Gorgeous Gift Hamper Ideas

This free tip sheet was produced by the Cheapskates Club – www.cheapskates.com.au

Craft in a Jar (or Basket or Bag)

Using this idea, you could give beautiful gifts that haven't cost you a cent, especially if you live by the motto "she who dies with the most fabric wins" and have a huge stash of fabric and other craft supplies that you never use. Go through your stash and make up Craft in a Basket (or box/jar/bag - whatever you have on hand) kits to give as gifts. You've already bought the materials for these gifts so you're saving by not buying a gift and you're going to feel so good when that craft stash has been sorted out. If you have friends and family that are crafters they'll love this gift.

Some ideas would be a pattern, threads and cloth for a cross-stitch basket.

Fabric squares, thread and instructions for a mini-quilt kit.

Papers, stencils, layout guides and gel pens for a scrapbooking kit.

Knitting needles, yarn and a pattern for a knitted dishcloth/soap sack/scarf/coat hanger/tea cosy or whatever.

Beading kits – beads, wire or thread, needle, clasps, small pliers, instructions.

Ice-cream Sundae Hamper

Who doesn't love ice-cream? You can make this hamper as extravagant as you like. Start with a box or basket. Add some ice-cream cones (we like waffle cones). Then add some toppings: sprinkles, chopped nuts, hundreds and thousands. Make some caramel, chocolate or strawberry sauce (or buy a bottle of topping). Put in an ice-cream scoop (Kmart have some for \$2). You can add sundae dishes and long handled sundae spoons too. Don't forget a packet of serviettes (look for some with ice-creams on them) to finish off the hamper.

Gourmet Coffee or Tea

You can find bags of gourmet coffee or tins of tea online and at your favourite coffee shop. Couple them with a nice mug and give to your friends and family as holiday gifts. Chocolate spoons are easy to make, but bear in mind it is Christmas and it will be hot. Add one or two flavoured coffee syrups and a packet of shortbread and the hamper is done.

Homemade Toffee, Caramel or Fudge

Everyone loves fudge and caramel, right? You can make your own gourmet fudges and caramels and wrap them up in a Sweet Lovers hamper for just a few dollars. Instead of a basket, look for jars at op shops (I rarely pay more than 50c for a jar). Consider making a few test batches before you make your gifts, so you have time to perfect the process. Present the jars of sweets in a beautiful personalized box for a unique gift that cost just a couple of dollars to make.

Cheapskates Style Cleaning Hamper

Take a bucket and pack it with:

A box of Cheapskates washing powder and a copy of the recipe

2 cakes of Stain Removing Soap and a copy of the recipe

A bottle of Miracle Spray and a copy of the recipe

A spray bottle of Super Shower Cleaner and a copy of the recipe

2 knitted dishcloths

Cheapskates Style Laundry Hamper

For a laundry hamper take a bucket or cane laundry basket and fill it with:

A copy of the Cheapskates Washing Powder Tip Sheet

1 tub borax

1 packet laundry soap

1 packet of washing soda

A grater

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