



NOTHING QUITE REPLACES the personal touch of a beauty gift. The glamor of perfumes in their unusual and classic shaped bottles, soaps, bath oils, colognes, sachets and body powders are designed to please the tastes of every woman. A mailman's punch bag—made of glove-lines cowhide with washable plastic lining—will make a particular popular gift (upper left). It is fitted with a golden plaid compartment. Always a favorite feminine present is the completely equipped nail care kit that features all the preparations necessary to keep hands looking lovely (lower left). To compliment a woman's beautiful hair, give her a dresser set. One handsome combination includes lucite hair brush (new crescent style) with white heavy nylon bristles, round mirror and heavy eight-inch comb to match (lower center). For present-giving in the grandmanner, you'll find a brilliant French perfume in an exquisite crystal glass urn and an emine dusting powder box filled with a perfectly blended fragrance (lower left.) Versatile Christmas packaging and a wide price range add to these holiday attractions.

Certain Basic Gifts Never Lose Place In Christmas Giving; Perfume Is One

By ALICIA HART
NEA Beauty Editor

Some Christmas giving can be too original. For after all is said and done, there are certain basic gifts that never fail to touch a woman's heart and make her feel you really care.

Leading the list, of course, is fragrance. Precious perfumes, delicately scented sachets, body powders, bath oils, cologne sticks, soap—all make ideal gift possibilities.

If you are in the mood for gimmicks and gadgets, the fragrance industry offers you a delightful variety.

A frivolous French chateau with a balcony of perfume and a house of Eau de Cologne flirts with the imagination, and makes a gift not soon to be forgotten.

Another pet package features a pretty French poodle set atop a cylinder of iron fragrance. And while you are thinking of cologne sticks, you're bound to love the ones that are packaged in colorful champagne bottles. Each stick is

an individual bottle, but you can get a case of 12 bottles, if you like. They are the perfect answer to those extra, small gifts and stocking stuffers.

One especially exciting perfume presentation is a lamppost ensemble. Modeled after an authentic Parisian lamppost (each lantern contains a drop of perfume), here is a fragrance gift to please any lady who likes a look of individuality on her dressing table.

Add a fragrant decoration to the Christmas tree in the form of a perfume lantern that holds three candle-like tapers of perfume.

For the woman who prefers toilet water to perfume, one well-known fragrance house has designed five generous vials of toilet waters—each a famous scent.

Two beauty favorites, offered in a gay acetate-covered Christmas gift box, are destined to be holiday winners. A bottle of fragrance tied to a fluffy puff rests on a generous sized box of dusting powder

in a matching fragrance.

A cologne wardrobe package—designed for the fastidious—contains fragrance in three different and delightful versions. The first is a new lotion cologne with a special ingredient that makes it possible to soften as it scents the skin. Scent is a favorite liquid cologne scent, and the third a stick cologne to carry with you wherever you go.

One famous fragrance that women the world over have claimed as their own is a classic and cherished Christmas gift. You'll love giving it in combination with a soap that features the same perfume.

If bath perfume is your choice of fragrance luxury, choose one with an oil base to scent and soften the skin. There is just such a preparation—beautifully bottled in a miniature decanter with a grace-

ful golden spout and stopper.

Of course, perfume bottles themselves are more lavish and exquisitely cut than ever before. Each is like a Christmas jewel, and will make a woman feel more glamorous and exciting for having received it.

A most attractive feature about these many gifts is that they are available in the widest price range imaginable. You can spend as much or as little as you like and still be assured of quality and beauty.

There is no season or hour for a fragrance gift, but somehow, at Christmas, when the very air is laden with sweet smelling scents, and everyone longs to give a present that will capture the spirit of the season, perfume and its fragrant companions seem to embody that desired perfection.

Homemade Cards Can Be Work of Art

AP Newsfeatures

Your personal Christmas cards can be conversation pieces—if you make them yourself.

One interesting idea is the photograph. It is a simple and easy method of presenting your own artistic talent to those you wish to greet.

Here's how it is done:

Arrange paper cut-outs or objects representing the Christmas card design you want on a piece of special photographic printing paper (Velux). Expose the design-plus-printing paper to strong light, remove the overlay design, develop and dry the photographic print—and there is your photograph in dramatic black and white, ready for mounting on gay red or green drawing paper.

You don't have to be a photographer expert to create a successful photograph. The paper can be bought in 25-sheet packages with instructions. If the paper is removed from its lightproof envelope one sheet at a time, you can arrange your Christmas card design on it in ordinary room light.

When you plan your design remember these pointers:

An opaque paper cut-out design like a Christmas tree or a snowman or a big star or snowflake will work out especially well because the cut-out can be laid flat in direct contact with the paper. The part of the design which keeps the light from striking the paper will then turn out pure white in your photograph and the cut-out object will be deep black. An actual object like a sprig of holly or a small candle can be used providing the object lies flat enough so that its basic outline will be transferred to the paper.

Small alphabet letters arranged in anagram fashion to spell out "Merry Christmas" or "Greetings" or "Noel" are also a part of the

design to be reproduced in your photograph. You can buy sets of the letters at your dime store or just cut the ones you need from a magazine, making sure they match each other in size and style.

You may want to include your name or a silhouette of yourself as a personal note. For speedy production it is best to keep the design simple.

A short-cut in making the overlay design could be achieved by making an easy-to-use stencil by gluing your cut-outs and letters onto a piece of transparent cellulose sheeting the same size as your card. This way you won't need to arrange the design over again for each photograph.

After the design or stencil is set on the paper, you are ready to

turn on strong light to expose the paper and transfer the design. This light should be held about 10 inches directly above the center of your card. Turn on the light and count out a ten-second exposure—two champagne, three champagne... and so on up to ten champagne. This is just about the right timing. Snap off the light and the sheet of paper is ready for a dip in developer to bring out the exposed photograph in black and white. (If you use a No. 1 photoflood lamp as your strong light, exposure time may be reduced to four seconds.)

The materials needed for developer are available in a tiny tri-chem pack. Small pans for the solution and newspapers to place under them as protection for floor or table are needed. Bath tub or sink will serve for final washing of each newly-developed photograph. Expose another sheet of paper with the design overlay to make the next photograph while you are washing one.

It's a good idea to let the photographs dry overnight before mounting them with rubber cement to the card folders or backing-with-bordered you cut from Yuletide-colored drawing paper. Tuck the finished cards into a heavy book to make the mounting secure and eliminate any curling or wrinkling.

Dress up your photograph with decorative cord or ribbon, if you like. A bright-colored sticker star, for example, can be a nice addition to the black and white motif. Fluffy cotton or a blanket of soap powder can be pasted to the outline of a snowman or a winter landscape, or used to give Santa Claus some real whiskers. You can achieve interesting effects, also, by pasting bits of fabric to your photograph if it suits your design.



CHRISTMAS CARDS were nothing more than penmanship lessons for English school children of 250 years ago (above). Today, their colorful designs and warm-hearted messages help keep many of the old customs alive and bring friends and family closer together.

Caroling

The English custom of singing carols on Christmas Eve was brought to this country early in its history, catching on especially in the localities settled by the Puritans.

In Boston—although Christmas was for a time banned in Massachusetts—residents of the early day formed the custom of putting lights in their windows on Christmas Eve, and singers of carols would know by the lights they were welcome and would pause before the lighted windows to sing.

From Boston the window-lighting spread, and grew into the practice of lighting and decorating homes, businesses and even streets for the Christmas season.

Carol singing also spread, and now the singing of carols on Christmas Eve is a community project in many cities and towns.

In many others informal groups and church choirs go about the streets singing carols. Many churches have special Christmas Eve services on the night known in the Roman and Anglican church, as the Vigil of Our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ.

Chuck Bailey
says...

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