

HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN



30 SHOPPING
DAYS LEFT

WHAT TO BUY KITCHEN GADGETS FOR COOKS

Kitchen gadgets can save time and make cooking easier, but they are also a lot of fun. They're the socially acceptable, grown-up way to play with your food.

— Daniel Neman
BLADE FOOD EDITOR



▲ **Microplane Cut Resistant Glove** — Now you can cut with confidence. The Microplane Cut Resistant Glove keeps your fingers and hands safe (in most cases) when slicing, grating, and cutting. One size fits all, it slips onto either hand, and it is even machine washable. **Williams-Sonoma** and other stores sell it for **\$14.95**.

◀ **The Master Forge Heavy-Duty Charcoal Grill** — has enough surface area to cook 45 hamburgers at the same time, but it's more than that. First of all, it looks serious. And serious it is, with a built-in temperature gauge, a crank to raise and lower the coals to the desired height, and a porcelain-enameled grate. At **Lowe's** for **\$199**.

▲ **Food Network Cookinggreen 12-Inch Wok** — Help protect the environment while cooking with an ecologically friendly Food Network Cookinggreen 12-inch Cast-Aluminum Wok, available at **Kohl's** and other stores. Made from recycled aluminum and given a nonstick surface that is free from potentially harmful perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), it also requires little fat to cook with, so it helps you watch your weight. **\$39.99**.

◀ **Avanti 12-Bottle Thermoelectric Countertop Wine Cooler** — What turns a casual wine drinker into a connoisseur? You could argue that it's owning a wine cooler. The Avanti 12-Bottle Thermoelectric Counter Top Wine Cooler is compact, yet it has room for 12 bottles, including four that stand vertically. Just set the temperature and enjoy properly chilled wine anytime. It's **\$99.99** at **Meijer** and other stores.

▼ **Bella Cucina Roaster Oven** — If you have one oven and sometimes need two, or if you have no oven and sometimes need one, the Bella Cucina 18 Quart Roaster Oven is for you. It's big enough for a 22 pound turkey (or a massive roast or a gigantic ham) and the thermostat goes up to 450°, yet it's small enough to fit on a counter. **Dillard's** and other stores have them for **\$39.99**.

▼ **Keurig Mini-Plus Brewing System** — The hottest trend in kitchen gifts this holiday season is the one-cup coffee brewer for home or office. Keurig is one of the industry leaders, and the Keurig Mini-Plus Brewing System is one of the more affordable varieties, at **\$99.99** at **Elder-Beerman** and other stores. The Mini-Plus brews 6, 8 or 10-ounce cups of coffee in less than two minutes, and it comes in cool black or hot red.



▲ **Mr. Beer Beer Kit** — For the beer lover on your list, it is helpful to know that the Mr. Beer Premium Edition Beer Kit is the most popular home brewing system in the world. It comes with a plastic barrel big enough to brew 2 gallons of your favorite beer and 250 recipes — so you can have a new favorite every other week for five years. It costs **\$34.99** at **The Andersons** and other stores.



▲ **Charles Viancin Lily Pad Silicone Lid** — Keep your food fresh with style with a Charles Viancin Lily Pad Silicone Lid, which puts an attractive airtight, watertight seal over any smooth bowl or pot. It's like eternally reusable plastic wrap — shaped like a lily pad — but it can go in the oven, microwave, freezer, and dishwasher. And it keeps food hot or cold. It is sold at **The Paula Brown Shop** for **\$9-\$13**, depending on the size.



▲ **Wilton Chocolate Pro Fountain** — Nothing enlivens a party like a fountain of chocolate. The Wilton Chocolate Pro Fountain holds up to four pounds of melted chocolate, which flows down its three tiers and into a bowl. Every level is suitable for dipping. Let your imagination go wild: Think marshmallows, strawberries, pretzels, potato chips, pineapple chunks, cookies, macaroons, and even fingers. You know you want to. **\$59.99** at **Bed, Bath & Beyond**, and other stores.