



What to buy

2016 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

AUTO ENTHUSIASTS

16
SHOPPING
DAYS LEFT

It's always easier to find gifts for someone who has a hobby that defines him. Some people love gardening. Others love gasoline. If you're shopping for someone who has a little grease un-

der his fingernails, take a few of these ideas for a spin.
— TYREL LINKHORN, BLADE STAFF WRITER

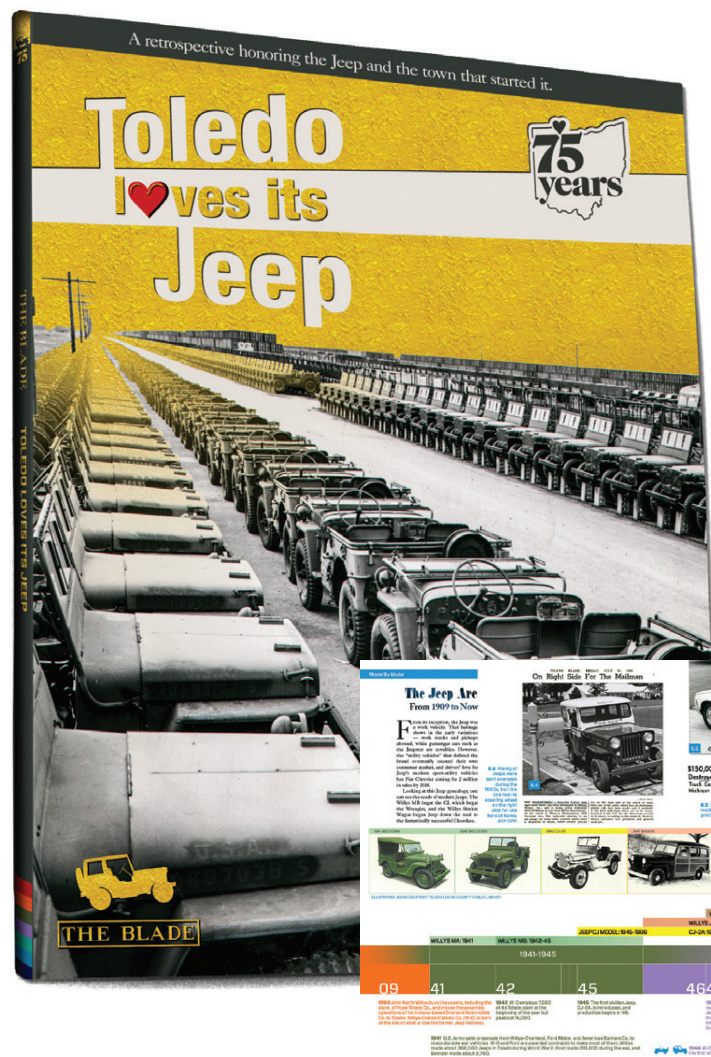


Branded golf balls
If driving a Lexus makes someone happy, why not give him the same option on the links? Golfers can always use a couple new sleeves of their ball of choice, and the Lexus logo puts a fun twist on an easy gift. Lexus sells both Titleist and Bridgestone. **Order them through Jim White Lexus; \$42 to \$59 a dozen.**



Cell phone window mount
There are some great portable GPS units out there today, but most of us find ourselves using our smart phones when we're looking for a new address or trying to find the closest burger joint. Instead of having your loved ones fumbling around for their phones in the cup holder, do them — and everyone else on the road — a favor and get them a windshield mount. **This adjustable one from Best Buy should fit most devices; \$19.99.**

Hood ornament
In the early days of motoring, exposed radiator caps frequently served as a temperature gauge. That went away, but ornate hood ornaments stuck around for decades. Today they make a nice collectible that harken back to the the grandeur of the 1920s and 1930s. You can scour local antique stores and flea markets — I know I've seen a few here in Toledo — and there's always an ever-changing assortment on eBay if you're looking for something specific. Some companies also sell copies, like this Packard one from Ohio-based Summit Racing. **\$34.97 at summitracing.com.**



'Toledo Loves Its Jeep'
For 75 years running, Toledoans have built Jeeps. This special book from The Blade traces Jeep's history from a military runabout to an all-purpose farm truck to a modern people hauler that still can go rock crawling. The book features stories about Jeep and the people who made it what it is today as well as rarely seen photographs and archive material from The Blade's vault. **\$24.95 at The Blade or thebladevault.com.**



Tool roll
Drivers of classic cars or motorcycles often like to keep a few tools on hand just in case they need to make a roadside repair. A rugged canvas wrench roll is a classic and easy way to keep those tools sorted and easy to carry. **\$14.15; Home Depot.**



Drawer pulls
These vintage-styled drawer pulls would look right at home on 1957 Chevrolet. Depending on the level of your obsession, they'll also work in a garage or kitchen. Right and left are both available. **\$15 each at Hobby Lobby.**

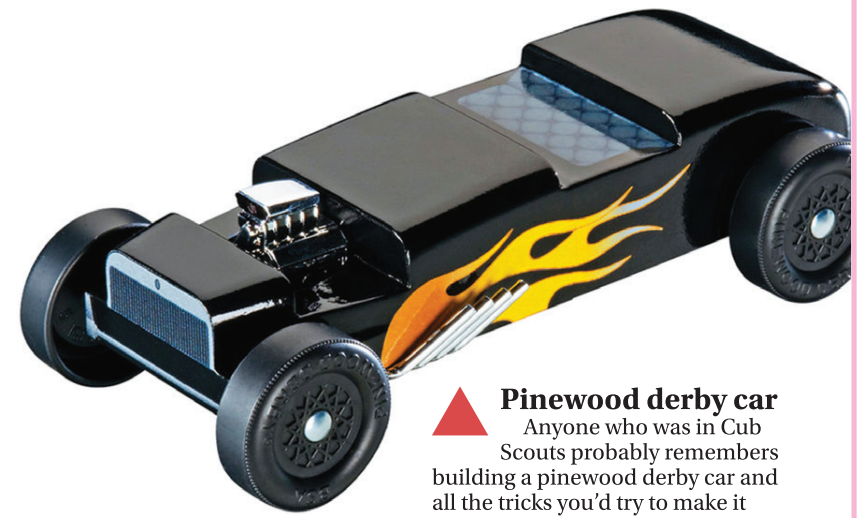


Jump starter
You may never find yourself in a lonely parking lot with a dead battery, but if you do, a portable jump starter can save a lot of trouble. Charge it up, throw it in the trunk, and hope you'll never need it. The peace of mind is worth it. This one from Stanley even has a small air compressor built in. **\$99 at Walmart.**

Cufflinks
Some accessories make a statement. "Why yes, my boots are made of pink alligator skin!" Others serve better as a subtle reminder of the wearer's passions — something unobtrusive a person can glance at for a quick smile. If you're buying for an Audi driver who also happens to be a snappy dresser, how about a set of cufflinks? **\$79.95 to \$159.95 at the Autohaus of Sylvania, 5570 Monroe St.**



R/C Jeep
The Axial SCX10 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon is a serious little machine. The 1/10-scale remote control vehicle, officially licensed by Jeep, has a steel frame and locking differentials. The folks at Axial actually traversed 15 miles of the famed Rubicon Trail with one, earning its Trail Rated badge. Like any proper Jeep, it's totally customizable. **\$389.99 at HobbyTown, 7103 Orchard Centre Dr., Holland.**



Pinewood derby car
Anyone who was in Cub Scouts probably remembers building a pinewood derby car and all the tricks you'd try to make it faster. Several hobby and hardware stores still sell the kits today. If you're buying for someone who likes to tinker, this could be an inexpensive way to bring back some happy old memories. **Michael's has basic kits starting at about \$6.50.**

* Prices and availability subject to change.

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