

# Useful, thoughtful gifts for Mom

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Of course mom might appreciate a piece of fine jewelry or designer clothing, but she also might want a Mother's Day gift that can be used every day. Those too, provide a mindful token of love. Here are a few pretty, functional ideas.



"Bella Travels" canvas Nook cover by Kate Spade New York

## Good looking

Moms who read or listen to music to pass the time during soccer practice or violin lessons will appreciate an entertainment upgrade.

Nook, the Barnes & Noble eBook reader, has 2 GB of memory and can hold up to 1,500 e-books, newspapers and magazines, as well as MP3s and audio books.

Padded leather and canvas cases from Kate Spade New York have a molded bottom and elastic strap inside to stylishly protect the nook.

The nook is \$259 and the covers are \$85-\$125 at Barnes & Noble stores and [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).

## Perfect match

For mothers with day jobs as art or design professionals, these mugs say "World's Greatest Mom" in a way she'll be proud to display at the office. Pantone, a color system created in the 1960s, serves as a sort of global language for those in the industry. The mugs reproduce one of 10 interior color squares with its corresponding label.

\$12 each at [www.w2products.com](http://www.w2products.com).



Pantone's lavender, egg yolk and bright lime mugs



Provided photos

The Brocade Desktop Collection from the Container Store

## Pretty organized

Whether Mom works from home or handles the family finances, taking care of business at a desktop with attractive – and matching – accessories is a lot more appealing than facing manila folders and plastic trays.

The Brocade Desktop Collection from the Container Store is made of stamped steel with a cut-out design and a white epoxy finish.

\$4.99-\$39.99 at the Container Store and [www.containerstore.com](http://www.containerstore.com).



"Lady" bracelet by Swarovski

## Casual elegance

Moms who reach for a silver chain over diamond earrings during the morning rush might enjoy dressing up their daywear. The crystal pavé entwined hearts on the "Lady" bracelet are classic Swarov-

ski, but the black cotton cord and simple design keep it down-to-earth.

\$75 at the Swarovski boutique at Kenwood Towne Centre and [www.swarovski.com](http://www.swarovski.com).



JuiceBar Multi-Device Pocket Solar Charger

## Juice on the road

Camping and long road trips can take a toll on technology-dependent families who find themselves off-the-grid.

The JuiceBar Multi-Device Pocket Solar Charger allows moms to recharge whenever needed through a solar panel. It can also be charged via incandescent or fluorescent lights or a personal computer. One full charge provides up to 15 hours of music and up to one hour of talk time.

The charger comes with a USB cable, DC cable and 12 connectors that fit most cell phones, MP3 players and portable gaming devices.

\$42.83 at [www.cableorganizer.com](http://www.cableorganizer.com).



Hershey's Kiss "I Love Mom"

## Sweet

The line of Hershey's Kiss pendants that have been spotted around the necks of several celebs includes a 3-D "I Love Mom" pendant. The sterling silver pendant with rhodium plating comes with a 20-inch chain.

\$79.99 at Getz Jewelers, 8429 Beechmont Ave. in Anderson Township; and [www.hersheyskissjewelry.com](http://www.hersheyskissjewelry.com).

## Mall vendors slash prices for mom's day

Last-minute shoppers need not settle for impersonal Mother's Day gifts.

Kenwood Towne Centre and Tower Place Mall are bringing local independent designers and boutiques from across the area under one roof on Friday and Saturday. Best of all, many vendors are offering significant discounts on their unique and handmade items.



Provided photos

Elizabeth's Closet offers a faux alligator clutch at half price (\$125).

## Indie Collection

Kenwood Towne Centre is hosting a two-day "store" of sorts featuring unique, upscale handmade clothing, jewelry and accessories, bath products and home goods.

"The Indie Collection Cincinnati" will be held from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the former site of Bath & Body Works – on the upper level next to J Jill & Dillard's.



Handmade jewelry will be sold by Silver Foxes at Spring ShopFest.

## Spring ShopFest

Tower Place Mall Downtown will host Spring ShopFest from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

At booths throughout the mall, local artists and boutiques will have handbags, bath and body products, jewelry, candles and other gift items for sale, including jewelry by JoyStone, accessories from Eula and pet accessories from Queen B and Serket Jewelry.

The event also includes products from national companies that typically don't have retail storefronts, like Longaberger, Tastefully Simple, Avon, Pure Romance, Usborne Books, Kalawentz Naturals and Creative Memories.

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