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## The Best Things to Buy in December

by [homewarranty.com](http://homewarranty.com)

Black Friday gets all the best press, as the biggest shopping day of the year, but December offers plenty of great deals on some hot items - for everyone on your gift list or yourself.

### Cars

A car is one of the best things to buy in December. Generally speaking, buying a car at the end of any month will save you money, as dealers will usually be trying to hit a quota. Buying at the end of the year gives shoppers a chance to make a great deal as most dealerships are eager to sell through as much inventory as possible before the start of a new year. Speaking of the new year, you just might cut your best deal possible on New Year's Eve.

### Tools

Typically, Black Friday has been an optimal time to buy tools, but don't sell December short. December is a great month to cash in on some real deals, in particular tool sets, such as drill sets, wrench sets, and screwdriver sets. The benefit of grabbing some deals in December is that these items also make great gifts for all those DIYers on your holiday shopping list.

### Electronic Devices and Tech

Many brands will be rolling out new editions and models of tech equipment like tablets, phones, and smartwatches, which means many retailers will be lowering the prices of older generations of the products. This rule of thumb does not apply to larger electronic buys like computers, laptops, or televisions. Save those deals for Black Friday sales.

### Gift Cards

Buying gift cards in December is not only smart, it's also practical. Gift cards have become one of the most popular items to give during the holiday. For this reason, many restaurants, stores, and brands offer steep discounts on gift cards in December. Buy gift cards for yourself to use later or to give during the holidays - they always come through in a gift-giving pinch.

### Wedding Gowns

And here's why. Most couples skip the month of December for their impending nuptials and let's face it. Wedding gowns have become a big ticket item. According to *TheKnot.com*, the average wedding dress cost in 2021 was \$1,800. So, with weddings at a near standstill in December, dress retailers are more likely to say "I do" to your offer.

### Toys

Typically, retailers need to sell through their holiday stock before the year ends. The consumer demand for toys is at its highest of the year, so although you may not be able to secure this year's hottest toy trend, rest assured there will be plenty of options for you to choose from. According to *Cheapism.com*, the best toy deals of the year will typically be found from early to mid-December.

### Appliances

Yes, Black Friday and a few 3-day weekend holidays are great times to buy appliances, but according to Consumer Reports, the end of the year is also an ideal time to get a great deal on a refrigerator, washer, or dryer. Once again, retailers are ramping up for new inventory to start the year and are looking to part with their older inventory. This typically comes to the consumer as year-end close-out sales.

## December Calendar

**December 7** - Pearl Harbor Day

**December 18** - Hanukkah Begins

**December 21** - First Day of Winter

**December 25** - Christmas Day

**December 31** - New Year's Eve

## Homeowner Tip



### Keep Your Disposal Fresh

Sprinkle baking soda and about two squirts of dish liquid into the garbage disposal. With a small brush, scrub the inside of the garbage disposal, including around the rubber gaskets. Turn on the water and the disposal and flush thoroughly for a few minutes.

For another quick fix, make vinegar ice cubes and feed them down the disposal. After grinding, run cold water through the disposal.

## No Holiday Traditions? Now's a Great Time to Start Your Own

Here are a few suggestions to help you and your family start your very own holiday traditions this year.

**DIY Tree Ornaments** - Turn on your favorite holiday music, grab the kids, friends, or both, and get busy making ornaments your family will cherish for years. Check out [CountryLiving.com](http://CountryLiving.com) for great ideas.

**Take a Family Photo** - What better way to document your kids (and pets) as they grow? Holiday photos create treasured keepsakes you will enjoy for years.

**Make a Gingerbread House** - It's perfect. A fun holiday project you can eat. [TheSpruceEats.com](http://TheSpruceEats.com) tested Gingerbread

Kits and found the Hasbro Candy Land Gingerbread House to be best suited for kids with lots of decorative candy to choose from.

**Decorate Your Home** - No matter which holiday your family celebrates, there are plenty of fresh decor ideas at [HGTV.com](http://HGTV.com).

**Host a Holiday Movie Night** - Gather your loved ones (and lots of popcorn) for a night of holiday movies. Choose from an endless amount of holiday films to stream or rent.

**Make Edible Gifts** - We all love to receive that holiday tin from a special friend or neighbor. Maybe it's time YOU were that special friend or neighbor. Check out great edible gifts - from fudge to jams to infused oils at [Delicious.Com](http://Delicious.Com).



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## The Perfect Holiday Sweet Treat - Candy Cane Fudge

This fudge makes a great holiday gift - just remember to make an extra batch for yourself.

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ¾ cup heavy cream
- ¾ cup unsalted butter
- pinch of salt
- 11 ounces white chocolate chips
- 7 ounces marshmallow cream
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- ½ cup peppermint candy canes, chopped

### INSTRUCTIONS

In a large saucepan, combine sugar, cream, butter, and salt. Heat over medium high heat and bring to a boil, stirring continuously.

Continue boiling for 5 minutes, while stirring. Remove from heat.

In a large mixing bowl, add marshmallow cream, white chocolate chips, and vanilla extract.

Pour hot butter mixture over, and turn mixer on low. Blend for 1-2 minutes, until white chocolate morsels have melted, and mixture is smooth.

Fold in chopped candy (reserve about 1 Tbsp of candy to sprinkle over top).

Pour into an 8-inch square baking dish, lined with parchment paper. Sprinkle with remaining candy.

Allow to set, about 4 hours at room temperature. Do not refrigerate. Cut into pieces and enjoy.



*Recipe and photo courtesy of: [shugarysweets.com](http://shugarysweets.com)*