



What to buy

2016 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

19 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

# GIFTS FOR PETS

Your pets don't care what you look like, can't blab about your secrets to friends and co-workers, and most certainly would never dream of arguing politics on your social media

feeds. That unflinching loyalty definitely deserves to be rewarded this holiday season. And besides, a gift for them is often also a gift for you.

—ALEXANDRA MESTER, BLADE STAFF WRITER

**Bike leash**

It takes more than a walk to keep a high-energy dog happy. The **Bike Tow Leash** bolts on near the back wheel of your bike to keep your hands on the handlebars and reduce the impact of any sideways pulling. Stiff but flexible, it keeps your dog at a safe distance while giving him freedom to move around. **For dogs of all sizes, sold at biketowleash.com for \$146. Attach a second dog with the \$34 Dog Coupler.**



**Pet miniature**

Every dog and cat is exquisitely unique. Hand-felted in the U.S.A. with natural wool, **ShelterPups** captures those beautiful differences in a premium stuffed animal. The company gives back to rescues, too. **A custom miniature of your own Fido or Felix will set you back \$175, or choose a premade plush for \$75 at shelterpups.com. Gift certificates available.**



**Horse play**

Add some fun to the pasture with the **Jolly Mega Ball**, and have a good laugh watching your horses play equine soccer. **Tractor Supply Co., \$29.99.**



**Mouse chase toy**

Engage your kitty's prey drive with **The Cheese**, a battery-operated toy where mice play peek-a-boo from a block of Swiss cheese. In single-play mode, it automatically shuts off after 10-15 minutes. Set it to the away mode to keep your cat happy with spontaneous playtime when you're at work or running errands. **Petco, \$29.98.**



**Cat shelters**

Free-roaming felines in your neighborhood are at the mercy of Mother Nature, but you can help protect them from cold winter nights with outdoor cat shelters. **Two sizes are available at Humane Ohio, the \$35 large will accommodate four to six cats, and the \$20 small will fit one to two cats.**



**Dog harness**

Does your dog ever have passersby asking, "Who's walking who?" Try the **Harness Lead**, a leash designed to be strapped onto your dog like a harness to reduce pulling. They come in a wide variety of colors, two of which give back to specific rescues. **Available at harnesslead.com, \$27.99-\$29.99.**



**Chicken coop treats**

Being cooped up in close quarters during long cold snaps spells trouble for backyard hens as boredom can result in increased pecking and bullying. Pack the **Chick-N-Veggie Ball** with greens and hang it in your coop to provide a great foraging activity with a fresh, healthy snack. **The Andersons, \$4.99.**



**For small animals**

Like young children, many animals can't resist jumping into a ball pit. **Pop-N-Play** is marketed for ferrets but can be used by all sorts of small animals. It also features holes to attach play tunnels for added fun. **Pet Supplies Plus, \$39.98.**



**Holiday treats**

Give your dog something tasty this Christmas while supporting a small business built by 10-year-old Abbie Kramer of Delta, Ohio. Get 11 ounces of homemade canine goodies in flavors like turkey cranberry, better breath, and bacon bites in festive holiday boxes for \$7. **Find Miss Abbie's Pet Treats at missabbiespettreats.com or 419-250-0772.**



**Puppy toy**

Playful pups will love the **Kong Jumbler**, which features a tennis ball trapped in a large rubber squeaky ball with handles. **Choose the round ball or football at The Andersons, \$12.99 for the M/L size and \$15.99 for the L/XL.**

**Extra idea**

Set up the gift boxes and bags from Christmas morning in one big group on the floor and let your cats have a grand old time pouncing from one to the next. Add more fun by scattering toys among them.

\* Prices and availability subject to change.

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