



HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

WHAT TO BUY AUTO ENTHUSIASTS



▲ **Mechanic tool set** — If you're buying for someone not afraid to get some grease under the fingernails, give a new tool set. Craftsman has a 154-piece set with both metric and standard sizes that should give most do-it-yourselfers everything needed to get the job done. **Sears. \$149.99.**

For the person in your life who lives by the motto "love me, love my car" take that enthusiasm to heart. Give him or her something for the vehicle or that simulates being behind the wheel. Take these gift ideas for a spin.

— By Tyrel Linkhorn
Blade Staff Writer



▲ **Heated coffee travel mug** — Road warriors and coffee fiends alike can appreciate travel mugs that keep your coffee nice and warm no matter how long you're in the car. This two-mug set has adapters that plug into your car's 12-volt utility jack to keep the joe hot. **Macy's. \$30**



▲ **Bullitt on DVD or BlueRay** — The immortally cool Steve McQueen may be the big name in this 1968 cop film, but his car steals the show. In one of the best cinema car chases ever, McQueen tears up and down San Francisco's hilly streets in a dark green 1968 Mustang GT 390. McQueen even did some of his own driving. **BestBuy.com. \$12.99 for BlueRay, \$4.99 for DVD.**



▲ **Rain X** — A small bottle would make a great stocking stuffer. Rain X makes water bead and roll off the windshield, letting you see where you're going a little bit better. It also helps prevent snow and sleet — which are sure to start flying soon — from sticking to the windshield. Rub it on, wipe it off. **Advance Auto Parts. 3.5 ounces for \$3.79.**



▲ **Jeep Wrangler hard top** — They're not cheap, but if you want to give your favorite Jeep driver a little more comfort and security, a hard top is hard to beat as far as Mopar accessories go. The drawback is they're more difficult than soft tops to take off to do some open-air motoring. But for winter, having a rear wiper, a warmer cabin, and the ability to defrost your rear window might make it worth it. **Yark Jeep. \$2,400 for the two-door, \$3,200 for the four-door.**



▲ **Window tint package** — This is great for friends who want to go incognito or those who just want to try to better protect their car interior from the sun's harsh rays. Done reasonably, a nice tint can make a car more attractive and help keep it cooler during the summer. **Car Stereo One. Packages starting at \$129.**

▲ **Top Gear DVDs** — Originally a BBC series, the U.S. version debuted on History Channel in 2010. The formats are similar, featuring wacky challenges, humor, celebrity guests, and often destruction. Seasons of both the UK and U.S. versions are available on DVD. **Walmart has a wide selection. \$15-\$30.**

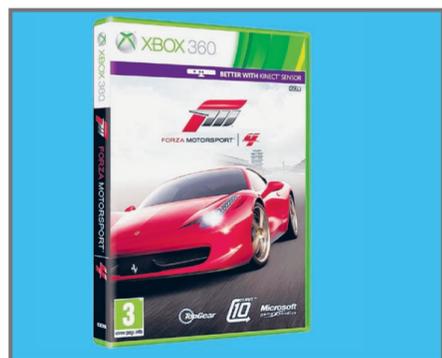


▲ **Valentine One Radar Locator** — If you're buying for someone on a first-name basis with the friendly folks who patrol Ohio and Michigan's highways, a radar detector might help keep roadside meetings to a minimum. Valentine, based in Cincinnati, promises to give warning against both radar and laser traffic enforcement and offers a money-back guarantee. **Valentine1.com. \$399.**

*Prices subject to change.



▲ **Driving School** — For an experience that won't soon be forgotten, send the driving enthusiast on your list to a performance driving school. Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course has several different options, from one-day to multiple-day courses using your car or theirs. Participants spend time in the classroom and on the track, getting tips on things such as cornering techniques. **Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Lexington, Ohio. \$700 to \$2,400.**



▲ **Racing Video Game** — The driving dynamics and graphics in racing video games have improved immensely over the last decade, making them great gifts for the armchair racer. For Xbox users, a popular game is Forza Motorsport 4. **Target. \$39.99.**



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