

Christmas Gifts You Can Make

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Decorate Your Own Shirt Kits

Stuck for ideas for Christmas presents? Why not give fabric paints, crayons and a t-shirt or set of plain sheets. That way the receiver can decorate their own. It's a great idea for children as it's a craft activity as well. For grandparents let the children decorate them before giving. I know that the t-shirt mine made for their Poppa last year is a prized possession. - *Contributed by Sharon, Jimboomba*

Homemade Lip Gloss

Use 1 tablespoon beeswax to 2 tablespoons oil (any variety). Mix together and melt in the microwave or in a double boiler. For colour, add raspberry or blackberry juice or even coffee that has been ground into a powdery consistency. Put the homemade gloss in a tiny glass jar or small decorative tin and package with a lipstick brush. - *Contributed by Margaret, Broken Hill*

Homemade Body Scrub

I make my own body scrub - its loads cheaper and works much better than the expensive ones. Put sugar in a jar and add olive oil (the cheap stuff from discount stores will do nicely) and you can add some fragrant oil if you wish. Mix it together and I keep it in the bathroom in an old salsa jar. I use about one cup of sugar to 1/4 cup olive oil but you can vary it to suit. - *Contributed by Tricia, Dalby*

Chocolate Spoons

Buy a packet of plastic tea spoons (\$2 for 50 from the \$2 shops) and a block of chocolate. You can add flavourings if you like (orange, strawberry, almond or mint are all really nice and can be bought where you pick up chocolate making supplies). Melt the chocolate, add any flavouring if you are going to use it, and then just dip the bowl of the spoon into the chocolate. Hold it up so that the chocolate drips off, leaving a layer on the bowl of the spoon. Lay them on a foil-lined tray and refrigerate to set. Gather them into bundles of six; pop them into a cellophane or paper bag with the handles sticking out and tie closed with a pretty ribbon. They are really nice to use and cost just 12 cents per spoon! - *Contributed by Cath Armstrong*

Cafe Au Lait Mix

2-cups instant non-fat dry milk
1/2 cup powdered sugar
1/2-cup instant coffee
1/2-teaspoon cinnamon

Instructions: Blend together in a blender. Store in an airtight container. Use 1/4 cup of mix for each 2/3-cup hot water.



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