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Ten Tips on Buying the Perfect Gifts for Valentines: Picking Just the Right Gift for Him or the Right Gift for Her

VALENTINE PERFECTION IS PERSONALIZATION

The top pop psychology talk shows are all doing special programming on the issue of Valentine's and getting the perfect one for your special and significant other. Dr. Phil and his wife Robin are featured in an episode of the best valentine's and can be accessed on the Internet. Others, like Oprah, are working their magic trying to help you with the most romantic and meaningful ways to let your loved one know they are the "true object of your affection". The late night comics with their pundits directed to the worst valentine's and most embarrassing valentines, are funny, but they are little help in finding the one thing that is going to impress your sweetheart or help you pop the "big question".

In this society glutted with glitz, glamor and gross exaggeration in costs, we would like to offer the Top Ten Valentines to make the perfect statement of "Love" this Valentine's Gift Day of 2008.

The Key is Personalization.

Valentine Gift Tip One:

A personalized valentine that is not the norm. New oversize or banner type salutations that can be saved or displayed are the new Valentines of the 21st century. Searching the Valentine Internet companies opens up a new dimension to products that can be personalized and sent by the holiday.

Valentine Gift Tip Two:

Personalized Chocolates. No one doubts that the gift of chocolate in some form is always appropriate for the Valentine holiday. In fact, no matter what the gift is, chocolate should be involved. However, in 2008 we see chocolate personalizations taking new forms. And for those weight conscious recipients, pajamas personalized with sayings like "You're better than chocolate", and other endearments, score.

Valentine Gift Tip Three:

Personalized Trip Planning. It can be a day trip, a week end or a big trip. There is a definite advantage to the fact that the rates are "off season" and there are many monetary advantages. The most important part is to plan a trip which is custom tailored to meet sentimental memories, personal interests, events which reflect fulfilling a dream. Trips back to where you met or went to school together if you moved away. Trips to a place where there are exhibits or events taking place supporting your special person's interests, as in; Chicago or New York City to go to the theater, Branson if they love Country music, a trip to a beach if they always dreamed of going to a sunny beach destination. Just be sure they recognize it was about them. For guys who are the recipients of these gifts, there are places to support their interests or sports. Giving them "permission" to indulge in their passions and actually participating in it with them, shows it is "about them", not you. Indelible memories come with personalized items for the trips and act as souvenirs.

Valentine Gift Tip Four:

Personalize the Photos in a Unique Way. It may be an existing photo that you select to present in a unique way. We're all seen the old presentations of pictures on a tshirt, but in 2008 there's opportunity to branch out and be dramatic without exorbitant costs. Have a large full color banner with sentiment made to hang outside or on the yard. They also make some for indoors. **One of the newest and most innovative ideas this season** is an uploaded image digitally printed in full color on a ceramic tile and clear coated for long term preservation. It can be hung on the wall. Using these concepts as tools for the proposal can be unique. Imagine the 12x12 tile of your engagement picture, proposal picture, and or wedding picture being tiled into a special room in your first home.

Valentine Gift Tip Five:

Profess her (or him) as yours, publicly. Remember the Burma Shave signs? Make the old, new again. Using a series of six coroplast signs you can pop the question in a way that will be remembered for a lifetime. As she arrives home or at work, Sign 1(Her name), Sign 2 (Will) Sign 3 (You) Sign 4 (Marry) Sign 5 (Me?) Sign 6 (Love(your name)). Or maybe you just want a beautifully written sign that says, "Will you marry me?". It can be kept for posterity, used at special anniversaries, and there is a space to allow you to write something personalized on it. It allows you to determine any unique way to present it or place it in an unexpected place so it will be seen. Made of coroplast and tastefully decorated, it can be used inside or outside.

Valentine Gift Tip Six:

Personalized Gift Baskets using personalized items, such as; Personalized Pajamas, personalized candles, personalized boxer shorts, personalized ladies under garments, personalized His /Her dog tags, aprons. Or a personalized Wine Gift Basket where you have a personalized wine tote bag, personalized wine box and an array of Valentine shirts. Stop off on the way at her favorite wine source and add the personal wine of her choosing.

Valentine Gift Tip Seven:

Personalize the Meal. No matter where you eat out, or even if you have a personal chef prepare the meal at your place, let the last thing served be a "Will You Marry Me" fortune cookie. Or have a special apron for the cook to wear when he brings dessert with a personalized message on it. And who can fail to appreciate what being served a bottle of wine for a toast would mean if presented in a wine box with the "new last name that would be assumed in marriage" already on it?

Valentine Gift Tip Eight:

While lingerie is somewhat traditional as a Valentine Gift, some recipients find that they appreciate more, receiving the personalized kind made for comfort rather than for sheerness. A Personal expression of what they mean to you not only "at bedtime", but as your partner and friend. Romance is in knowing you appeal to them all of the time in all the ways that count. Humor is a great way to show romantic love. Express yourself through personalization.

Valentine Gift Tip Nine:

Love Songs, and especially your love song. In recent years a compilation of love songs compiled on a CD has become popular. Even putting them on videos of special times and places while they play in the background are painstakingly created. However, having a reference to your love song personalized on wearing apparel (ie; You Are A Wind Beneath My Wings), or creating banners that show a picture of

you or both of you and has a saying like, “You Are The Love Song In My Life” , or any meaningful reference. Giving the personalized gifts with concert tickets, or tickets to a local comedy or music club where the entertainers might cooperate in presenting your gift ,is a new trend and way to make your gift unique.

Valentine Gift Tip Ten;

Be unique, creative and 21st Century in your Valentine Choice; It isn't the size or cost of the gift that will be told by the recipient to others. The excitement of the gift, the unique pride they take in saying “it's so like him (or her)” is the main thing. Anything that brings a smile to their face, or surprises them is the main part of the gift. It should be something you feel will show you know them intimately and have tried to bring something special into the “thought process” of selecting the gift. The biggest tip, number ten ,is: **DON'T FORGET THE VALENTINE DATE. MARK IT IN RED AND BIG LETTERS SO IT CAN'T SLIP YOUR MIND. DON'T DO THE SAME THING YOU DID LAST YEAR, OR EVER BEFORE WITH SOMEONE ELSE (SHE WOULD SURELY FIND OUT). BE NEW, BE YOU. AND ABOVE ALL, BE PERSONAL(IZED).**

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