



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SOLO STOVE; IROBOT; APPLE

**HOLIDAY GUIDE BY REVIEWED**

# THE 30 BEST GIFTS OF 2022

The elves at Reviewed have worked year-round to come up with a shopping list

**Rachel Moskowitz** Reviewed | USA TODAY NETWORK

Holiday shopping is in full swing and if you're overwhelmed by your gift lists, you're not alone. There are so many people to shop for in such little time. Not to mention, it can be intimidating to figure out what to get each person to make them feel special.

Lucky for you, we're product experts here at Reviewed. We test products year-round to help shoppers feel confident that what they're buying is worth it. With that, we've rounded up the best gifts of 2022 that anyone on your list would love to receive.

**1. FOR THE MUSIC LOVER: APPLE AIRPODS PRO**

Apple's AirPods Pro have been a top-selling gift for a couple of years now – and we can see why as they're our favorite true wireless headphones to date. They have excellent noise-canceling capabilities, fantastic sound quality and a long battery life. Whether you're shopping for a music lover or someone that talks on the phone a lot, anyone would be pleased to receive these as a gift. (\$239 at amazon.com)

**2. FOR THE TRAVELER: APPLE IPAD AIR**

Tablets are incredibly useful to travel with or use as a remote control for all your smart devices at home. Apple's iPad Air (5th gen) is the best tablet we've tested with snappy performance, an all-day battery life and a lightweight build that's easy to transport. Though pricey, adults and kids alike would be thrilled with a tablet of this caliber. (\$520 at amazon.com)

**3. FOR THE HOME CHEF: NINJA SPEEDI**



PROVIDED BY NINJA

The air fryer has become wildly popular over the past few years because it can crisp up food to perfection without using calorie-dense oils. We personally love the Ninja Speedi SF301, which soared with flying colors through all of our testing. It fries to perfection, is easy to use and gets the job done fast. (\$180 at amazon.com)

**More gifts, 5D, 6D.**

**What is Reviewed?**

Reviewed, part of the USA TODAY Network, is a team of product experts (geeks, in truth) who put in the hard work of testing products so that you can shop with confidence during the holiday season and beyond. We built an entire test lab in the heart of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to support our product recommendations with good old-fashioned science. You can find us at [reviewed.com](https://www.reviewed.com).

The products we recommend are based entirely on the editorial team's research and are independent of business decisions. Please note that prices were accurate at the time of publication but may change over time.

**Find our favorite Black Friday deals**



Black Friday 2022 is here, bringing with it deep savings before the holidays. You can fulfill all your shopping needs for furniture, cookware, tech and more without

breaking the bank. We've rounded up the best Black Friday sales to shop online so you can save big before the year is up.

Find all the retailers running major sales right now, from all the big players including Samsung, Walmart, Amazon and more. Scan the QR code for the best Black Friday deals. Plus, check back in through Monday for the best Cyber Weekend and Cyber Monday deals.

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PROVIDED BY GRAVITY

**4. FOR THE SNUGGLE BUG: GRAVITY BLANKET**

Weighted blankets are perfect for unwinding after a stressful day. For the loved one that could use an extra hug, we recommend the Gravity Blanket, which is 15 pounds of high-quality material that's comfortable, easy to clean and sure to last a long time. (\$250 at [gravityblankets.com](http://gravityblankets.com))



PROVIDED BY FITBIT

**5. FOR THE ACTIVE ONE: FITBIT CHARGE 5**

You can't go wrong with a fitness tracker such as the Fitbit Charge 5. It's easy to use, comfortable and packed with health-tracking features that'll not only make goals more attainable but also more fun to achieve. (\$148 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY COUNTER CULTURE; SIPS BY

**6. FOR THE CAFFEINE-OBSESSED: A COFFEE OR TEA SUBSCRIPTION**

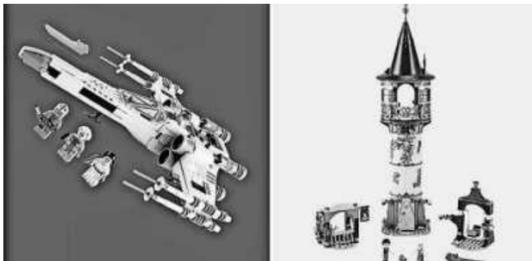
A coffee or tea subscription is a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year. The best coffee subscription we tested is from Counter Culture: It has a speedy delivery time, affordable prices and a tasty variety of blends. For the tea drinker, we love Sips by, a female-founded startup that offers personalized tea boxes for just \$16 a month.



PROVIDED BY ANCESTRY

**7. FOR THE CURIOUS ONE: ANCESTRYDNA**

DNA testing kits are a fun and fascinating way to find out more about your roots – and they make for a great, thoughtful gift. Out of the kits we've tested, we prefer AncestryDNA. It has the largest database available for finding ancestry matches, provides the most detail compared to other tests and has convenient research capabilities. (\$60 at [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com))



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY LEGO

**8. FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: A LEGO SET**

It may or may not surprise you that Lego gifts are a list-topper year after year for both kids and adults. Tied to various themes including Star Wars and Disney, everyone in the family can get in on the fun and take part in one of the most engaging – and satisfying – activities. When you're all done, you can either display your well-built creation or you can take it apart and start the fun all over.



PROVIDED BY BOSE

**9. FOR THE HOME AUTOMATION ENTHUSIAST: BOSE HOME SPEAKER 300**

For the giftee that needs to get with the times, enter: the smart speaker. They're perfect for automating smart devices around the home, playing music and improving convenience at home with weather alerts and reminders. We love the Bose Home Speaker 300 for its excellent sound quality, the option to use either Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant and its convenient preset buttons. (\$267 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY IROBOT

**10. FOR THE BUSY BEE: IROBOT ROOMBA J7+**

Everyone could use a little more convenience in their lives and that's where the robot vacuum comes in handy. The iRobot Roomba j7+ is a magical vacuum that navigates to near perfection, sucking up tons of dirt and dust in its path. When it's done with its cycle, it even empties itself. Trust us, your giftee will weep tears of happiness. (\$599 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY YOTO

**11. FOR THE KID THAT LOVES STORYTIME: YOTO PLAYER**

The Yoto Player is a great gift for kids and parents alike. It's a magical storytelling device that'll keep them busy for hours (you're welcome, parents). What's more, it's educational and can seriously cut down on screen time. (\$100 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY SONY

**12. FOR THE ONE WHO ENJOYS SILENCE: SONY WH-1000XM5**

For the person who needs noise-canceling headphones, but isn't on Team iPhone, Sony's WH-1000XM5 are unrivaled. They're the best noise-canceling headphones we've tested because of their luxurious comfort and incredible noise cancellation. Though pricey, they offer top-notch features and last a long time. (\$398 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KOBO; KINDLE

**13. FOR THE BOOKWORM: KINDLE**

Shopping for a bookworm in your life? It's about time they had a nifty e-reader. We love the Kobo Libra H20 for its large, crisp and waterproof display. It also has a wide selection of books to choose from, including tons of free material. (\$193 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)) If your giftee prefers a Kindle, we love the Amazon Kindle Paperwhite (11th gen) for its massive catalog, its temperature-adjusting feature to reduce eye strain and its long-lasting charge. (\$140 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY ZOJIRUSHI

**14. FOR THE COMMUTER: A TRAVEL MUG**

A good travel mug is something that everyone needs, but not everyone has. It's sure to make a great gift, especially if you give Zojirushi's SM-KHE48. It came out on top in our testing because of its compact size and, more important, long-lasting heat retention. We left it overnight and found coffee still steamy by morning. (\$30 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY TIKI PATIO; SOLO STOVE

**15. FOR THE SOCIAL BUTTERFLY: SOLO STOVE**

Getting a gift for the social butterfly in your life has never been easier. Enter: a fire pit. They're perfect for entertaining around and keeping warm through colder weather. Out of the ones we've tested, we found the Tiki Patio Fire Pit to be the best because of its gorgeous, sturdy build that can comfortably fit up to eight people around it. It does a great job at keeping people warm even from three feet away, and does it with minimal smoke. (\$316 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)) Another fire pit for your consideration that's wildly popular is the Bonfire 2.0 by Solo Stove. It's easy to transport and produces a smokeless fire. (\$225 at [solostove.com](http://solostove.com))



PROVIDED BY REVLON

**16. FOR THE BEAUTY LOVER: REVLON ONE-STEP HAIRDRYER**

Is your friend in desperate need of a new hairdryer? Look no further than the Revlon One-Step Hairdryer and Volumizer. It's our favorite hairdryer brush because it has a quality build, it dries hair fast and it leaves the user with hair looking like they just got a salon blowout. We're obsessed with it here at Reviewed, and your giftee is sure to be, too. (\$37 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY JETSON

**17. FOR THE ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS: AN E-BIKE**

Helping a loved one to save money makes a stellar gift, especially in today's economy. An electric bike might just be the ticket to save on gas, in particular. The Jetson Bolt folding bike may come in a small package, but it has tons of nifty features including cruise control, an LED headlight and a carrying handle. (\$351 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



PROVIDED BY APPLE; SAMSUNG

**18. FOR THE CONNECTED ONE: APPLE WATCH**

A smartwatch is not only a fun gift but incredibly useful, too. We love the Apple Watch Series 8 for its elegant design, intuitive software and its many useful features. It's never been easier to track your fitness, take calls or send texts right on your wrist. (\$389 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)) It won't work for Android users, though, so best get them the latest Samsung Galaxy watch, which is comfortable to wear, has a vibrant display and has a long battery life. (\$280 at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))

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PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DISNEY; AMAZON; HBO

### 19. FOR THE BINGE-WATCHER: A STREAMING SUBSCRIPTION

The gift of a streaming subscription is possibly the best gift option on this list. It's perfect for any age or any interest, and it's the gift that keeps on giving by providing entertainment long after the holidays are over. You've got tons of options among Disney+, Amazon Prime, HBO Max and more. (Prices vary)



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SQUISHMALLOW

### 22. FOR THE COLLECTOR: SQUISHMALLOW

Squishmallows have won the hearts of children and adults alike. These egg-shaped stuffed animals are cozy collectibles that come in a variety of sizes and shapes. They've become a viral hit, and it's not hard to see why. Anyone on your list will be sure to adore one of these babies, especially if tailored to their animal interests.



PROVIDED BY KEURIG

### 25. FOR THE COFFEE AFICIONADO: KEURIG

A Keurig gives the gift of convenience, as well as tasty coffee. It's the most versatile single-serve coffee maker we've tested – it can brew coffee, lattes and cappuccinos alike with its nifty milk frother. What's more, it's intuitive to use and easy to clean. (\$170 at keurig.com)



PROVIDED BY OCULUS QUEST

### 28. FOR THE GAMER: META QUEST 2

Looking for a cool gadget for the tech lover in your life? A VR headset should do the trick. VR headsets allow the user to immerse themselves in games, movies, virtual excursions and more. The Meta Quest 2 (formerly known as the Oculus Quest 2) provides an incredible experience with its powerful internals, good-looking display and motion controls. It's also on the less expensive side when it comes to VR headsets on the market. (\$399 at amazon.com)



PROVIDED BY ROKU

### 20. FOR THE CORD-CUTTER: ROKU ULTRA

If you plan on giving the gift of streaming, you'll want to make sure your giftee has a way to use the service. That's where a streaming device comes in handy. We love the Roku Ultra 4802R for its top-notch voice remote, intuitive interface, quick response time and the fact that it supports 4K and HDR video and every major streaming platform. (\$70 at amazon.com)



PROVIDED BY OUR PLACE

### 23. FOR THE TRENDY CHEF: ALWAYS PAN

The Always Pan is wildly popular across the internet for its trendy design and multifunctionality. This versatile cookware can work as a saute pan, steamer, wok, frying pan and Dutch oven, to name a few. It's perfect to gift to someone with a small living space or someone that really loves their life to resemble a pleasing Instagram aesthetic. (\$145 at fromourplace.com)



PROVIDED BY SOLO STOVE

### 26. FOR THE PIZZA FAN: SOLO STOVE PIZZA PIE OVEN

Nothing says "I love you" quite like pizza, or in this case, a pizza oven. We recommend this gift for the pizza-obsessed or the social butterfly in your life. They'll be hosting people for pizza nights in no time with Solo Stove's Pi Pizza Oven, which offers the options of using fuel or wood to cook up a tasty pie. It also heats quickly, cooks evenly and it's lighter than it looks for easy transport. (\$600 at solostove.com)



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY OSPREY; AWAY

### 29. FOR THE GLOBETROTTER: AWAY CARRY-ON

Has your giftee been bitten by the travel bug? They'll need some great luggage for their worldly travels. People are obsessed with the Away Carry-On – it's aesthetically pleasing and has plenty of room for packing. (\$275 at awaytravel.com) Another great option is the Osprey Transporter Wheeled Carry-On, the best carry-on we've tested. It's lightweight and easy to transport across almost any terrain. (\$320 at amazon.com)



PROVIDED BY SONOS

### 21. FOR THE ENTERTAINER: SONOS ROAM

Fill your giftee's life with sound and music with a portable Bluetooth speaker. The best we've ever tested is the Sonos Roam. It has great sound quality, it's perfect for on-the-go excursions and it has the highly useful ability to connect to not only Bluetooth, but Wi-Fi, too. (\$179 at amazon.com)



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY L.L. BEAN; UGG

### 24. FOR THE ONE WHO'S ALWAYS COLD: SLIPPERS

Give the gift of comfort this year with a comfy pair of slippers. For women, we recommend the Ugg Scuffettes II which are well-made with fur lining, stylish and super comfy. (\$95 at nordstrom.com) For men's slippers, we preferred L.L. Bean Men's Venetian Wick-ed Good Slippers. They have comfortable fur lining that doesn't make you sweat, and they uniquely look better with age. (\$89 at llbean.com)



PROVIDED BY SAJE

### 27. FOR THE MEDITATOR: AN ESSENTIAL OIL DIFFUSER

While you can't wrap a package full of relaxation, you can tie a bow on a nice essential oil diffuser. The Saje Aroma Om is quiet and diffuses perfectly, not to mention, it's gorgeous. It comes with an LED light and automatic shut-off for maximum convenience. (\$98 at saje.com)



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HOME CHEF; WINC

### 30. FOR THE FOODIE: HOME CHEF

Cooking is a favorite pastime for some, but it can take a lot of time and energy. For a quality meal that's easier to make, consider giving a meal subscription kit. We love Home Chef because of the quality ingredients and the variety of easy recipes. (homechef.com) Pair it with a wine subscription such as Winc and you've got your bases covered for a perfect meal. (winc.com)

## The countdown is on: Make your own custom Advent calendar

Samantha Mangino

Reviewed  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The holiday season is a magical time. If you love the fun and surprise that holiday traditions bring, you're likely a big fan of Advent calendars. The fun of an Advent calendar starts on Dec. 1 with 24 special surprises, counting down the days until Christmas. It's surprisingly easy to learn how to make an advent calendar yourself.

Originating from German and Lutheran traditions, the first Advent calendars would reveal verses or pieces of the Nativity story leading up to Christmas. Contemporary versions are still used to celebrate Christmas but have devolved into premade calendars full of goodies.

There's an Advent calendar for just

about everyone, from adults to kids.

You can seek out a premade Advent calendar that is decorative and festive. Anthropologie sells calendars that look like mini cabinets with 24 drawers to fill with custom goodies and feature designs of winter villages. (anthropologie.com, \$78) Some calendars even include LEDs for extra Christmas magic. The best part? You can reuse these sets for years to come.

If store-bought is not your thing, Advent calendars are easy to make.

#### How to make an Advent calendar

When it comes to making one, there are two things to consider: How to store your 24 gifts and choosing the gifts.

At a basic level, all you need are 24 boxes, bags or prebuilt drawers. Any small gift boxes are perfect for building

your Advent calendar and filling with small gifts and trinkets. Once you have all of your boxes, label them "1" through "24." A set of paint markers, such as oil-based Christmas Sharpies, will come in handy for decorating your boxes. (amazon.com, \$16.50)

You don't have to be a master crafter to create a special Advent calendar display. In fact, those crafters have done a lot of the hard work for you, offering Advent calendars you can print or have shipped to you.

On Etsy, OhHelloMaker created a PDF of DIY Christmas houses for you to print and make at home. (etsy.com, \$12)

#### What to put in your calendar

Once you've secured your Advent calendar set up, it's time to fill it up. This is the fun part because you can custom-

ize it to suit the preferences of your giftee. Pick a theme (think 24 days of chocolate or nail polish) or choose a variety of little toys. Advent calendars are a joy for kids and adults alike, so you can make one for anybody.

Here are some Advent calendar gifts ideas for kids:

- Legos
- Cute erasers
- Mini art supplies
- Cozy socks
- Fidget toys

Advent calendar gift ideas for adults:

- Chocolate bars
- K-Cups or Nespresso pods
- Alcohol minis
- Fancy votive candles
- Makeup minis
- Jewelry
- Gift cards