

Come all ye procrastinators, the Internet shall be your salvation!

At this late date, an assault on a mall may require more stamina than you possess. If you have online access and a credit or debit card, you can point and click your way to just about anything you or the people on your gift list desire. Many site operators will wrap your gift, sign a card and ship it directly to your intended. Of course, you may be needing express delivery, but the surcharge pays for itself in reduced hassle factor. By all means read the fine print regarding shipping guarantees. Or, hey, send millennium gifts instead!

The Internet has largely proven to be a safe place to shop, with a few caveats. Only buy from a company with a secure, encrypted payment area. Most sites will trumpet the fact in large type; you can also watch for other signs on newer browsers, such as an unbroken key or closed lock that might appear in the lower left corner of your screen. The security system will scramble your personal data so that your information is not likely to be intercepted.

Many of these recommended sites also have toll-free phone numbers, so you can place your order by phone if you prefer. Also, it's a good idea to notice if the company has a physical address and phone number if you are unfamiliar with them. Don't hesitate to verify basic information before you type in your credit card number.

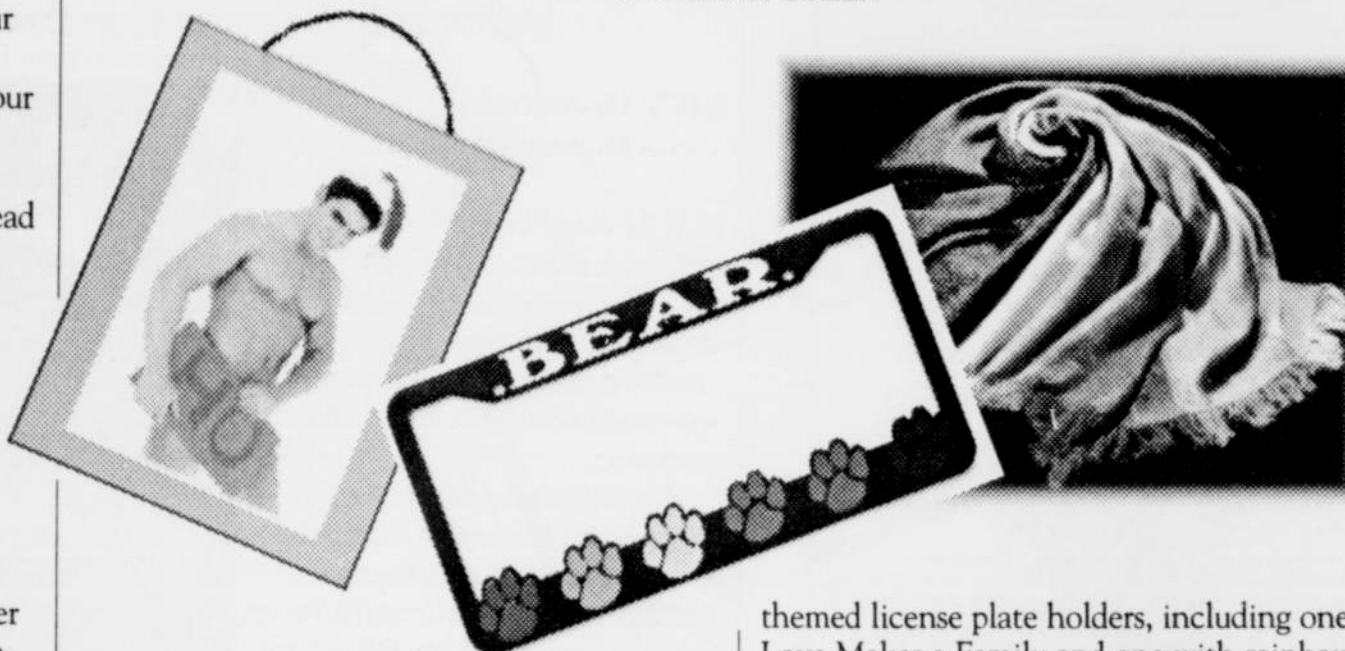
That said, here are some fun Internet sites we've checked out that offer queer-flavored gift ideas.

If you're still nervous, stick with the brand name sites for the first few times you shop online.

Send your mouse shopping

A painless cure for last-minute shopping panics

BY ORIANA GREEN



Another tip is to shop with a site that has an actual counterpart in the real world, such as A Different Light Bookstore in San Francisco, one of the world's largest gay and lesbian booksellers. The store's URL is www.adlbooks.com, where you'll find all kinds of temptations for readers on your list. One useful feature is the list of all the recent Lambda Literary Award winners with direct links to in-depth information on each book.

A large site brimming with pride merchandise can be found at www.allpride.com. There you can ferret out rainbow collars and leashes for cats and dogs—and probably ferrets— attractive rainbow party decor and even queer-

themed license plate holders, including one for Love Makes a Family and one with rainbow paw prints for bears. During December and January this retailer is offering free shipping on orders over \$20.

Looking for some funny T-shirts? Try www.clothes-encounters.com, where you'll find gems like "I fantasize about the UPS man," as well as other queer-themed sayings. For the jocks on your list check out www.lavenderink.com, which offers this shirt: "Women with attitude PLAY BALL," plus many variations for both men and women.

For those with decidedly kinkier tastes, you can visit www.leathermasters.com for all your dominant desires.

For some unique greeting cards, go to www.touigroup.com and check out Chocolate-

berries & Cream, a new company offering a box of tasteful blank cards with photos of women of color loving women.

The site at www.gaywired.com is good for one-stop shopping for many things queer. It features Project Angel Food tree ornaments, which generate donations to help feed people living with AIDS. It also offers several styles of pride ornaments to spruce up your pine. For the butches on your list, look at the colorful silk ties designed by gay artist Keith Haring. And for fans of boxer shorts, don't miss the Don't Panic collection, which sports a variety of fun sayings, such as "Wish you were here" and some X-rated suggestions.

Another all-purpose site, www.bproud.com offers a wide array of queer goodies, including jewelry for bisexuals—featuring mixed rainbow gender symbols—and even some androgynous people pins for those mystery friends. This retailer also carries



some attractive rainbow pet identification tags that can be engraved.

And the best all-purpose gift we've found this season is from this site—the next stage of evolution in automobile trunk emblems: the homo fish.

So, all you last-minute-Martys, there's no need to get out of your PJs, just cuddle up to your monitor and shop till your mouse drops. Best of all, you won't have to go anywhere near a post office or a Mailboxes R Us.

ORIANA GREEN is the Entertainment Editor of Just Out and occasionally indulges in retail therapy. Send your fave queer URLs for future columns to oriana@justout.com.

The Rabbit Hole Restaurant & Mad Hatter Lounge

203 SE Grand Ave. • 231-2925

FREE LIVE MUSIC

Tues. thru Sat. in our underground Mad Hatter Lounge

- Kitchen open past midnight.

BREAKFAST Saturday & Sunday



BREAKFAST & LUNCH:
Saturday & Sunday 10AM - 2PM
LUNCH:
Monday - Friday 11AM - 2PM
Upstairs Dining Room for DINNER:
Tuesday - Saturday 4:30PM - 10PM
LOUNGE:
Tuesday - Thursday 4:30PM - 1AM
Friday & Saturday 4:30PM - 1:30AM

The new hot spot for Pan Asian Cuisine

We Cater All Occasions

WE DELIVER 288-3960



Reservations Recommended

Lunch M-F
Dinner every night

1411 NE Broadway



MON-THURS 7:30AM - 11:00PM

MELE KALIKIMAKA I HO'ULI MAKAHIKI HOU

A COFFEE HOUSE
PROUDLY SERVING
CAFFE D'ARTE COFFEE &
ESPRESSO

1214 NW 21st
BETWEEN NORTHRUP
AND OVERTON

274-2559

W400: LL WY00:8 NNS

FRI 7:30AM - 12:00 SAT 8:00AM - 12:00

New Years Celebration!



2000 NE 40th • 460-2682

- includes:
- 5 course dinner
 - New Years Celebration starts at 11pm
 - Dancing and Caberet
 - Live T.V. coverage too
 - Champagne Toast & Fireworks at Midnight

Seating starts at 7:30pm

\$75 per person
Reservations Required

Wild Abandon

2411 se belmont

reservations (not required)
503.232.4458

www.citysearch.com/pdx/wildabandon

Rest Your Spirit

touchstone coffee house

www.touchstonecoffeehouse.homepage.com

Featuring ALL ORGANIC COFFEE,
Fresh Pastries, Soup and Sundries
COMMUNITY RESOURCE ROOM
LIVE MUSIC
Fri & Sat 7-9pm

Charming Garden

(503) 262-7613



M-Th 7am-7pm
Fri 7am-9pm
Sat 8am-9pm
Sun 8pm-2pm

7631 NE Glisan • Portland, OR 97213