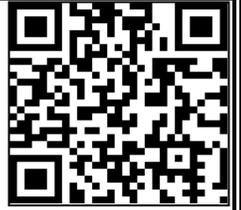


RAMPAGE



Christmas Gift Guide

Ideas for Struggling Shoppers

MADDIE JEWART STAFF REPORTER

Christmas is drawing closer, and the stress of shopping for gifts is beginning to set in. If you are struggling to think of the perfect present, here are some tips.

The key to finding great presents is to not overthink it. Do not be afraid to stick with a simple gift card. Your present does not have to be elaborate for the receiver to appreciate it. Figure out where their favorite place to shop is, or their favorite restaurant. If you're not sure what to go with, Starbucks, Amazon, or iTunes are extremely popular. Gift cards always come in handy, and will never go to waste.

In addition, you can never go wrong with candy. Everyone has a favorite candy, and adding that to the gift is always a great idea.

Next, if you are attempting to find a more meaningful gift for a close friend or family member, try to incorporate a special memory, or an inside joke. You do not need to spend a lot of money; the fact that you are going out of your way to buy someone a present is enough.

For girls, beauty products are a perfect option. Stores such as Ulta, Sephora, Lush, or even Target have copious amounts of beauty items that make great gifts. Makeup, perfume, nail polish, and any bath or shower products will always be greatly appreciated. Fuzzy socks, headbands, and blankets are also amazing gifts.

When shopping for guys, keep it simple. Gift cards and cash are definitely a go to. Although they are on the pricier side, video games are a favorite among guys too.

Christmas is about spending time with people you care about, not spending money on the gifts, so remember: it is the thought that counts.

Special Opinions Edition!



My List of Underrated Christmas Songs

JACOB GONGAWARE STAFF WRITER

- **Jingle Bell Rock**- This is easily the best Christmas song ever written. It appeals to everyone; I think we can all agree that when this song comes on it makes you want to stay in winter forever.
- **Santa Tell Me**- This song by the much-loved Ariana Grande really gets people in the Christmas spirit. It has a nice tune and flow, and Ariana's beautiful voice makes it great.
- **Jingle Bells**- This is a great song because everyone knows it, if you start singing it everyone can join in because it is so well known. In addition, it is not affiliated with any religion so anyone can relate.
- **Mistletoe**- This one by Justin Bieber is a good song. It has a good tune and nice music to it. His voice is all right but the music makes up for it.
- **Happy Xmas**- John Lennon is a good singer, and many people recognize his voice, I especially like this song because I think it is a memorable song. The only downside to this song is the fact that it is somewhat sad.
- **Santa Claus is Coming to Town**- Bruce Springsteen's version is probably the most known. I like this one because it is catchy, but it gets somewhat annoying the more you are exposed to it.
- **Feliz Navidad**- This song is catchy and has a nice tune, but it is very repetitive and that can get annoying after a while. I like the Spanish in it.



Snow

The Snow Effect

School Cancellation or 2 Hour Delay?

ETHAN SILIPO STAFF REPORTER

Every year as fall ends, kids at PR prepare themselves for a bitter winter. Winter brings holidays, snow, and joy to families everywhere, but for students, a big part of winter is getting a few days off from school. Everyone has, at some point, woken up to a phone call from Rachel Hathhorn who proceeds to inform you of the change in schedule at school. With relief, you look outside at a winter wonderland and then get right back into your sleep. Two-hour delays and school cancellations are a phenomenal way for students and staff at schools to get a break and to enjoy the beauties of winter.

To start, a cancellation offers students an entire day off from school and can act as a buffer during the school week or can extend your weekend. When school is cancelled, this usually means that the weather is severe making road conditions dangerous. Because there is usually so much snow, sledding, skiing, snowboarding, snowball fights, and much more are all possibilities. For many, the freezing cold temperature and the comforts of home keep people inside spending the day playing video games, watching movies, or hanging out with friends. One of the few downsides of snow days is that the day must be made up and will often take time out of spring break or summer to do so. Lastly, students can sleep in on snow days and can usually get a better night sleep that night with less homework, studying, or extra curricular activity.

On the other hand, two hour-delays are much shorter but nonetheless give students shorter classes and a rare chance to sleep in. Unlike cancellations, snow days do not require excessive weather or snow but just a layer of ice on the roads. During cancellations, it is usually snowing for most of the day meaning the roads are constantly gaining snow and ice making them always dangerous so there is no good time to get to school. Two-hour delays usually means it snowed that night and the snow truck just needs some time to clear the roads so students can get to school safely. Lastly, with two hours shaved off our school day, classes are obviously shorter.

Now, for my opinion: what is better? Personally, I have a more complicated view on cancellations and two-hour delays as it depends on what the day is. I prefer a cancellation when it adds on to my weekend, so Mondays and Fridays are cancellation all the way. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays I prefer two-hour delays without a doubt. Just being able to sleep in an extra two hours really makes a difference and having shorter classes can be bad if you have a test but is otherwise great. The only reason I am not all for cancellations is that the days must be made up. I am not saying that they do not need to be made up but when the impact is extending the school year or taking back planned days off, it does not seem so amazing long term. On spring break, many families go on vacations so when days you are supposed to have off are put back into the schedule because of a snow day, the impact to students now missing

a few days of school while on vacation can be mounds of makeup work and studying. In addition, it comes without saying that when days are taken from summer, no one is excited.

Most of us do not like winter as much as summer, but it only snows one season a year and frankly, the snow brings benefits for everybody. I hope that we can have our fair share of two-hour delays and a few cancellations here and there. This time of year is unique, bleak, and filled with family and friends so as winter continues let it snow!



Snow Much Fun

My favorite winter activities



ABBY MORELAND STAFF WRITER

Imagine this: sitting around a nice warm fireplace in comfortable clothes and your best friends on a Friday night. Sounds fun, right? What better way to spend those snow days other than with your friends.

Snow is the best excuse to have friends over, sleep in, watch TV all day, and baking food. I love winter and all that comes with it. Two-hour delays, snow days, all the breaks, warm clothes, hot drinks, and time spent with family and friends makes winter better than it actually is. I do not pay attention to the snow at all, but I do when we do not have school. I text my friends and plan a day full of fun winter activities.

Although I do not necessarily play in the snow as I used to, I do however like how the snow sometimes makes school be cancelled. I like to do many things in the winter, but sometimes I just like chilling at home and watching Netflix while drinking hot cocoa. While I do like being in the warmth of my house, ice-skating outside is one of my many favorite things to do in the winter. Whether it is indoors or outdoors, ice-skating to me makes it feel like it is snowy and cold day.

Even just baking cookies and watching a Hallmark movie is the winter vibe I need. Warm fuzzy socks, big blankets, hot cocoa, your friends and a nice movie is the way to do it.

Some other people might be more on the adventurous side in the winter like go snowboarding, skiing, or even snowmobiling. Unlike me, I do not like the cold and I do not like risking my life while on a snowboard. People like to do this a lot in the winter and during winter break. I know some of my friends joined ski club and do that as a winter hobby. Some families even go on trips to different places to ski and spend hours outside in the snow. Meanwhile, I just like to be inside in the warmth, cozy up, eat cookies, and watch a Christmas movie while watching snowfall.



FROZEN WATERFALL: Fall Run Park in Shaler

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