



3 Tips to Save Money on Graduation Gifts

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May and June can be a pricey time of year for many of us, as we're expected to attend graduation celebrations and provide gifts to those entering the next phase of their lives. It can be difficult to manage the number of celebrations to attend, and it can be a drain on your pocketbook. However, with some advance planning and creativity, graduation season doesn't have to flunk your budget.

Below are 3 tips to help you save money on graduation gifts.

1) Start early

If you have people close to you graduating, it's important to start saving early to ensure their gift is what you really want to give them. Consider opening a separate savings account and put \$10 or \$20 away each week. By saving smaller amounts on a weekly basis, it won't seem like your wallet is taking a hit when you write the big check or buy a significant gift for your graduate.

2) Survival kit

Sometimes, a well-thought out gift is better than just throwing money at a big-ticket item. For instance, if you need a gift for a high school graduate who is going off to college, consider creating a "dorm survival kit." This

won't bust your budget, and the idea behind it will grab their attention and let them know you put a lot of thought into it.

3) Get creative

If you don't feel like you can spend a lot of money on a gift, get creative! There are tons of creative graduation gift ideas on Pinterest. Or, if you're not the "creative type," give them a gift that either shows you know them well - such as a gift card to their favorite sandwich shop or movie tickets for a movie buff; or maybe a gift that shows you've done your research - if they're going to college, locate and purchase a gift card from one of the nearby restaurants or coffee shops.

Source: www.forbes.com

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