



HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

WHAT TO BUY

GIFTS FOR GRANDPARENTS

It can be a strain for younger relatives to figure out the type of gift to give older relatives. But if you're creative and consider their needs, there are plenty of ideas for gifts for grandparents who already seem to have everything.

— By Rose Russell
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Velcro-fastening shoes — No more painful arthritic fingers or battling a creaky back when you need to put on your shoes thanks to the magic of Velcro. **Walmart, JC-Penney. \$20-\$75.**



Wall and digital clocks with large faces and numbers — This is a great way to make telling time easy at a glance, especially when the years have diminished a person's sight. **Kohl's, starting at \$20.**



Electric snow shovels — An electric snow shovel tosses the snow about 20 feet away, taking the back-breaking physical strain out of cleaning a driveway or sidewalk. **Home Depot, starting at \$79.**



Easy-to-read watches — Nothing is more frustrating than dealing with bifocals and bad eyesight when you need to know what time it is. These watches featuring large numbers and big faces take the squinting out of finding out the time. **Kmart. \$10 and up.**



Snuggly — As we age we tend to get cold faster and have a hard time shaking that chilled-to-the-bone feeling. Snugglies are like having a blanket thrown around your shoulders, but with slots for your arms so they're not so confining. **Walmart, Meijer, and many department stores, starting at \$15**



Wheelchair/walker cup holders — These and other accessories are a great gift idea for someone who uses a wheelchair or walker. **Bed Bath & Beyond. \$15-\$30.**



Global positioning system — No more getting lost with a high-tech device that's as useful for a senior citizen as it is a teenager. **Best Buy. \$90-\$200.**

Prices subject to change during season.



Hand-held magnifying glasses — A magnifier takes the headache out of reading small print and helps eliminate eye strain. **OfficeMax. \$10-\$20.**



Wheelchair carry bags — Magazines, remote controls, pens, paper, a phone ... all manner of things need to be nearby and when your chair is mobile, it's best to take them with you so they're never out of reach. **Walgreens. \$47.**



Large-number remote controls — Not only does this help an older person's fingers handle the TV remote, but it also will resolve many many an argument at a family gathering: if the remote has big numbers and easy-to-use controls, then it's grampa's and he gets to decide what you watch. **Target. \$10.**