



What's hot

Everything you need to have yourself an on-trend Christmas

'The Agenda

In association with

Westfield

Your ultimate Christmas wish-list

The main event

It's time to start thinking about gift buying – as well as what you'd like to receive. How about a bag? Should it be shoes? Here's our guide to the most fashionable, covetable gifts. By **Bibby Sowray**

There are just 24 full shopping days to go until Christmas Day, and while you may be feeling the warm glow of festive cheer thanks to a belly-full of mulled wine and mince pies, you're also likely to be thinking about what to buy the women in your life.

Here lies a plethora of gifts that are sure to please, and will help get your own wish-list started, too. From luxuri-

ous loungewear to loaf around in and jewellery she'll be joyful to receive, to timeless wardrobe classics and the pieces that will help you get a head start on SS18's biggest trends, we've got everything covered.

All you've got to do is shop, wrap and enjoy the praise you'll receive for selecting such a wonderful gift. Simple.



Bathroom shelfie essentials

There's little more satisfying than a perfectly-curated bathroom shelf, and that's exactly why the bathroom shelfie (for the uninitiated out there, that's an Instagram-worthy shot of a shelf of beauty products) is a social media must.

Christmas is the ideal time to help replenish said shelf, ready for the new year. Look for cult products with status quo and beautiful packaging. From Tom Ford's much-loved Neroli Portofino fragrance in its

jewel-tone bottle – inspired by the azure seas of the Italian Riviera – to La Mer's must-have hand treatment, each of these products is as luxurious to look at as they are to use.

1. Tom Ford Neroli Portofino eau de parfum, £230, Debenhams; 2. Midnight recovery oil, £49.50, Kiehls; 3. La Mer Hand Treatment, £80, House of Fraser

Continued on Page 56

Sparkling: sequinned mini skirt, £79.99, Zara

Pulse points: Festive candles

Add a twist to the traditional scents of Christmas with one of these more unusual takes on festive candles. By **Caroline Brien**

1. Jo Malone

Packed with notes of sharp, juicy redcurrants, an energising hit of citrus, plus warm and creamy green almond, cedarwood and tonka bean, this heavyweight candle comes in a brightly striped ceramic jar you'll want to keep afterwards.

Green almond and redcurrant Christmas candle, £120



2. Neom Organics

This 100 per cent natural candle is a clean, refreshing mix of 25 pure essential oils specially chosen for their wellbeing qualities. Think green notes of lime and pine, mixed with a touch of the woody, earthy resin myrrh.

Perfect peace 3 wick candle, £45



3. Cire Trudon

Beautifully encased in a golden green jar, this illumination from the oldest candlemakers in the world is a celebration of cossetting winter warmth, blending comforting cashmere wood, dry cedar and syrupy marron glacé chestnuts.

Ciel scented Christmas candle, £78



Santa's Snowflake
GROTTO
BOOK TICKETS NOW



Westfield
LONDON W12
STRATFORD CITY E20



STAR WARS

SECRETS OF THE EMPIRE

The VOID and ILMxLAB Present

A NEW HYPER-REALITY EXPERIENCE

The rebellion needs your help. Gather your family and friends to be transported into the Star Wars universe.

Opening at the Westfield London (Shepherd's Bush) 16th December for 12 weeks only.

BOOK NOW

THEVOID.COM/LONDON








#SecretsOfTheEmpire

Continued from Page 55

Timeless treats

Sometimes only a classic will do. Whether you need a gift for the woman who has everything or something for the woman who doesn't follow fashion, these presents promise a smile that will last far beyond Christmas morning.

Each item has secured its status as an icon and as such sits beyond trends and current fads, ensuring years of use. Whether you opt for Mulberry's quintessential Bayswater handbag in rich oak leather, Burberry's trademark checked cashmere scarf, Gucci's timeless horsebit-adorned loafers, a bottle of Chanel's signature scent or choose to invest in Tiffany & Co's delicate T wire bracelet, you can be sure it will be loved for years to come.

1. Leather horsebit loafers, £540, Gucci; 2. Chanel No 5 eau de parfum, £105, Boots; 3. Cashmere scarf, £350, Burberry

Statement-making earrings

It's rare that an item of jewellery pierces the consciousness of the fashion set quite like the statement earring has over the past couple of seasons – and it's still going strong.

A super-easy outfit updaters, a pair of sculptural shoulder-dusters are a sure-fire Christmas win. Whether high street or high-end, and in a rain-

bow of colours and variety of shapes and sizes, they're no longer just for impersonating Pat Butcher.

Mango has excelled with countless styles to choose from (you'd be pushed to find a member of the fashion pack who hasn't bought at least one Mango pair), while Prada's rose-and-pearl design is a luxe take. Our tip? The bigger the better.



1. Metal pendant earrings, £9.99, Mango; 2. Brass rose and pearl earrings, £250, Prada; 3. Sphere cluster resin earrings, £40, Whistles

Luxurious loungewear

The lead up to Christmas may be all about partying, but come Boxing Day all we really want to do is loaf around in luxurious loungewear – the gift that keeps on giving.

Opt for cosy cashmere, athleisure that's as comfy as it is on-trend, or nightwear that's too good to save solely for bed. Rosie Huntington-Whiteley's Rosie for Autograph range for Marks & Spencer is full of sumptuous silk pieces, while Urban Outfitters, has an

unrivalled selection of joggers and hoodies. For cashmere, head to H&M, where you'll find beautiful basics at wallet-friendly prices.



1. Champion hoodie, £65, Urban Outfitters; 2. Rosie for Autograph silk pyjamas, £150, Marks & Spencer; 3. Cashmere jumper, £79.99, H&M

Bags of personality

Who doesn't love a good piece of arm candy? Ornate bags are everywhere and they're the perfect gift – a little piece of treasure hidden under the Christmas tree.

Whether you splash out on Louis Vuitton's modern-day classic Petite Malle (a mini version of the French fashion house's famous trunks) or go for French "It brand" Sandro's geometric Lou bag studded with on-trend pearls, just make sure it's heavy on detail. If you're lucky enough to

unwrap one of these, don't keep it for best – they're the perfect accessory to spruce up an all-black outfit throughout the dreary winter months. Happiness in handbag form.

1. Petite Malle bag, £3,500, Louis Vuitton; 2. Lou bag, £260, Sandro; 3. Zigzag bag, £1,065, Salvatore Ferragamo



Ahead of the trends

Give the gift of a head start on the hottest SS18 trends with the key pieces that epitomise next season, but can be worn right now.

Unusually, the SS18 catwalks were almost seasonless, incorporating everything from traditionally wintry wonders such as the trench coat (see Celine, Valentino and McQueen) and sequins (Gucci, Halpern and Marc Jacobs) to stalwart summer sensations such as lilac (Victoria Beckham and Max Mara), ruffles (Erdem, Simone Rocha and Preen), and rainbow stripes (Dolce & Gabbana and Oscar de la Renta).

This means that every single item will see her through every season of the next sartorial year – and what better gift is there than that?

1. Trench coat, £79, Marks & Spencer; 2. Ruffled dress, £59, Topshop; 3. Rainbow stripe jumper, £690, Gucci

Shoes she'll be dreaming about

Shoes, glorious shoes. There are few gifts more failsafe than a really great pair of shoes, and these pairs cover all bases and occasions.

Gucci's glitter-covered sneakers are a sparkling take on the traditional white tennis shoe, featuring the fashion house's signature green-and-red webbing, while Prada's velvet platforms are a modern-day icon (the street-style set love them). Or, for the more low-key gift recipient, opt for Mango's evening mules, embellished with sparkling brooches, Maje's wear-with anything ankle boots, or Jimmy Choo's perfectly on-trend Minerva 65 midi boots in bottle green.



1. Minerva 65 leather boots, £995, Jimmy Choo; 2. Crystal slingbacks, £49.99, Mango; 3. Velvet platforms, £800, Prada



The trend
Inject some personality into your home this year with all the must-have looks for the festive season, says **Rachel Ogden**

Glittering: all tree decorations from a selection at House of Fraser

This year's trend is quirky – give your home a tropical twist, fairy tale flair or retro vibe

1. Spun glass bauble with charms, £8, Laura Ashley; 2. Linea gold flamingo, £6, House of Fraser; 3. Furry alpaca decoration, £6, Debenhams; 4. Paper tree ornament, £4.99, Zara Home; 5. Linea glitter ski boot decoration, £8, House of Fraser; 6. Plum floral garland, £35, M&S; 7. 3D star decoration, £12, French Connection; 8. Glass Christmas decoration, £6.99 for two, H&M

For some, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without traditional red and green, holly, ivy and mistletoe. However, this year, decorating trends have gone into overdrive, creating a range of alternative Christmases for those who like to do things a bit differently. Whether the mood is eclectic nostalgia, fun and frivolous or back to nature, get ready to ditch the one-size-fits-all festive trimmings and create an enviably stylish scene.

Tropical to typewriters

Why have a basic bauble when you can deck your Christmas tree with palm trees, parrots, unicorns,

rubber ducks, martini glasses, phone boxes or vintage cars? This year's newest decorating trend is distinctly quirky, enabling you to give your home a tropical twist, fairy tale flair or a retro vibe.

While some decorations have been given a sophisticated makeover with metallics – who could resist a glittery pineapple? – others are bursting with personality. The key to the look is to stick to one colour theme, whether that's, say, primarily gold, silver or green, and don't be afraid of being bold – let your inner maximalist call the shots.

Around the world

Russia, India, Japan, Peru – practically no country has been overlooked for

festive ideas this year. If stags aren't your thing, try an alpaca; change out trees for cacti; swap the Nutcracker soldier for a matryoshka doll; or choose exotic tigers, monkeys and elephants. Think of this trend like bringing souvenirs back from a memorable holiday and curating them at home.

For those who love the frosty feel of a winter's day, you'll find inspiration in folkloric motifs, ornate onion-shaped baubles and magical village scenes, while if you're pining for warmer climes, you'll be drawn to piñata hangers, proud peacocks, richly beaded decorations and origami animals.

The great outdoors

White and wood Scandi style has been an enduring theme but this year, two big homeware trends are exerting their influence. One is a more Nordic aesthetic, resulting in a dose of graphite grey and accent colours beyond traditional red.

The other is a love of the wilderness, which brings more greenery, such as eucalyptus wreaths and garlands, pinecones, acorns, mossy textures, flowers and feathers. The great thing about this look is that it can be styled almost any way you want – keep it minimal for a nod to pared-back Scandi cool or layer up nature-inspired decorations for a cosy forest feel.



To find out more on the latest fashion, beauty and interior trends, visit standard.co.uk/theagenda

Your festive highlights at Westfield London

From diamond discovery sessions to cookery lessons, there's activities to suit everyone happening at Shepherd's Bush over the coming weeks



Diamond masterclass series by Vashi

8-22 December, Wednesday to Friday 6pm-8pm; Saturday and Sunday 3pm-5pm

Whether you're ready to pop the question or just curious about what the world of diamonds is like, now you can take a closer look. Vashi is offering a complimentary masterclass series with hands-on experience in what it takes to design jewellery with this mesmerising gem. No booking is necessary.

Ferrero Rocher: Behind The Layers

First floor, near Next, 1-17 December

Ferrero Rocher: Behind the Layers is a multi-sensory tasting experience that takes you on a journey deep into the

heart of Ferrero Rocher. In a spectacular setting, you'll be served delicious mini-desserts created by celebrated chef Paul Hannegan. Each one is inspired by the iconic layers of a Ferrero Rocher: whole hazelnut, smooth chocolate, crisp wafer, hazelnut pieces and wrapped in gold.

■ Tickets, costing £25 each, are on sale now at behindthelayers.co.uk



Christmas choir competition

Ground floor, near The Atrium, 6-8 December, from noon

Watch as choirs from 15 local primary schools perform a medley of Christmas carols and songs at this popular event. Who will be awarded the coveted Best Choir, Best Dressed, Best Performance and Best Fundraiser this year?

Have a very global Christmas at KidZania London

KidZania, first floor, near M&S, 1 December-5 January
Visit KidZania London this festive

season, as the indoor city built for kids brings Christmas to life from across the world.

Experience how children from other countries celebrate this magical time of year – follow the map through the city to learn fun facts about the festive traditions of Mexico, Italy, China, Australia, Ethiopia and more.

From the Christmas markets and AdventsKranz in Germany, to India's celebration of Christmas Baba, young visitors can follow the trail on a fun journey around the world.

KidZania London will take on a seasonal twist, with activities including festive face painting at the Snazaroo painting studio and a Christmas parade around the city.

■ Plan your visit at KidZania.co.uk

Festive cooking lessons at The Jamie Oliver Cookery School

Throughout December

Celebrate the festive season at The Jamie Oliver Cookery School, where you can enjoy a range of Christmas-themed lessons that will teach you



how to make the perfect Christmas Day feast or mince pie – then wow your friends with some yuletide treats. And why not treat your foodie friends to a gift voucher that can be used for more than 30 lessons and masterclasses?

■ To book, visit jamieolivercookeryschool.com



Megan Hess fashion illustration pop-up store

Ground floor, The Village, until 31 December

Looking for the perfect gift? Shop limited edition fashion illustrations and more by Megan Hess, artist to celebrities and fashion icons, at her first UK pop-up.



Style Trial – your one week festive wardrobe

Fashion Lounge, second floor, The Village, until 3 December; 7-10 December; 14-17 December

Style Trial is the UK's first ever standalone rental store, enabling shoppers to hire fashion's most coveted garments and accessories throughout the party season – meaning you never have to wear the same outfit twice!

Style Trial is curated by celebrated stylist and editor Melanie Rickey who hand-picked this season's key must-haves from brands ranging from high street to designer. All proceeds will go to Save the Children.

Coach pop-up

Ground floor, The Atrium, 8-14 December

Shop an exclusive selection of small leather goods and gifts made in Coach's signature Glovetanned and Pebbled leather in a variety of bright shades with plenty of holiday glitter!



Find out more at westfield.com/London

Tis the season at Westfield Stratford City

Whether you want to chill-out or eat out, head east this coming month and you'll have the chance with these great pop-ups and new openings



The Chill Lounge

First floor by the World Food Court, 1-2 December and 8-9 December, noon-9pm

Grab your coats and experience the coolest bar in town, The Chill Lounge. For a limited time, this special pop-up ice bar will give you the ultimate chill-out experience.

Need to rest after a hard day of shopping? Sip on a cocktail, sit back and relax on one of the comfy sofas as a DJ plays the ultimate chilled tunes to help

you unwind. Plus, capture a photo of yourself on the ice throne.

Jazz evenings at the Great Eastern Market

Great Eastern Market, lower ground floor, every Thursday in December

Visit the Great Eastern Market for jazz, entertainment and festive nibbles and enjoy live music while you dine or shop – or both. The food market is dedicated to specialist and independent outlets, from artisanal breads and Greek delicacies to authentic Italian Tiramisu from newest eatery, Tiramisu.



NEW RETAILER OPENINGS:

Five Guys Opening soon



Think juicy, made-to-order burgers, fresh-cut fries cooked in peanut oil, and frosty milkshakes. Hungry yet? The American-born Five Guys – now the UK's fastest-growing restaurant – has landed at Westfield Stratford City.

The fast, casual chain has been an American favourite since members of the Murrell family opened their first restaurant in Virginia in 1986.

Now, Five Guys boasts more than 250,000 different burger combinations – so you can customise yours just the way you like it.

Flannels Kids

Ground floor

Visit the new Flannels Kids store for the very latest designer fashion just for children. From Gucci and Kenzo to Moncler and Dolce & Gabbana, shop for staple and statement pieces alike.

Gifted With Love by Crouch the Jeweller

Ground floor

Crouch the Jeweller presents its Gifted With Love pop-up. Find your perfect gift from a wide range of dazzling diamonds, luxury jewellery and fashion-forward watches from brands including Michael Kors and Daniel Wellington.

Find out more at westfield.com/stratfordcity



Win a wildlife break in Kent with Aspers Casino

1-12 December

Aspers Casino is giving away 120 wildlife breaks – that's 10, every night for 12 days. You could win a luxury one-night getaway to Tiger Lodge at Port Lympne Reserve, including a jeep



safari, up-close animal experience, and food and drink. Visit Aspers Casino and sign up to Aspers World to be in with the chance of winning.

To enter Aspers Casino there is no membership requirement, although guests must be 18 years or over, with photo identification required for those who look under 25.



Terms & Conditions: 18+. Promotion closes at 23:59 on 12 December 2017. There are 120 prizes of an overnight stay for four people at Tiger Lodge at Port Lympne safari park including meals. Travel to and from Port Lympne is not included. Prize must be redeemed by 31 December 2019. Blackout dates apply. Please read full terms at aspersstratford.co.uk/wild
Promoter: Aspers (Stratford City) Limited