

# The Best Subscription Boxes for Everyone on Your Holiday Gift List

PC [pcmag.com/picks/the-best-subscription-boxes](https://www.pcmag.com/picks/the-best-subscription-boxes)



(Photo: Shutterstock/P.R.O)

Shopping can be tough. Whether it's seeking a perfect pair of pants or a gift for that parent who claims they want nothing but your presence, what's a shopping-impaired person to do?

Here's one awesome solution: Don't shop. Subscribe.

Whether it's clothes, food, or experiences, dozens of curated subscription services are available. We don't just mean automatic ordering, either. Sure, you can use [Amazon Subscribe & Save](#) to receive regular deliveries of important items like diapers, toilet paper, dog food, and mac and cheese, but you have to pick it out. Plus, those are all *boring*.

Instead, curated subscription services are like having a long-distance personal shopper: You "interview" with the site, tell it what you (or a gift recipient) like, and then pay to get surprise items in the mail.

Note: You'll encounter some serious sticker shock with many of these services. Remember—they're putting in a little more work than the average shopping site that yanks items off a warehouse shelf. In some cases, they might even be preparing food on your behalf, and you know what a good meal costs at a restaurant.

These subscription services can provide hours of enjoyment, as well as continued *recurring* joy as new items arrive on a regular basis. Give them serious consideration for your holidays.

(These boxes are all for adults. If you want to get something for the kids each month, check out [The Best Subscription Boxes for Kids](#). Or if you want to buy a roundup for an adult who has everything, read [The Oddest Subscription Boxes You Can Get](#).)

## Creation Crate

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The ultimate geek crate. [Creation Crate](#) is all about sending projects that teach you about electronics and coding in C++. Recent projects include a mood lamp, LED dice game, and an optical theremin kit. Subscribe to a monthly (\$39.99), quarterly (\$96.98) semi-annual (\$197.95), or annual (\$399.89) plan—the current sale prices. The more high-end your subscription rate, the more goodies you get. For example, the annual plan includes three bonus gifts, like a component case, a digital multimeter, and a soldering kit. As you progress, each project gets harder, so you or your kid (age 12 and up) learn more as you go.

[\\$29.99 Per Month](#)

[at Creation Crate](#)

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## Breo Box

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A box of gadgets and life hacks and wellness products, [Breo Box](#) includes stuff like gel soap, coffee warmers run off USB, wireless earbuds, smart plugs, UV sanitizing wands, and more. Plans start at one box per quarter for \$159 per box, or pay ahead for a year of four boxes at \$579 (for \$1,200 worth of stuff). There's free shipping in the lower 48, but it'll cost you to ship internationally or to Hawaii and Alaska. You can gift a box while supplies last, or hit the Lifestyle Shop for individual products.

Starts at \$159.00

[\\$159/Season](#)

[at Breo Box](#)

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## Casely

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A subscription club for iPhone cases? Why not? You can change your style every month with [Casely's](#) new iPhone skins that work on the iPhone 6 up to the 12 Pro Max. You pick styles you like to get going. If you have enough cases for a while, you can skip a month (or a season, depending on your sub) at a time. It costs \$15 per month, or you can add \$10 to get "Bold Protection" cases, which do more to protect the handset.

[\\$15/Month](#)

[at Casely](#)

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## Loot Crate

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The average PCMag reader probably identifies as a geek, and [Loot Crate](#) is all about gear for gamers and nerds. Prices vary depending on the crate you select, but start at \$24.99 and go up to \$49.99 per month (Loot Crate DX). There are plenty of theme-specific Loot Crate options for fans of specific franchises or characters or even specific apparel (Loot Socks are only \$9.99 a month). You won't know what is in the box until you [STEREOTYPE ALERT] take it into your parents' basement to open.

[\\$13.99/Month](#)

[at Loot Crate](#)

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## Household Goods That Feel Good

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### Cloud Paper

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The subscription we all wish we'd had at the beginning of COVID-19, Seattle-based [Cloud Paper](#) delivers toilet paper made out of bamboo, which seriously, grows like a weed, so it's pretty sustainable. For \$29.99, you get 24 rolls of 3-ply butt tissue with 350 squares per roll. Delivery is made every two, three, or four months depending on how many people are in your home. They also now do paper towels!

Per Month, Starts at \$28.00

[\\$28.00](#)

at Cloud Paper

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## **The Bouqs Co.**

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Love flowers? Subscribe to The Bouqs Co. and get flowers and plants delivered directly from the farm. Choose the kind of posies you want, how big the bouquet should be, and how often you want it sent. You can even shop directly on the site if you want to test the quality before investing. Prices start at \$40 for 10 to 16 stems per delivery, which can be weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or bi-monthly.

Visit Site

at The Bouqs

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## **Lola**

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Lola is the place to get what you need every month for that time of month, from compact applicator tampons to ultra-thin liners, cramp care, even kits for kids getting their first period. All products are organic cotton and made in Europe. Pick what you want each month or every other (they usually come in counts of 18 for \$9 to \$10), change it or adjust the timing, even skip weeks or months as needed, whenever you like. There's \$5 off the first order, but they only handle the US.

Visit Site at Lola

at LOLA

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## **Ipsy**

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Your personalized beauty subscription awaits. With Ipsy you'll get about five products a month, starting at \$13 per month. To start, pick your skin tone, eye color, hair color, describe your comfort level with certain types of makeup, favorite brands, and how often

you want to receive certain types of products. They'll personalize your "Glam Bag" for a few bucks more.

\$12/Month

at Ipsy.

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## **AllTrue**

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AllTrue (previously CauseBox) delivers six to eight ethically made, cruelty-free products worth \$120-\$200 every season, all geared toward women. The products are handmade, each helping the manufacturers get jobs, be empowered, maybe even just survive. You can pay \$49.95 per quarter if you pay \$199.80 upfront for the year, or it's \$54.95 per quarter paid in installments.

Visit Site

at Causebox

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## **Anchor of Hope Box**

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The Anchor of Hope difference is that the artisans it supports are "survivors of human trafficking, refugees, and others in vulnerable situations." Purchase as a gift or for yourself with a base price of \$36 if you go month to month, or go as low as \$384 for 12 months (that's \$32 per month). Try the Hope Store/Market for a few individual items to purchase.

\$36 For Monthly Plan

at Anchor of Hope Box

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## **Clothes & Wearables**

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### **Nordstrom Trunk Club**

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Men's fashion found a true niche online with subscription shopping services. The bellwether of such sites for men (and also now catering to women) is [Nordstrom Trunk Club](#). When you make a request (it's not a monthly thing), you'll get a chance to approve what's sent, after which you'll receive a "trunk" (actually a cardboard box) containing the outfit, plus all the info and labels you'll need to send things back.

You get an itemized list with each trunk and even the socks are up there, which is hard on a guy who buys packages of tube socks. There's also a \$25 fee per trunk for "styling" but that's waived if you have a Nordstrom card. Try everything on, only pay for what you keep. How they dress you depends on how much you talk to your stylist. How much you like it probably depends on your income. A gift card is an option.

[Visit Site](#)

[at Trunk Club](#)

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## **Stitch Fix**

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[Stitch Fix](#) used to be just for women but now caters to men and kid styles, too. Choose a style profile, submit some measurements, and you'll get five hand-picked items in the mail, which you can return as needed. There's a \$20 "styling fee" on the initial order, but that goes toward the first actual purchase, and you get 25% off if you keep all five items. The company accommodates petite and maternity sizes. If you're giving it away, get a Stitch Fix gift card even by email.

[Visit Site](#)

[at Stitch Fix](#)

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## **Monthly Tee Club**

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[Monthly Tee Club](#) is pretty self-explanatory. It picks shirts based on your preferences, and you get to open it as a surprise on arrival, unless you use the Tee-Picker ahead of time to choose your next design. It costs \$14.99 per month plus \$1.99 shipping; you can cancel any time. You can also order it as a gift for someone you love.

[\\$14.99/Month](#)

at Monthly Tee Club

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## **Panty by Post**

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Want a new set of panties on a regular basis? Try Canada-based Panty by Post. Start this Panty of the Month Club with its Everyday Basics line (\$13.68 per month), Signature Line (\$16.72 per month), Premium Luxe (\$26.60 per month), panty and bra matching sets (\$36.48 per month), or the Naughty but Nice line (\$18.24 per month); all start with a 3-month trial and have a significant sign-up fee. Or give it as a gift. Shipping is free in North America. There are actually so many underwear subscription services, you could try a new one each month, but Panty By Post has a "happiness guarantee."

\$12 per Month

at Panty by Post

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## **Apollo Jewelry Surprise Box**

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Want a new bauble every now and then? The Apollo Box has unique items at 40% off retail shipped to you free across a number of flexible subscription plans. It's \$30 per month to get \$50 worth of products; \$50 a month for \$80 worth, or do the same per quarter.

\$30/Month

at Apollo Box

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## **FabFitFun**

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Each seasonal (not monthly) \$49.99 box from FabFitFun (or pay \$179.99 annually to save \$20) promises to contain \$200 of full-sized hand-picked beauty, wellness, and fashion products. You can get 10% off the first box and customize it anytime. Direct sales on the

site may offer 70% savings—if you're a member. Gift options from \$25 to \$300 can be delivered by email.

~~\$49.99~~

at FabFitFun

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## **BootayBag**

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Undies by mail don't have to be utilitarian, as proved by BootayBag. For \$10 a month (with free shipping) it will deliver a new pair each month. Add to each order if you like, and get member discounts. This one all started with a pitch to *SharkTank*.

\$110 Per Year

at BootayBag

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## **Foodstuffs & Delicious Drinks**

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### **Freedom Japanese Market**

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Japan is known for its unique candy. If you have a sweet tooth and aren't afraid to try new things, Freedom Japanese Market is the subscription box for you. Choose between the puchi (small) (\$14.99 per month), original (\$24.99 per month), or family premium (\$45.99 per month) package.

\$12.99/Month

at Freedom Japanese Market

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### **UrthBox**

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UrthBox is about more than your health; it's also trying to save the world, one GMO-free food-bit at a time. Naturally, it offers gluten-free and vegan options. It's not just food; there are also beauty and health items. The Mini Box is \$19.95 a month for seven snacks;

there are discounts if you subscribe to get more snacks in the small (14+ snacks for \$29.99 per month), medium (20+ snacks for \$39.99 a month), or large (27+ snacks for \$49.99 a month) options. Shipping is free in the US or \$6.95 per box for Canada. You can give an UrthBox subscription as a gift, \$101.97 for 3 months of 14+ snacks per month.

\$14.95/Month

at UrthBox

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## **Winc**

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Subscribing goes well beyond just a wine-of-the-month club, though that is an option with Winc. Every month it will send four bottles to your door. Either you pick or Winc will curate based on your taste profile, and you can specify mostly red, mostly white, or just one color. Skip or cancel as you desire; delivery is free. Buy it as a gift (there's a \$60 minimum) and Winc will send the recipient a code they can redeem any time to set up a subscription.

\$39/Per Month

at Winc

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## **Try the World**

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Try the World offers a curated selection of seven or eight gourmet foods from, you guessed it, around the world. Pay \$49 for one box, or drop the price with subscriptions for 3, 6, or 12 months. Shipping is free in the lower 48 states. One-off gifts are available, such as a smaller set of six snacks every month for \$29 per shipment.

\$39/Month

at Try The World

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## Fire Dept. Coffee

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The Fire Dept. Coffee difference: it's run by retired and active firefighters. It supports some in need via the Fire Dept. Coffee Foundation, which gives 10% to help first responders. A coffee-of-the-month delivery starts at \$15.99 for 12 ounces of whole beans or ground, and shipping is free. You can also order the coffee in pods. There's a spirit-infused coffee club for \$14.99 per month for 8 ounces infused with flavors like vanilla, blackberry, and apple cider.

MSRP \$15.99

\$15.99/Per Month

at Fire Dept. Coffee

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## MistoBox

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If you're a coffee person, there are plenty of subscription options. With MistoBox, a 12-ounce bag (24 cups) is \$10.95 plus shipping. Take the quiz up front to specify the roast level you like, if you take decaf, the types you favor (espresso, blends), and how often you'd like it. There are gift options because buying someone a coffee is the most humane thing humans do.

Visit Site

at MistoBox

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## Blue Apron

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If you're not a real foodie but you still like to eat, there are a number of meal-kit delivery services that send you exactly the ingredients needed to make splendid meals without knowing a damn thing about the kitchen.

Perhaps the best known is Blue Apron, which costs \$9.99 per person per meal, with a minimum number of two meals a week to feed two people (so \$48 a week at least), plus \$7.99 for shipping. The options include doing meals for up to four people or going totally vegetarian. No matter the combo, it's a lot less than eating out four times with four

people...but you do have to do the cooking. They even sell wine! You have the ability to skip a week or multiple weeks at a time.

Starts at \$7.49

\$11.99/per serving - 2-Person Plan

at Blue Apron

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[Blue Apron Meal Delivery Service Review](#)

## HelloFresh

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4.5

HelloFresh has a selection of meals you may find even tastier with the base price of \$8.99 per serving (and \$6.99 shipping per box). It packages each meal separately in the box—all ingredients for each meal in their own paper bag—rather than the CSA-esque method Blue Apron favors (how you feel about packaging may influence which you favor). You pick the meals but can set preferences to see veggie-only or low-calorie options. Customer service is stellar, you can skip as many weeks at a time as you like, and you won't go hungry with the sizable portions. Give out gift cards to people you think might like a meal kit.

Starts at \$8.99

\$8.99/per serving - 2-Person Plan

at HelloFresh

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[HelloFresh Meal Delivery Service Review](#)

## Atlas Tea Club

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You aren't a coffee drinker? Try [Atlas Tea Club](#) to subscribe (or gift) teas from around the world. You get them loose leaf with reusable muslin pouch filters for steeping, from a new country every month. You pick if you want it caffeinated or herbal, green or black or a mix, then pay \$14 per shipment every four weeks.

[Starts at \\$10 Per Month](#)

[at Atlas Tea Club](#)

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## **The Care Crate**

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Nothing says I love you like a care package. But sometimes, you don't have time to put in the work to show you care. So [The Care Crate Co.](#) can do it for you, sending surprise snacks and gifts to loved ones around the globe. Prices start at \$39.99 a month with free shipping, or you can order up previous month's crates if they're in stock at higher or lower prices, depending on their popularity.

[\\$39.99 Per Month](#)

[at The Care Crate Co.](#)

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## **Gear for Greatness**

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### **Apocabox**

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The [Apocabox](#) is geared toward "survivalists" and ships every two months for \$50 (plus \$10.95 in shipping). Past boxes have focused on a specific theme, like blackouts, tobacco, and surviving the 1800s. Each box also includes a skills challenge, so you'll learn the skills needed when everything goes sideways.

[\\$60.95/Box](#)

[at APOCABOX](#)

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### **BattlBox**

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Battlbox is a survival and tactical gear provider, with a basic box starting at \$29.99 + \$5 shipping, each with four to seven items. The basic BattlBox starts you with survival tools, tactical pens, EDC (every day carry) gear, and more. The more you spend, the more you get (try Advanced for \$59.99, Pro at \$109.99, and Pro Plus for \$159.99, each one with exponentially more stuff inside of higher value and quality). You can also send a BattlBox as a gift or just shop in their store.

\$29.99/Per Month

at BattlBox

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## **Cairn/Outside Shop**

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Cairn, now part of Outside, offers monthly boxes full of apparel, gear, food, even emergency kits—all the things needed for an outdoor adventure. It promises three to six products a month worth \$50. One box is \$34.99; it's less if you subscribe for six months (\$197.64) or 12 months (\$383.88). Shipping is free with a subscription in the US. You can also give a box or subscription as a gift. Higher-end tastes should try the Obsidian Collection offer, which is all premium items for \$249.95 per quarter.

\$29.95/Month

at Cairn

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## **The Fantasy Box**

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The Fantasy Box provides gift sets for couples to add a little spice and surprise where it counts: in the bedroom. Deliveries come in discreet packaging, so the neighbors won't give you looks in church. The contents are labeled either Essentials (\$39 per box for three to four products), Classic (\$59 per box for four to six products), or Platinum (\$159 per box for five to eight high-end products hand-packed by a personal concierge service). Gift boxes are the same price. Subscription can be monthly or every other.

\$39/Month

at The Fantasy Box

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## Spicy Subscriptions

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Another box for couples, [Spicy Subscriptions](#) includes two or three trial products, a couple of full-sized items, and several "intimate items" (yes, sex toys) to spice up nights at home. The Spice Box is \$34.95 per month, but the first one is \$14.95; you get free boxes with 4- or 8-month subscriptions. There's also the Elite Spice Box for \$100 per quarter with deluxe toys and more. Boxes are discreetly packaged and shipping is free (\$5 per package to Canada).

[\\$34.95/Month](#)

[at Spicy Subscriptions](#)

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## Cannabox

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Maybe you live in a place in America where the ganja is legal. Or not. Either way, if you're smoking up and want some extras each month to make the marijuana merrier, subscribe to the [Cannabox](#) for one month (\$32.99), three months (\$92.97), or six months (\$179.94). Or get one box for \$37.99 as a gift. Each box has six to nine novelties or accessories to make each toke a treasure.

[Visit Site](#)

[at Cannabox](#)

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## Embrace the Arts

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### Book of the Month

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Since 1926, [Book of the Month Club](#) has provided voracious readers with new material to devour. They picked *Gone with the Wind* and *The Sun Also Rises*, among others classics. With the online version, you can pick each month from the five selections the club provides, and get one (or more) sent to you. One book a month is \$15.99 (\$9.99 for the first one), and you can add extra books from the month's selection for \$9.99 each. Shipping is always free. Cancel at any time, or skip a month if you don't see a book you like. Give a gift purchase to someone for three to 12 months (\$49.99 up to \$179.99); if they're already a member they can apply it to their account.

\$14.99 per Month

at Book of the Month

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## **ArtSnacks**

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If you or a gift recipient is artistic, consider ArtSnacks. They don't send food; they send four to five excellent art supplies you might not otherwise consider for \$24 a month. ArtSnacks Plus is \$39 per month to get a lot more stuff, such as a surface upon which to use your new art implements. You can also give it as a gift.

Visit Site

at Art Snacks

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## **Rad and Hungry**

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Rad and Hungry's The Something Mighty (STMT) Collection promises artsy office supplies, from pencils to ink wells, from all over the world. Each kit has a minimum of a writing instrument or paper good, a poster, info on the country of origin, and more. The cost is \$69 for 3 kits over 3 months and goes down for 6-kit and 10-kit subs. They only ship 10 boxes a year, skipping June and December. Or shop for single kits as gifts.

\$25/Month

at RAD AND HUNGRY

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## **Perfect for Pets**

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### **BarkBox**

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Of course there's a monthly box subscription for dogs. BarkBox is available for subscriptions or as a gift. Share the size of the dog who will enjoy the contents, so they can adjust the chewies/cookies/toys inside appropriately. The base price is \$23 per month for

one BarkBox (filled with merch valued at \$40). Gift a card or send a gift card to your favorite pooch.

\$22/Month

at BarkBox

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## **Doggie Lawn**

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Here's a subscription every apartment-dwelling dog owner should consider. You don't get anything different each month when you subscribe to Doggie Lawn. For \$26 to \$34 per week, depending on the size of your dog, and slightly more to get it every three to four weeks, recipients get a piece of perfectly manicured, hydroponically grown sod. Pay more and get a larger patch for larger pups on up to 24 by 48 inches. Save some money getting locally grown sod, depending on your location. All for that one job your beloved canine absolutely should only perform in the grass. You know the one. (I'm talking about pooping and peeing.) Shipping is free, but sales tax may apply. What you do with the dog's deposit is up to you. I suggest compostable, biodegradable poop bags. But don't flush them.

\$26/Week

at DoggieLawn

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## **KitNipBox**

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A kitty equivalent to BarkBox, KitNipBox starts at \$22.99 per month for one to two items, and goes to a multi-cat box set for \$29.99 per month. Inside you'll find toys, treats, hygiene products, even cat gadgets. We assume the latter is a ball of yarn. Shipping is free in the continental US, \$6.95 per box for Canada.

\$19.99/Month

at KitNipBox

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## Grand for Grooming

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### Harry's

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Harry's starts you off with a \$5 (for now) starter shaving kit with a shave handle in the color of your choice. You can then get a refill with eight blades (\$15), eight blades and foaming shave gel (\$21), or 16 blades and two shave gels (\$35). You tell Harry's how often you shave per week, which will determine how often it ships your refills. There are lots of gift box options available.

Visit Site

at Harry's

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### ShaveMob

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ShaveMob is all about shaving, and shaving alone; no extras here. It caters not just to men, but also sells lady-targeting razor blades for as low as \$1 per cartridge (with three blades), same as the men's. The high-end replacements, with six blades on a cartridge, are priced around \$1.42 each.

Visit Site

at ShaveMOB

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### BirchBox

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Birchbox offers a box of beauty and makeup products for women and a grooming box for men. Prices vary based on your selections. You're not limited to subscribing; shop the Birchbox store for individual items or send gift subscriptions. Per month it's \$15, a three-month subscription is \$45, and a year is \$156 (or \$13 per month).

Visit Site

at Birchbox

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## Scentbird

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If you're into smelling good, [Scentbird](#) can hook you up. For \$15.95 a month (\$11.95 for the first month), you will receive a 30-day supply of a designer fragrance delivered right to your door. It's a great way to test out a new smell before jumping in. What's even better is that you get to choose from over 450 designers each month, and the scents come in a reusable bottle. It's not just for the ladies, either.

[\\$15.95 per Month](#)

[at Scentbird](#)

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## More Great Gift Ideas

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### CrateJoy

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Want to create your own subscription service? Check out [Cratejoy](#). It provides all the middle-man tools online that you need to start a box-a-month (or whatever time frame) of your own. Making widgets by the handful in the shop? Knitting up a storm? Want to give it to people? This could be the way to jump-start sales. Set up a page on Cratejoy or assist with crate sales via your own website. Then, [browse the existing gift box options already available](#) whenever you like, there are hundreds.

[Visit Site](#)

[at Cratejoy](#)

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