

## WRAP IT UP!

### Unique Holiday Gift Wrapping

By **Bridget Fonger**

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Even the most boring or inexpensive gifts will impress your friends and family if they are creatively wrapped. And, when you spend a good deal of time, thought or money on a gift, it deserves an excellent wrapping job. A beautifully wrapped gift is a feast for the eyes and heart. It kicks up the “holiday love factor” another notch.

The fastest, laziest and most impressive way to wrap a gift is to use fabric. You just lay out the material on a flat surface, set the gift in the middle, gather up the “wrapping” in a bundle at the top and tie it with a bow.

#### Material Girl

There are so many reasons to become a “material girl” with your holiday wrapping:

- 1.) *More bang for your buck.*
- 2.) *No sticky tape!*
- 3.) *No making sharp, clean folds.*
- 4.) *You can wrap any shape or size with little effort.*
- 5.) *Easy storage: fold and stack!*
- 6.) *No ribbon madness: Just tie one bow and you are done!*
- 7.) *Eco-Friendly: the recipient can easily re-use it.*
- 8.) *You can't really do it wrong.*
- 9.) *It is incredibly fast.*
- 10.) *It's GORGEOUS!*

#### One Stop Shopping

Next time you pass a fabric store, pop in and get yourself some “gift wrap” – also known as 10 or 20 yards of material! If you are ever in Downtown LA and you want to have a wrapping shopping festival, check out the Fabric District (8th and 9th between Wall and Maple). You can get amazing deals on exquisite materials.

Most fabric stores also have beautiful ribbons, and great ribbon-alternatives, such as ric-rac, yarn, edging, etc.

#### Festive Finishing Touches

Customize your wrapping with ease: kiddie patterns for children's presents (and you know they'll get creative with recycling!), gingham for kitchen items, fleece for outdoorsy gifts, etc.

You can personalize and kick it up another notch with little touches that you stick under the center of the bow or string onto the ribbon before you tie the bow:

Small sprig of pine tree (ask for the throw-away branches when you pick up your Christmas tree), fresh flower or herbs, tree ornaments, strings of beads, tinsel garland or other holiday decorations. Here's to impressing the heck out of your friends and family this holiday season!

*Bridget Fonger is co-author of "The Lazy Woman's Guide to Just About Everything" and a freelance writer and producer living in Sierra Madre. Visit her website at [LazyWoman.com](http://LazyWoman.com). Send questions you would like to have this Lazy Woman answer in this column to [Bridget@LazyWoman.com](mailto:Bridget@LazyWoman.com).* ■