

What should I get mom for Mother's Day?

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**What should I get mom for Mother's Day?**

**By Mark McAuley**

I remember when I was a little boy in school; we would make our mom's a silly little art project for Mother's day. You know, a baby food jar with construction paper on it and a tissue paper flower.

Now, don't get me wrong, I am sure mom loved that little home made gift. And most mothers probably still have those little papered jars stored away in a box somewhere so they can pull them out and remember when we were young. Although, as we get older we realize that our gift was not really practical. We start to think maybe I should get mom something better. Something she can use regularly, but more importantly, something she really needs.

If you are like me, your mother is probably at the age where she can order off the senior's menu. With the special discounts on food also come other more undesirable aspects related to age. The weather no longer seems as warm as it used to. Her feet get colder easier; the extra thick comforters come out of the closet while it is still summertime, and all sleepwear is either flannel or fleece.

As we get older our roles start to reverse with our parents. They spent our entire childhood worried that maybe we weren't dressed warm enough for the weather, and did we take that sweater to school in case the wind picked up. At bedtime my mom would stick her head in the door 5 minutes after I was in bed to check I was warm enough all snuggled up in my Flintstones pj's or did I need a big knitted pair of socks on too.

My mother's penchant for saving on heating hasn't lessened over the years. She would rather wear 3 sweaters than turn the heat up, always runs the hot water for 5 minutes to heat up the bathroom before a bath, and eighteen blankets on the bed at night. But times have changed. Fleece can now withstand weather only seen in the arctic. Slippers are not only warm and fuzzy but they now come with non-slip soles - another concern we get as our parents age.

My mother has slippers that remind her of her old dog Farley, slippers to wear when company is over, slippers to wear outside to put the garbage in the garage, slippers for every occasion it seems. She doesn't worry about slipping in them, and I don't worry about what might happen if she were to

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slip. She has a warm fleece bathrobe so she no longer has to wash, dry and dress in the bathroom to conserve heat. I notice the bed isn't piled high with blankets anymore, mom is finally warm without the bulk of three sweaters and knitted stockings.

With Mother's Day fast approaching I think I am going to replace baby food jar vases with slippers, tissue paper flowers with fleece bathrobes, and eighteen blankets on the bed with warm flannel pajamas. In doing this I also give myself something that can't be bought i.e. less worry about my aging mom, and some piece of mind knowing she is warm at night all snuggly in her fleece and flannel.

Mark McAuley is a 40 year old father, who works full time and runs a website. In his spare time he likes to write about things that happen in everyday life.

Visit his website at:

## Creative Ways To Celebrate Mother's Day With Flowers

By Wesley Berry

Moms are amazing people. They selflessly care for their children making sure there are always clean clothes to wear, a delicious dinner on the table, and plenty of love to go around. They often put their families ahead of themselves expecting only a quick hug or a smile as a reward. That's why celebrations honoring mothers have been occurring since the times of the ancient Greeks, and perhaps even before. The first official Mother's Day in the United States was on May 9, 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson declared the second Sunday in May to be National Mother's Day, a day on which mothers throughout the country should be recognized for all they do.

Flowers have long been a traditional gift to present to mothers on Mother's Day. While every mom loves to receive a bouquet or arrangement of her favorite flowers, there are lots of other ways you can incorporate flowers into an extra special declaration of your love. And, it doesn't matter what your age is or if you're helping your own young children celebrate mom, you can use flowers to make this Mother's Day one she'll always remember. Here are some ideas for both adult children and for younger children:

### Adult Children

- If you're going to celebrate Mother's Day with dinner out, take a soup bowl and some silverware to your florist. Have the florist create a floral design in the bowl using the silverware as accessories to the arrangement. Place an invitation to the restaurant among the flowers.
- For a public declaration of your love, take your mom out to a restaurant and arrange to have flowers delivered to the table.
- Let your mom know she should relax today. Gift wrap a book and ask your florist to include it with a flower arrangement and a note telling her to spend her day relaxing.
- Send your mom a Mother's Day tree or plant. Take photographs mounted on decorative paper or in

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small frames to your florist and ask him or her to tie them to a small tree or plant using matching ribbons.

- Give your mom a corsage to wear throughout the day. She'll especially enjoy this if she plans to attend a worship service or other public event where everyone can see the gift you've given her.

### Young Children

- Invite Mom to a movie. Take the movie section from a recent newspaper to your florist and ask him or her to place it in a box of flowers. Decorate the outside of the box with movie candy or candy and popcorn wrappers. Include a card letting Mom know she gets to pick the movie and you'll buy the tickets and treats.

- Send Mom on a floral treasure hunt. Purchase several single stems of flowers. Have your florist place a flower tube on each one. Hide the flowers around the house and give Mom clues to lead her to each one. Make the last find a vase to place the flowers in and a note letting her know what a treasure she

is.

- Breakfast in bed is a time-honored Mother's Day tradition. Place a pretty vase of her favorite flowers on the tray.

Whether her children are grown or still young, every mom deserves a special Mother's Day. Your florist will be delighted to help you express your love and respect in almost any creative way you can think of—they might even be able to offer some ideas of their own!

Wesley Berry is the President of Wesley Berry Flowers established in 1946. He is also the Headmaster of the Professional Florists' Institute, a floral design school in Michigan. Visit Wesley Berry Flowers on the web at

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