

HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN



5 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

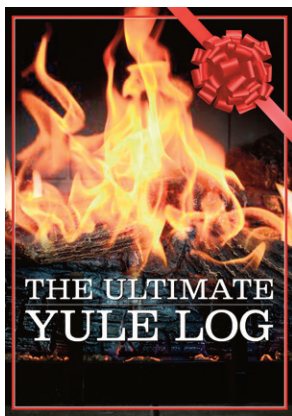
WHAT TO BUY
THE HOMEOWNER

As a newish homeowner, I could spend most of my days dreaming about the many things I'd like to have fill up my space. Everyone's taste is different — less is more versus eclectic clutter — but there's a way to balance function and style in a way that will leave everyone impressed. If someone like that fits the bill on your shopping list, may these 10 items unstump you. Go forth and decorate.

— TAYLOR DUNGJEN
BLADE STAFF WRITER

▲ Scented soybean wax candles

Little makes a home feel cozier than a few flickering candles. Scented is a bonus and soybean wax is the creme de la creme. Soy candles don't leave the black film on the glass jars they're in, so they're easier to clean and repurpose. Various sizes at prices at **Swan Creek Candle Co.**



▲ Ultimate Yule Log DVD

No fireplace? No problem. Someone with a certain kind of genius recorded a burning fireplace to add ambiance to any living room. Just pop in the **The Ultimate Yule Log DVD** and enjoy hours of uninterrupted pseudo warmth. \$5.99 at **Barnes & Noble.**

▲ Vases and flowers

Fresh flowers can instantly brighten up any space. Pick up a pretty bouquet from **Floral Pursuit**, 48 S. St. Clair St., and then swing by **Gathered Art Gallery**, 23 N. Huron St., and find a one-of-a-kind vase to deliver the flowers in.



▲ Snow blower

If this winter is anything like last, the **Toro Power Clear Electric-start Snow Blower** might be the best-possible gift. \$399-\$499, **Home Depot**, **The Andersons.**



▲ At-home bar

Storing liquor bottles on top of the refrigerator is so college. Know someone who enjoys a nice drink or often entertains? The **Safavieh Bar Cart** lets them store their supplies in style and order. \$299.99 at **Target.**



▲ Breakfast in bed

Sure you could just buy a tray and stand to give to someone special, but delivery will go over a lot better if you use it to serve that special someone some fluffy French toast and bacon on Christmas morning. **Low Butler Tray Stand**, \$119, and the large rectangular lacquer tray, \$59 to \$69, both at **west-elm.com.**



▲ Standing mixer

The kind of gift that makes you sing, "Isn't she lovely?" The **KitchenAid Artisan Stand Mixer** is a great gift for home bakers. Various colors available in stores and at **macys.com**, \$499.99.



▲ Cozy blanket

There are never too many blankets, especially during Toledo winters. One more can't hurt, and the **Chunky Cable Handknit Throw** looks especially cozy. \$129, **Pottery Barn** at Franklin Park Mall.



▲ Hammock

The recipient likely won't get much use out of one until the snow thaws and temperatures rise, but when the weather cooperates, there's nothing better than a nice siesta outside. **Texsport Deluxe Hammock Stand**, \$129.99; **Texsport La Paz hammock**, \$29 **Gander Mountain.**



▲ Decorative plates

Multifunctional and incredibly beautiful, decorative plates can be used to serve small appetizers or hung on a wall as an art display. Try the **Calligrapher Canape Plate**, \$8 each at **Anthropologie.**

Prices and availability subject to change.

LA Z BOY
HOLIDAY SALE



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Sun. Noon-6 pm