be sent along with a long wool

muffler which has pockets to tuck those hands in on chilly winter evenings.

For the more traditional gift, jewelry is a sure hit. That first piece of better jewelry might be in the form of semi-precious stones such as jade, opal or tiger's eye. Or stick to more simple and elegant 14- and 18-carat gold. Consider an initialed bracelet or necklace, Indian jewelry, or a jewelry line offering replicas of art deco designs.

A stationery portfolio with elegant sealed waxes and the Night-writer, battery-powered pen which lights in the evening hours will inspire the lazy letter writer.

An inexpensive expression of your thoughtfulness could be a plant. Accessories for your living gift might be brightly patterned tin cans, china pots, Lucite and wooden planters and woven bas-

kets. Add nifty little tools and plant care books for the indoor gardener.

Stocking stuffers which are practical and fun might include paperback books, puzzles, coffee mug, magazine subscription, and dainty satin underclothes. Other novelty items which can fit into your stocking are T-shirts, bath items, an ounce of favorite scent, homemade fudge brownies or soft molasses cookies stuffed in a patterned tin canister that can be used again.

The wrap-up story for young adults this season is as imaginative and creative as your gifts. Select fabric to bundle your little treasures and tie them with velvet or grosgrain ribbon and rickrack. Old time newsprint and silver cording, decoupage boxes in yuletide colors are other festive wraps.

—MARIA KASONOVICH

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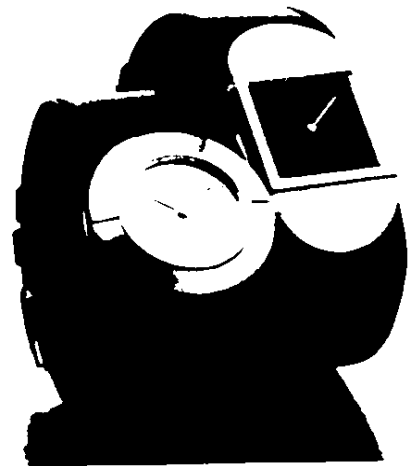
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