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Today's Agenda

- Savvy and sensible gifting
- Charitable giving
- Personal goals for 2022
- Plus, our favorite cookie, holiday food, and cocktail/mocktail recipes!



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What does gifting
look like in the
United States?

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Historical holiday sales and 2021 forecast

Holiday sales for 2021 are expected to increase by 8.5 - 10.5% over 2020.



Consumers plan to spend \$997.73 on gifts, holiday items and other non-gift purchases for themselves and their families this year.



Source: U.S. Census. Non-seasonally adjusted retail sales

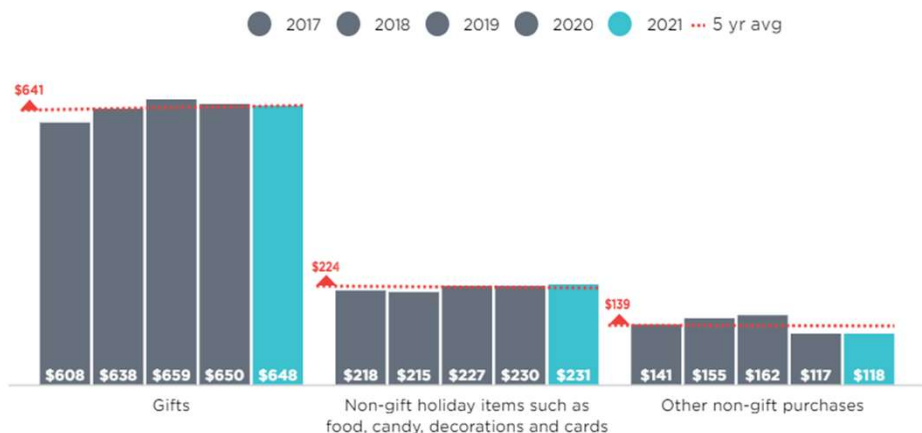
NRF holiday spending is defined as the months of November and December. NRF's forecast excludes automobile dealers, gasoline stations and restaurants.

NRF National Retail Federation

<https://nrf.com/media-center/press-releases/holiday-spending-reflects-continued-consumer-demand>

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Historical consumer spending plans

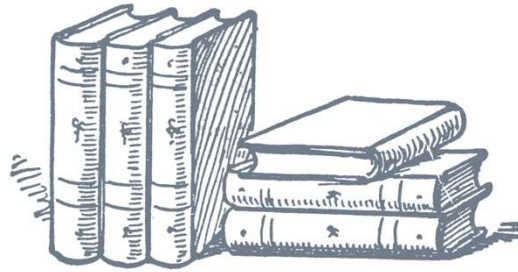


Source: NRF and Prosper Insights & Analytics October 2021 Consumer Holiday Survey

NRF National Retail Federation

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Top gifts for 2021

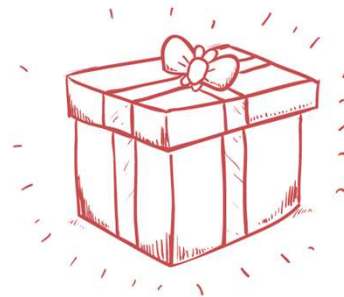


<https://nrf.com/topics/holiday-and-seasonal-trends/winter-holidays/winter-holidays-data-center>

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What makes a good gift?

Gifts that match the identity of the giver are considered positive



G. Paolacci et al., 2015

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Why do we give gifts?

- Build and maintain ties with one another
- Experiential gifts produce greater improvements in relationships

C. Chan and C. Mogilner, 2017

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How to prevent errors in gift giving:

- Give useful, asked for gifts, personalized



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Common U.S. Holiday Traditions

Do you participate in any of these traditions?

- Decorating the tree
- Baking cookies
- Looking at the holiday lights
- Singing holiday songs
- Wearing an ugly sweater
- Exchanging gifts
- Watching holiday movies
- Spending time with people you care about

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Mindful of Cultural Gifts & Traditions

Be mindful of other holiday celebrations going on around you:

- Celebrations of Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Saint Lucia, Day of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Yule, Boxing Day, Christmas, and Omisoka.

Other cultural traditions:

- Guatemala burns their trash
- Ukraine decorates their trees with spiderwebs and spider ornaments
- Germany hides a pickle on the Christmas tree for an extra gift
- Japanese eat KFC on Christmas
- Finland visits their deceased loved ones

<https://www.goalexandria.com/7-holiday-traditions-in-other-cultures/>

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Spending on Gifts



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Let's Talk - Gift Cards

- 56% of American's want a gift card for the holidays
- 51% of Americans forget about their gift cards, don't use them, & leave per-person \$116 on the table.

<https://www.bankrate.com/finance/credit-cards/gift-cards-survey/>

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Gift Cards and Mental Accounting

- With mental accounting, we treat money less interchangeably than it is.
- Gift cards change preferences...those changes are caused by mental accounting

Reinholtz et al., 2015

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Gift Card Tips

- Store your gift card next to your most used credit/debit card
- Add your gift card to your mobile wallet
- Add them to online store accounts
- Try to zero out the card, don't leave a balance

<https://www.bankrate.com/finance/credit-cards/gift-cards-survey/>

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Buy now, pay later?

What is it, how does it work?

- Buy now, pay later works similarly as using a credit card –
 - You are able to "walk out the door" with the purchase and pay for it over time.

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Buy now, pay later

Most popular apps for buy now, pay later

- Affirm – higher purchase limit
- Sezzle – up to \$750, soft credit check, 4 payments over 6 weeks
- Afterpay – Up to \$500, purchase split into 4 equal payments
- Klarna – best for large purchases
- Paypal Pay in 4 – best for small purchases, up to \$1500, 4 equal payments

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/11/30/paypal-ceo-use-of-buy-now-pay-later-option-soared-on-black-friday.html>

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Buy now, pay later

Be aware of:

- Late fees
- Soft credit checks
- Overspending

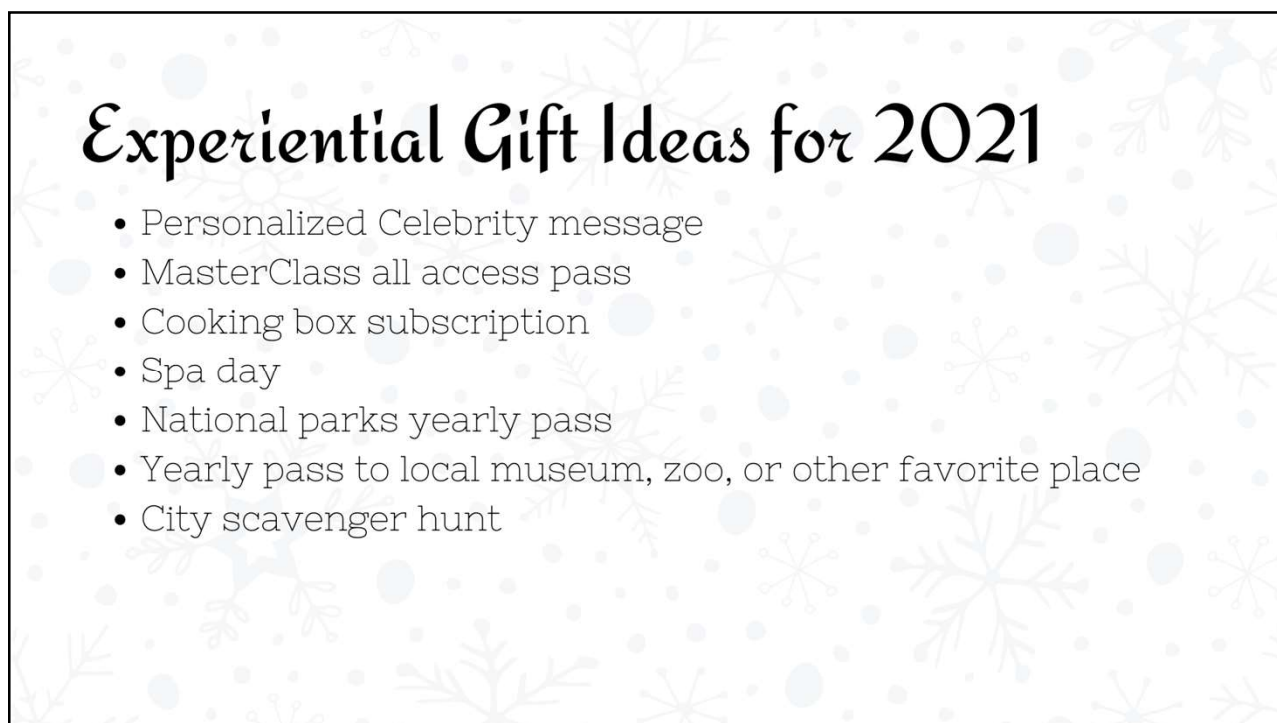
A study done by Credit Karma reported that 44% of those surveyed had used a BNPL service, and 34% had fallen behind one or more of those payments.

<https://www.consumerreports.org/shopping-retail/risks-of-buy-now-pay-later-programs-a1000664957/>

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Budget within a Budget

- Consider all of the costs this holiday season, including food, stamps, holiday decorations, as well as gifts
- Creating a holiday budget within your larger household budget can help keep curb and track your expenses



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Tracking Spending

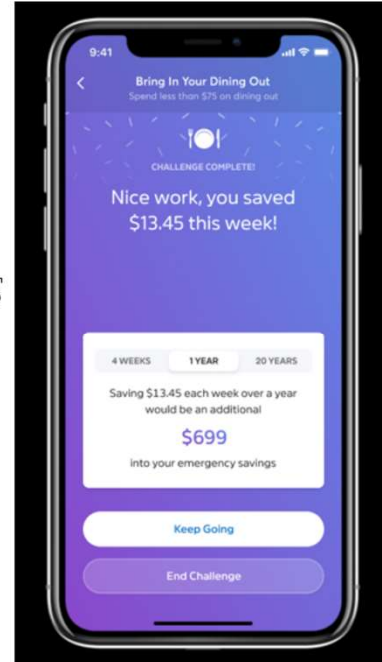
- How do you track your spending?
 - How often? Daily? Weekly? Monthly?
- Pencil & Paper
- Spreadsheets
- App
- Online Website



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Utilizing Incentive

- All eMoney employees have access to Incentive
 - Create challenges to reduce spending
 - Learn financial concepts
 - Link bank accounts
- Coming for 2022
 - Set financial goals



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Tips to spend less this holiday

- Buy gifts for fewer people – consider sending a family gift
- Don't impulse purchase especially online!
- With friends – do a white elephant gift exchange or pull names from a hat
- Consider experiential gifts such as baking with grandma, dinner with your spouse, or coupons for chores
- Set a spending limit
- Take advantage of after-holiday sales for next year!

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Another Option

Want

Wear

Need

Read

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Holiday Club Account Idea

- Some banks and credit unions still have holiday club bank accounts
 - Money that you set aside only for the holiday season expenses
- At eMoney - you can put funds easily into another bank account
 - Log into ADP, then myself, then payment options, add a second direct deposit bank account, set aside \$ each pay period

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Charitable Giving

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2021 Charitable Deductions

- Individuals can claim a limited deduction on your 2021 federal income tax return to certain qualifying charitable organizations
- \$300 for individuals
- \$600 for married filing jointly



<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/expanded-tax-benefits-help-individuals-and-businesses-give-to-charity-during-2021-deductions-up-to-600-available-for-cash-donations-by-non-itemizers>

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eMoney Workplace Giving

- If you choose to make donations through workplace giving, your matching gift – up to \$100 per year – for eligible donations will be automatically applied.

<https://life.emoneyadvisor.com/business-unit/people-experience-px/faqs/?s=workplace%20giving>



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Donating Wisely this Season

1. Research the charity
2. How much money goes to the charity?
3. Look up the ratings/report
4. Never pay by gift card, wire transfer, or cryptocurrency

Companies that you can use to research charities: BBB Wise Giving Alliance, Charity Navigator, CharityWatch, and Candid.

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Reporting Charity Scams

- Report scams to [FTC.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint)
- Find your state charity regulator at [nasconet.org](https://www.nasconet.org)

<https://www.nasconet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/NASCO-State-Charities-Registration-Survey-5.15.20-.pdf>

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Year End Giving

- You may want to consider giving other types of assets (other than cash!)
 - Cryptocurrency
 - Control and restricted stock
 - Mutual Funds
 - Physical stock certificates

<https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/giving-account/what-you-can-donate/charitable-year-end-tax-deadlines.html>

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Charitable Gifting Strategies for Year-end Conversations

<https://fast.wistia.net/embed/channel/ai23oq7bjo?wchannelid=ai23oq7bjo&wmediaid=pg0aiqsg59>

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Goal Setting

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Did you know:

- It can take 18 to 254 days for a person to form a new habit
- On average it takes approximately 66 days for a habit to become automatic

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Setting goals is linked to:

- Higher motivation, self-esteem, self-confidence, and autonomy
- Strong connection between goal-setting and success



<https://positivepsychology.com/goal-setting-psychology/>

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Main types of goals:

- Process goal – implementation of plans
- Performance goal – tracking progress
- Outcome goal – successful implementation of process and performance goals



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Getting started with setting goals:

- Less is more
- Look for overlap
- Set smaller tasks
- Write your goals down
- Review weekly
- Know your "why"

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Actions to take for setting goals:

- Find (or make) a goal setting journal
- Create a goal or vision board
- Find a goal buddy
- Create a mantra
- Take time to recharge with Headspace

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Resources from eMoney

- Fidelity FinFit Workshops
- Incentive
- Headspace
 - Happier Holidays
 - Managing Financial Stress
- ADP – adding a second bank account



<https://netbenefits.fidelity.com/livewebmeetings>

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Holiday Recipes

- Cocktails/Mocktails
- Cookies
- Eggnog and more!



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eMpower Points Raffle

- Thank you for attending!
- Three randomized winners will win 100 eMpower Points for attending live!

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