



## 5 Ways to Make Christmas Shopping for Children Easier

The holiday season is quickly approaching. **Before you head out for those Veteran's Day deals, take note of these 5 tips:**

### 1) Take stock

When buying for your children, take inventory of what they have and what they need. Are new sheets in order? What about clothing? Little children would love to get these everyday items as gifts if they have their favorite characters on them.



### 2) Donate

Make room for new items by donating old ones. Make a pile of items that are too broken or worn to be donated and recycle or trash them. Make another pile of items in good condition that can be donated. Your children will likely never even notice they are gone.

### 3) Set your budget

If you head into your holiday shopping without a budget, your checking account is going to tank. Set a budget per person and stick to it. It will help you avoid overbuying, overspending, or spoiling your children.

### 4) Make a list

Once you know what your children have, what they need, and what your budget is, make a list of items along with their prices. When sale flyers begin to arrive, you can cross-reference your list so you find the best deals. Be sure to stick to your list when you head out to shop.

### 5) Talk to family and friends

Family and friends usually have the best of intentions when they buy gifts for your children, but sometimes they buy items the children already have or would never use. Other times, they buy too much stuff and the children are totally overwhelmed. Send a specific wish list to each family member so that gifts aren't duplicated. You can ask them to stick to gift cards or a promise of a day of a fun with the kids.

