

Stocking-fillers for kids



▶ **Accessorize cheerleader pom-poms** Children can practise their cheerleading skills with these sparkly pom-poms, which come with shiny tassels and plastic handles. They're perfect for playing with all year round (£7; accessorize.com).



▶ **Le Toy Van Petilou forest stacker tower & bag** Le Toy Van's set of nine stackable woodland animals comes with a drawstring storage bag (£13; cottagetoy.com).

▶ **Music Box** Turn the handle on this music box from Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop and it plays a rendition of Vivaldi's *Spring*. Age 3+ (£10; pollocks-coventgarden.co.uk).



▶ **Seed bombs** These seed bombs contain 21 different varieties of native wildflower seeds, and enough of them to cover a square metre (£8.50; blackbeehoney.com).



▶ **Good Design Works dog sticky notes** A handy set of sticky notes in three different sausage dog designs (£7.50; amazon.co.uk).



▶ **LEGO City ocean mini-submarine** This set includes a submarine, a treasure chest with gems and a hammerhead shark. Age 4+ (£8.50; sam-turner.co.uk).

▶ **Gone Fishin'! game** Stored in a tiny tin are a rod and eight numbered fish with magnets stuck to them. A simple game for small children. Age 2+ (£3.70; souzu.co.uk).



▶ **Gentlemen's Hardware waterproof phone sleeve** A phone kept in this sleeve should survive being submerged in water for up to 30 minutes at a depth of up to one metre (£9; johnlewis.com).



▶ **Rio Beauty glow smartphone ring light** This clip-on ring light has three brightness settings and 36 LED lights to get the perfect selfie. The battery lasts 1.5 hours and is USB rechargeable (£8; argos.co.uk).



▶ **Pass the Pugs dice game** Use the tiny pugs as dice and score points depending on which position they land in in this travel game. For example, you'll score ten points for a faceplant, but you'll lose all your points if they land back-to-back (£6.50; zavvi.com).

▶ **Build your own ladybird** These kits made from card also come in the form of a bee, stag beetle or dragonfly. Age 8+ (£9; buildyourownkits.com).



Tips of the week... how to reduce car running costs

- Get a dashcam. If you have an accident, it may be your only eyewitness, and evidence from video footage can help with an insurance claim.
- Since 2014, cars have been fitted with tyre pressure monitoring systems (TPMS). If your car was made before then, you might want to buy a TPMS. Under-inflated tyres will lower your miles per gallon, and could cause the tyres to wear out.
- A parking app (try AppyParking) will show where there are parking spaces, with filters for charging points, and disabled and motorcycle bays. It can find the cheapest spaces with current availability and let you know when restrictions apply (iOS/Android).
- With the cost of petrol at an all-time high, it's worth checking a fuel-price comparison app, such as PetrolPrices (iOS/Android).
- If you've got a smart EV charge point at home and a compatible car, the ev.energy app will boost your battery during off-peak periods when it is cheaper (iOS/Android).

SOURCE: METRO

And for those who have everything...



The Roving Artist, Charles Burns, can cut silhouettes in seconds and is available for parties. You can also book a Zoom portrait sitting, which takes just a few minutes. The black cards are mounted and signed and can be posted to anywhere in the world.
from £45; silhouettist.uk

SOURCE: COUNTRY LIFE

Websites... with pre-Christmas delivery

- **Anthropologie** stocks homeware as well as fashion. You can order using standard delivery by 17 December, or you've got up until 21 December with express delivery, which costs £6 (anthropologie.com).
- **Net-a-Porter** is the place for high-end fashion. Order by 3pm on 23 December for delivery on Christmas Eve (£8), or by 3pm on Tuesday 21 December if you opt for standard delivery (net-a-porter.com).
- **Selfridges** offers nominated-day delivery, plus same-day delivery to addresses within the M25, perfect for speedy deliveries of wine and other gifts. If you pay for next-day delivery, you can order up to 9pm on 22 December, and with same-day delivery, until 12pm on 23 December (selfridges.com).
- **Beauty Bay** sells make-up and skincare gift sets. Orders for UK Tracked Delivery with Beauty Bay must be placed by 21 December. If you opt for UK next-day delivery (£4.95, or free if you spend £80), you can order up until 22 December and still be in time for Christmas (beautybay.com).

SOURCE: GLAMOUR