

## Holiday golf gift ideas, from under \$25 to \$1 million plus

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Thanksgiving has come and gone. And now, once again, the gift-giving holidays are upon us.

And while you may be thinking of a high-tech driver with 21st century geometrics, or a "can't miss" putter with space-age inserts, there are plenty of other golf-related items that would make excellent gifts.



**Louis Vuitton golf bag**

Which is the point of this column: to help you find the perfect golf-related gift for that special someone, even if it's just for you.

It might be a book or video or umbrella; or maybe jewelry, a painting or unique collectible. In general, there's still time to place your orders and receive that special gift.

All the major golf associations, many individual tournaments and plenty of well-known courses and resorts offer specialized merchandise that would make wonderful gifts, with or without a logo. Even more, at this time of year, you'll find stores, catalogs and specialty websites stocked with golf/gift items.

The following is a selection of gift ideas segmented in a range of prices. Not included is general golf equipment, which we cover the rest of the year. Also, most apparel, such as sweaters and shirts, have been omitted. We know they make excellent gifts, and we're sure you can handle those items on your own.

OK, it's tee time. Let's go shopping.

### Less than \$25

**Golf charms:** A great gift for someone who loves to collect charms; easily attaches to bracelets. Sterling silver golf-related charms include golf ball on tee, golf club and ball, golf cart, golf ball, more. \$6.99 each; [sportsglitz.com](#).

**Tiger Woods video game:** "Tiger Woods PGA Tour" video game by Electronic Arts, for PC platform. Lifelike hitting and putting; features 15 of the world's best players, in addition to Tiger Woods. Play a variety of courses. \$9.99; [amazon.com](#).

**Golf calendar:** Panoramic Images of Golf calendar, from Stonehouse Publishing. Breathtaking photography features many of the world's most scenic and challenging courses, such as St. Andrews, La Quinta, Kiawah, Bethpage. \$12; [golfcoursecalendar.com](#).

**Divot tool/ballmarkers:** Four different gift box selections from Ahead; various packages contain divot tool, variety of interchangeable ballmarkers/hat clip, money clip/divot tool. \$15-\$25; [aheadweb.com](#).

**NCAA golf towel:** The NCAA Embroidered Golf Towel is a premium weight, cotton velour towel with a tri-fold design and a convenient swivel clip attachment. The colorful towel boasts the embroidered trademark of more than 60 NCAA teams. 16 x 26 inches. \$19.99; [cbssportsstore.com](#).

**The WOW Factor:** Written by Barney Adams, the founder of Adams Golf, this book provides an autobiographical insight into

a fascinating man, engineer and visionary, including all the failures, near-bankruptcy, family sacrifices, and finally the winning drive and personality that eventually netted equipment making success. An excellent read, with numerous tips for would-be entrepreneurs. \$24.95 (254 pgs, Skyhorse Publishing); bookstores, websites.

## \$25-\$50

**Arnie & Jack :** Written by sportswriter Ian O'Connor, this book details the historic rivalry, on and off the course, between two of the game's greats, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. Spanning 50 remarkable years, exposing many, personal moments; a great look at the two players, businessmen and American idols. \$26 (354 pgs, Houghton Mifflin); bookstores, websites.

**NFL umbrella:** The NFL Windsheer II umbrella is perfect for the pro football fan who wants rain protection on and off the course while displaying his or her rooting sentiments. Available in colors, with logos, of 30-plus NFL teams, umbrellas feature patented wind release system, reinforced fiberglass shaft, 100 percent rubber ergonomic handle, auto-open mechanism. \$35.99-\$39.99; cbssportsstore.com.

**Monopoly: Golf Edition:** You might not be able to "drive for show" or "putt for dough" when you play the Parker Bros. authorized Golf Edition of the Monopoly Game, but you can be a "Tournament Director" of some of the most prestigious events in the world, own a leading golf equipment company and charge your opponents for the privilege of landing on your course. \$37.99; cbssportsstore.com.

**Legends of golf photos:** 14 x 18 framed, matted photos, ready for display in home, office, den, club. Various individual or group shots with the likes of Ben Hogan, Tommy Armour, Bobby Jones, Walter Hagen, Gene Sarazen, Sam Snead, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer. \$79.99; cbssportsstore.com.

## \$50-\$100

**Golf Pride Grip Kit:** Top-selling maker of quality golf grips has a packaged kit especially for gift-giving, Golf Pride will personalize each grip with a golfer's or company name. Choose from DD2, New Decade, MultiCompound, Tour Velvet or Tour Wrap grips. Prices start at \$59.99. golfpride.com.

**Big Break IV DVD set:-** The world was watching as 12 men, six from the United States and six from Europe, met on the fairways of Scotland for an international competition that would break all boundaries. Teams played against each other for immunity, and teammates played against each other for survival. Now you can own the entire season of *The Big Break IV: USA vs Europe*, in this special four-disc set. \$59.99; cbssportsstore.com.

**Golf salad bowl:** Ideal for entertaining for golf enthusiasts, this metal salad bowl from Golf Gifts and Gallery showcases beautiful polished metal, adorned with a golf motif. Can be used to serve party snacks; distinctive look. \$69.99; cbssportstore.com.

**Bagboy travel cover:** Great strides have been made in offering state-of-the-art travel covers that are rugged and functional. The Bagboy T-8 Wheeled travel cover features an extra thick quilted padded top with high density foam, strategic extra padding on the sides and front, removable internal shoe bag. Black/royal/silver color scheme. \$89.99; cbssportsstore.com.

**Golf bag organizer:** Store clubs safely in this wood golf bag organizer from Golf Gifts & Gallery. The unit holds two bags, with removable shelves in middle for storing balls, shoes, accessories, or remove it for a third bag. Sturdy and functional. \$99.99; cbssportstore.com.

## \$100-\$500

**Q-Link golf bracelet:** Worn by many tour pros and skilled amateurs, there's a belief that the Sympathetic Resonance Technology (SRT-3) in these bracelets provides golfers with extra energy, calm nerves and other game-enhancing characteristics. The newest Q-Link bracelets have been infused with resonating crystalline wafers. While we won't vouch for their playing features, the bracelets -- for men and women -- look elegant. \$129.95 for stainless steel finish, \$199.95 for polished black titanium; 800-246-276; qlinkgolf.com.

**GPS yardage devices:** It's hard to imagine that we once played golf without a GPS satellite yardage device. Bushnell, SkyCaddie and uPro all offer devices that will help golfers determine yardages to greens and hazards, while also providing a variety of other useful information. GPS devices are very popular with tour pros during practice rounds to chart courses and tournament strategy. Bushnell Yardage Pro, \$199.95; SkyCaddie SG 2.5, \$259.99; uPro GPS, \$399.99;

cbssportsstore.com.

**The Golf Mat:** Practice hitting mat that "gives" at impact to simulate real turf shots; our testers rated The Golf Mat as superior to range mats that don't give at impact. For home use, The Golf Mat should be paired with a hitting net (see The Net Return, below). Mat is 46.5 x 18.4 inches, weighs 26 lbs (stance mat also available). \$225; 888-647-8873; thegolfmat.net.

**Gold golf pendant:** 14K gold pendant with diamonds; magnificent jewelry piece with detail of bag providing textured look; diamonds on base provide sparkle. 1¼-in. long, ½-in. wide. \$248; exclusivesportsjewelry.com.



**The Net Return**

(note: turf mat will kill backyard grass if left in place). \$495; thenetreturn.com.

**Tiger Woods U.S. Open photo montage:** Get closer to Tiger's magnificence on the golf course with this amazing memorabilia item: a framed 2008 U.S. Open photo montage featuring an actual glove swatch from one of Tiger's PGA Tour event-worn gloves. Measuring 13½-in. wide x 17½-in. high, with great action photography, the piece bears a certificate of authenticity that certifies the swatch came from a golf glove worn by Tiger in a PGA Tour-sanctioned event. \$249.99; cbssportsstore.com.

**The Net Return:** Some sports nets would shred if struck with a high-velocity golf shot. Others would dangerously rocket the ball back at the golfer. Our testers loved The Net Return, which sets up easily and can be used indoors or outdoors; extremely strong, gently absorbing every shot from every club. A great training tool for golf; also adaptable for baseball, football, lacrosse and soccer. Net stands 7.5 feet tall, 8 feet wide; comes with 4 x 12 turf mat

## More than \$500

**Golden Tee golf game:** Full-sized arcade game with as many as 29 courses; commercial version, as seen in bars and restaurants. One of the best golfing games ever made and one of the most popular too. Test your skills but watch out, playing is addictive. A great gift for the home recreation center. \$1,795 (in-home delivery available); arcadegamesales.net.

**Louis Vuitton golf bag:** Holds full set of clubs. Distinctive, monogrammed canvas, cowhide base and handle, padded shoulder strap, travel cover, six pockets, plus four LV tees. Hopefully, no one else in your foursome will have one. \$1,999; louis-vuitton-bags.org.



**Jack Nicklaus Custom Backyard Golf Course**

**FlightScope monitor:** Portable indoor-outdoor ball-flight monitor, by EDH Sport; 3-D tracking radar. More than a launch monitor, FlightScope tracks and provides numerous data to aid the most avid golfer: clubhead speed and trajectory; ball speed, launch angle and spin; carry and total distances, and angle of descent; shot shapes; grouping of shots; and much more. Measurements displayed as easy to read tables and graphs. Sets up easily at golf range, golf course or backyard hitting bay. \$7,995; flightscope.com.

## Unlimited budget

**Jack Nicklaus Custom Backyard Golf Course:** Jack will study your topography, take aerial photos and create a formal design for up to three holes and a practice area. When the course is finished, the Golden Bear himself will stop by to play the first round with you, sign a club and ball for your collection and throw in a set of Nicklaus clubs and personalized bag too. Fee: \$1 million, not including construction and site preparation costs. 877-966-4438; neimanmarcus.com.

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