

marie claire

350

Cool Gift Ideas

for everyone
in your list
(including you!)

Holiday Style

Sexy dresses, silky pajamas,
effortless party hair & makeup
plus grown-up glitter!

Jennifer Aniston

opens up
on the power
of love and
forgiveness

Celebrate!
HOW TO
THROW
AN EPIC,
STRESS-FREE
BASH

Would you
rather be
funny or
pretty?
P.150



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A Bubbly BUYER'S GUIDE

Choosing the right champagne can be confusing AF.

Jen Pelka, owner

of San Francisco's new champagne bar The Riddler (it's run by an all-girl gang; go there now), breaks down how to buy a bottle for any bash or budget



To GET THE PARTY STARTED

"Don't be shy about going for a magnum. People go crazy for them, and a lot of small houses make them for surprisingly cheap—much cheaper than actually buying two bottles. Be prepared to be the belle of the ball." *She recommends* "Krug, Pol Roger, or Pierre Gimonnet & Fils [from \$80]."

When you're ON A BUDGET

"If you want true champagne—that is, made in 'Champagne, France'—it's almost impossible to find one for under \$20."

She recommends "Crémant de Loire—made in the same method but comes from the neighboring Loire Valley—by Langlois, M. Bonnamy, or Tissot Crémant du Jura. A perfectly delicious affordable alternative [\$14 to \$25]."

For NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH

"Inexpensive cavas and proseccos are great for brunch cocktails—but think

beyond the Mimosa!" *She recommends* "La Marca Prosecco [\$14]. Mix with grapefruit juice and add a sprig of thyme or rosemary. Or pick another juice, add a sugar cube and a dash of Angostura bitters, and pour sparkling wine on it all."

When you WANT TO IMPRESS

"I love Veuve Clicquot, and it's a house people know." *She recommends* "Instead of the basic label, try the Veuve Clicquot Rosé [\$67]."

In the mood for SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT

"Go to your favorite wine store. Now avoid all the big labels you recognize. Instead, ask for an indie 'grower-producer.' The clerk will probably hand you something delicious and lower in price, and tell you a story about the unique way that vineyard makes its champagne." *She recommends* "Pierre Péters [from \$50]." —Andrew Richdale

UP YOUR BAR-CART GAME

Restoration Hardware's new Gibson Bar Cart (pictured here, in brass) will add some serious glam to your party. \$1,095; restorationhardware.com.

