



Yeah, yeah, yeah...we're going to watch "It's a Wonderful Life," "Miracle on 34th Street" and other classic films imbued with holiday spirit. And then we're going to shop! The gift-giving season is upon us, and we're all looking for presents that'll be keepers. Geeky spouse, crafty relative, foodie pal, outdoorsy

teen, newest kid on the block or even ourselves. An array of bright ideas is out there for the people in our lives.

To get started, here's a look at some of the best finds that have passed our desk. Happy reading, happy shopping, happy holidays!

Kitchen

AIYA, a producer of premium green tea from Japan, specializes in matcha, the uber-healthy tea that has been ground into a fine powder. Also popular is its Organic Tea Sampler, which contains four different flavors of loose leaf teas. aiyamatcha.com



Champion Juicer, made in the United States and driven by a quiet GE washing machine motor, is a powerhouse that's built to last. The Champion is the only product of its kind that both extracts and homogenizes so it can mix up healthy soups and dips, sauces, no-sugar added sorbets, nut butters, hummus and baby foods as well as juice. Championjuicer.com

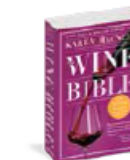
ChefsChoice is known for innovations in small kitchen electronics, such as the Cast Iron Professional Indoor Electric Grill and the Model 700 Electric Sharpener for Ceramic and Steel Knives. The heavy-duty grill provides seared flavor any time and anywhere while the sharpener uses advanced diamond technology to get a sharp and durable edge for virtually any knife. Chefschoice.com



Quadrille Publishing tantalizes taste buds with nibbles from all over the world, including "Eat Istanbul," "Healthy Japanese Cooking," "Essence of French Cooking" and "Scandinavian Baking." Other mouthwatering cookbooks include "Cakes in Bloom," "Pasta" and "Friends Food Family." Quadrille.com



"The Wine Bible" by James Beard Award-winner Karen MacNeil, is an entertaining, comprehensive book on the fruit of the vine. MacNeil traveled the globe for this revision, tasting over 10,000 vinos in five years, to report on the history, geography, food, wine and wineries of regions from the forbidding landscape of China's Sichuan Province to the warm shores of the Sicilian Mediterranean. Workman.com



Thermopen Mk4 is a supercharged cooking thermometer that's accurate to within a degree in two or three seconds. The just-launched upgrade features an accelerometer - the same device used by iPhone to determine the orientation of the screen. thermoworks.com



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