

HOW TO MAKE YOUR GIFT SEEM THOUGHTFUL



MAYABEE ARANNYA

Let's face it, most of us fail miserably when it comes to gift-giving. We think we know somebody until it comes down to finding the perfect object that encapsulates the very essence of them and their interests, all in the budget of BDT 500 because, of course, we're broke.

To help you all out, here is a fool-proof way to make sure your loved one will adore your gift no matter what: Get them something personalised. To make things even easier, here are some ideas of what to get personalised.

MASON JARS WITH FAIRY LIGHTS

Mason jars and fairy lights are both objects that can single-handedly make anything a hundred times more "aesthetic" according to millennial standards. Combine the two, and you have the most aesthetically pleasing gift you could give. However, the best part is, these jars could have stickers on them that you could personalise with whatever image or writing you want. Now you know exactly what to get that friend of yours with the best Instagram feed.

ENGRAVED WOODEN PLACARDS

This has been a trend for a while now. You basically pay an online store to take a piece of wood and engrave whatever you like on it. It could be a favourite quote, a picture of you and your loved one. The person on the receiving end will not know what to do with it, but hey, they will be wholeheartedly grateful for your effort. They will even overlook the fact that all you did was place an order online, so don't worry about it.

COMMISSIONED ART

Our country is full of talented artists who sell their art online. A lot of them do commissioned work and so this is the perfect opportunity for you to make them use their spectacular skills to draw a very poorly taken photo of you and your loved one. You could even frame the art. I must add that art is not cheap. However, do not try to haggle with an artist. If you think they're asking for too much, just go ahead and try to draw it yourself. Maybe your loved one will love the extra effort no matter how ugly of a drawing you make of them, accidentally.

NOTEBOOKS

Notebooks are something we all love to hoard and never use. Therefore, the visual of the cover is more important than anything when it comes to notebooks. Who cares about the functionality of it if the cover is of your favourite band? Take to the internet and design whatever cover you think the receiver would like and you're good to go.

PASSPORT HOLDER

This is the perfect farewell gift for friends who are leaving the country to pursue higher education, or for any other reason. There are online stores that take passport holders that have a small metal plate on the front and engrave a name on it. Since we're all self-obsessed creatures anyway, this gift will make anyone happy.

Hopefully, you have now mastered the art of personalised gift-giving and will never gift something disappointing again.

Mayabee Arannya can never say no to a cup of tea or cute doggo pictures. Send her the latter at fb.com/mayabee.arannya

Struggles of having sweaty palms

MOMOTAZ RAHMAN MEGHA

Suffering from sweaty palms or feet is a very common phenomenon. This condition is called primary hyperhidrosis. Some people face these problems on a small scale while others are affected by it pretty badly. However, due to the social stigma attached to this, most people avoid talking about it and try to hide it. So, let's look at the life of a person who has sweaty palms, through their own eyes —

TECHNOLOGY IS NOT OUR FRIEND

The more developed gadgets get, the harder it becomes for us to operate them. Take fingerprint scanners for example, since our hands sweat all the time we constantly have to try and keep our hands dry so that the phone can recognize our fingerprint. The phone almost never recognises our fingerprint in the first try. Sometimes when it takes too long, our fingerprint scanner gets drowned in sweat and then, not only do we have to dry our hands, we also have to keep the scanner dry to make it work. We face similar circumstances while using any touchscreen device. The touch screen of most phones stops working if it is wet. As a result, typos are a part of our daily routine, as my editors will attest.

SOCIALLY ACCEPTED GESTURES ARE NOT REALLY OUR THING

It's no surprise that people who suffer from having sweaty palms have socially awkward moments. Everytime someone wants to shake our hands, we either keep them waiting while we look for a tissue or handkerchief or we have to reject the handshake by making up some weird excuse. Hi5s are no different.

NOT EVERY SHOE FITS US

We have to choose our shoes wisely. Because even if Cinderella can wear glass slippers, we can't. For people with sweaty feet, they tend to have a very difficult time wearing shoes with straps. They slip easily and have constant discomfort while walking. Thus, heels are an absolute no-no for us. Boots and sneakers are our friends. Anything other than that usually gives us a very hard time.



WE HAVE A HARDER TIME WHEN WE ARE NERVOUS

People always assume that we are nervous because our hands are like the source of a waterfall. And at times when we are actually nervous, the sweaty palms don't give us a break. Especially during interviews, we have a hard time deciding what to do with our palms. Do we keep our hands on the table? But the table will get wet and the interview we think we are super nervous. Do you keep our hands on our legs? But then the sweat will just ruin the pantsuit. Exam times are the worst. You know those last 10 minutes of an exam when everyone gets a +50 speed bonus and writes 36 pages in 15 minutes? Well, we can't. Our palms don't cooperate.

WE DON'T DO THAT WELL WITH SMALL OBJECTS

Whether it's about opening a jar or trying to get the grip of a cricket ball, we have a difficult time with all of it. When we try to swing the bat at times the bat slips out of our hands and we make a fool out of ourselves. So, more often than not we try to sit in the audience and enjoy a good game or run to someone else to open our jam jar because, you guessed it, our hands won't co-operate.

Megha is an anxious teenager trying to figure out how university life works. You can send her memes at megharahman26@gmail.com