HOME IMPROVEMENT (HTTP://WWW.REALTOR.COM/ADVICE/HOME-IMPROVEMENT/)

# 10 Perfect Holiday Gifts for New Homeowners

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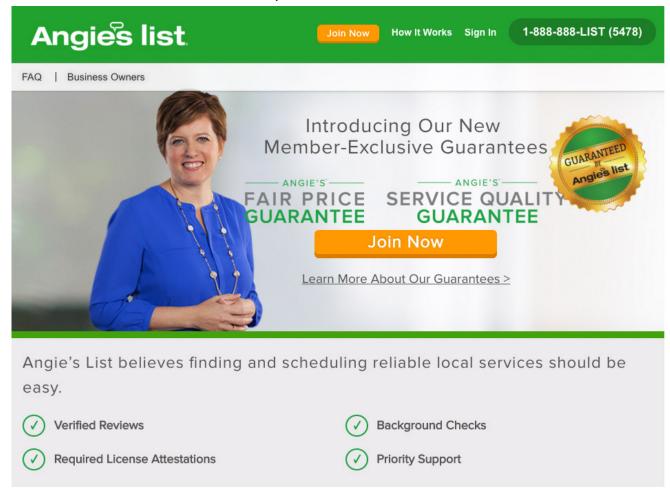
(http://www.realtor.com/advice/home-improvement/ten-must-haves-for-new-home-owners/)

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When someone buys a new home, they barely know where to begin when it comes to stocking it with things they need—and now that there's no landlord to take care of problems, they'll probably need a lot. Plus, their budget is likely stretched tight. It's a perfect gifting situation!

With the holiday shopping season in full swing, if you know anyone who might need some help on the home front, here's a roundup of 10 of the best gifts we could find to fit their lists. Warning: Many of the items are so enticing, you might just need to pick up an extra for yourself—even if you've lived in your home for a while.

# A subscription to Angie's List



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/angies-list.jpg)

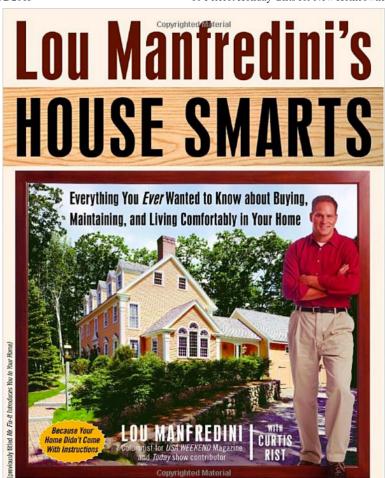
Angie's List angieslist.com

From plumbers to painters, good help is hard to find. Angie's List members can read vetted reviews of vendors in their area and get access to discounts before they book.

\$9.99 to \$59.99 for a one-year subscription, Angie's List (http://www.angieslist.com)

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### The bible for home repairs



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/house-smarts.jpg)

"House Smarts" amazon.com

Think of it as an essential textbook for new homeowners. Readers get an illustrated guide to all the systems in their home and tutorials on basic repairs.

\$18, Amazon (http://www.amazon.com/Lou-Manfredinis-House-Smarts-Manfredini/dp/0345449894/ref=sr\_1\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1448140300&sr=1-1&keywords=house+smarts+lou+manfredini)

### **Leatherman Wave**



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/leatherman.jpg)

The Leatherman Wave leatherman.com

Leatherman's most (justifiably) famous tool is a pocket-size, multipurpose gadget for homeowners tackling small jobs. This model has 17 tools, including multiple wire cutters, knives, and pliers.

90.85, Leatherman (http://www.leatherman.com/wave-10.html#q=wave&start=1)

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# Craftsman mechanics tool set



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/craftsman-tools.jpg)

Craftsman mechanics tool set acehardware.com

When the Leatherman won't cut it, you'll have to pull out the big guns. There are few projects you won't be able to tackle with help from the 137 pieces in this set.

\$129.99, Ace Hardware Stores (http://www.acehardware.com/product/index.jsp? productId=35552616)

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# A chunky blanket



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/chunky-blanket.jpg)

A chunky blanket darbysmart.com

A warm blanket can instantly add warmth and style to a living room. Plus, tired new homeowners can snuggle under it after a long day of painting or unpacking.

\$149, Darby Smart (http://www.darbysmart.com/craft-supplies/chunky-blanket-hand-knit-pure-merino-complete-ribbon-tied-ready-for-gifting)

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# A better key ring



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/orbit-key.jpg)

Orbitkey keychain orbitkey.com

Never fumble for your keys again. The OrbitKey organizes keys into a neat stack, eliminating jingle and making it easier to find frequently used fobs.

\$39.95, OrbitKey (http://www.orbitkey.com/collections/premium-leather)

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# A very welcome 'welcome' mat



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/welcome-mat.jpg)

Pineapple welcome mat birchlane.com

Add some flair to the entry, and keep guests from tracking mud through your new digs. This one greets visitors with a pineapple, a traditional American symbol of hospitality.

\$35, Birch Lane (http://www.birchlane.com/Pineapple-Welcome-Mat-BL4233-BL4233.html)

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# A high-tech speaker



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/sonos.jpg)

The Sonos Play:5 sonos.com

The latest speaker from in-home stereo manufacturer Sonos, the new Play:5 connects to your home's Wi-Fi to allow you to play music from any computer or streaming service. It can stand alone or connect with other Sonos products to create a multiroom system. Did we mention it sounds great?

\$499, Sonos (http://www.sonos.com/shop/play5)

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# A smart(er) thermostat



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/nest.jpg)

Nest Learning Thermostat nest.com

The Nest Learning Thermostat not only looks better than your old thermostat, but it can also save you some serious money on heating and cooling. Controlled by an app on your phone, the Nest learns which temperatures you like when and adjusts itself accordingly.

\$249, Nest.com (https://store.nest.com/product/thermostat/)

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# An improved Roomba



(http://rdcnewscdn.realtor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/roomba.jpg)

Roomba 980 irobot.com

# Please, Mr. Postman

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The new and improved Roomba vacuum cleaner from iRobot can now be scheduled to clean up to seven times a week. The machine's technology maps your floors to ensure that it never misses a crumb. Sure this one's a little pricey, but maybe the whole family can go in on it. Happy shopping.

\$899.99, iRobot (http://store.irobot.com/irobot-roomba-980/product.jsp? productId=68167956&cp=2501652&parentPage=family)



Beth Braverman, an award-winning journalist and content producer, covers real estate, personal finance, and careers. When she's not writing, she tries to find time between yard work and paying bills to experience the joys of being a new homeowner.

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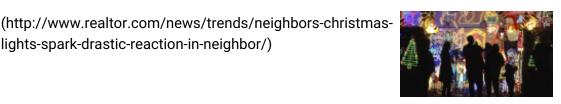
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