HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN

25 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

WHAT TO BUY
JEWELRY

Good things come in small packages, so little boxes mean big smiles. It's really hard to go wrong with jewelry. Understated or bold, classic or cutting edge, there's a piece for every style. No matter the budget or taste, a little extra bling can go a long way, so here are 10 options for some holiday sparkle:

— LAUREN LINDSTROM
BLADE STAFF WRITER

Antiques
Antique shops are a treasure trove for gift hunters looking for one-of-a-kind items. They offer a variety of styles, and hunting for the perfect item is half the fun. Find unique pieces like this ring for **$250** at **Leffler's Antiques** on West Central Avenue in Toledo.

Local flair
Shop local with Toledo artist **Katy Mims** for colorful glass and crystal creations. If color is her thing, there are bracelets, earrings and necklaces to brighten any wardrobe. Find her South Paw Studios online at **southpawonline.com** or in several area boutiques, including **The Flower Market** in Toledo and **Hudson Gallery** in Sylvania. These lovely ruby-colored Swarovski crystal drop earrings are **$32**.

Timepiece
Give the gift of time this season. An elegant wristwatch is always a crowd-pleaser, but a pocket-watch will delight the nostalgist. Elegant yet useful, these selections from David Fairclough merge old-world charm and modern shine. Find this one for $520 at **David Fairclough** on Central Avenue in Toledo.

Personalize
Build the perfect bejeweled creation with Cleveland-based Heather Moore's hand-stamped jewelry. Find an item from her collection locally at **Harold Jaffe Jewelers** in Toledo, or on her Web site where her pieces typically range from **$150** to **$700**. Personalize with important names, dates and symbols for a one-of-a-kind item. Keep loved ones close with this pendant that allows for up to three names surrounding a heart for **$600**.

Something different
Rose gold is a great option for those who already have pieces in the more traditional white and yellow varieties. For elegance with a colorful twist, these 18-karat love knot earrings are **$149** at **Macy's** at Franklin Park Mall.

Charmingly simple
For the minimalist in your life, Alex and Ani bangles are the way to go, offering a variety of charms and finishes that don't overwhelm. Bonus: A portion of the proceeds from many bracelets support charitable causes. In December, 20 percent of proceeds from this sunflower bracelet will benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Most Alex and Ani pieces cost between **$28** and **$48**. Find the perfect look and cause at **Fiddle Stix Boutique & Gallery** in Perrysburg.

Making a statement
Go bold or go home: The statement necklace trend isn't new, but deep jewel tones with a lot of sparkle offer a wintry flair to complement any holiday cocktail dress. Just in time for a fancy New Year's Eve soiree that doesn't break the budget, this blue and purple bauble is $46 on JCPenney's Web site, **jcpenney.com**.

Team spirit
Show some school pride but leave the foam finger at home. Donning cufflinks or a necklace is a subtle way to cheer on a favorite team while remaining work-appropriate. **Brookstone** at Franklin Park Mall sells cufflinks for about **$60** while **Kay Jewelers**, also at Franklin Park, has a variety of team-related items ranging from **$45 to $100**.

Near and far
For long-distance lovers or college students studying out of state, choose two state pendants to show off all of the places they call home. **Etsy.com** has an abundance of state-related jewelry options in different sizes, metals, and price points. Many allow customization with hearts or inscriptions. Stainless steel options start at **$20**, while gold and silver ones range from **$80-$250**.

Prices and availablity subject to change.

Hey, big spender
For megawatt dazzle, choose an item from the "Rhythm of Love" collection that will sure to be the talk of the party. Find the perfect sparkle at **J. Foster Jewelers** at either the Fallen Timbers and Franklin Park location. Items range from **$80** to **$25,000**.