



# Smart shopping

From groceries to condiments, to gifts, the list seems never-ending as Eid arrives. A little organisation, smart use of all the different transaction methods, and having detailed lists of what one actually requires, as opposed to what we end up buying on impulse, can narrow down the entire process and make it stress-free.

## GROCERIES

What you buy depends on what you are planning to do on Eid. If you know you will not be home much, but mostly outside visiting relatives and loved ones, then avoid going overboard with groceries and only get the necessities, plus a little extra if you expect sudden visits from guests.

One can always opt for super shops when purchasing less, since it is easy and more accessible. Watch out for offers as almost every super shop comes up with a heap of them every week.

We all know people who love hosting parties and having people over, not just on



Eid, but for days past Eid as well. If you are one of those people, best to make lists of what you plan on cooking, and then buying the raw goods accordingly.

In cases like these where you buy in bulk, going to wholesale bazaars is always the best option. Not only do you get everything at a cheaper rate, but there is also a certain satisfaction when purchasing from such

places, and the options are pretty much endless.

Gulshan DCC and New Market still remain favourites for shopaholics and for good reason too. Another plus of going to these places are that, even if you miss an item on your list, you will surely be reminded of it when you reach the market.

## THE SMART TIPS TO GIFTS

Unless you are absolutely sure that the person will love the dress you bought for them, stay away from buying clothes as Eid gifts. Clothes are something very specific, which people make or buy with a lot of preferences in mind, something we cannot do when buying for someone else.

If you never see them wearing your gifted clothes, consider it a good sign to stop gifting clothes altogether.

Another 'no-no' of giving gifts is looking at the money you spend. Just because something was expensive does not mean the person will enjoy it or get any use out of it.

Instead, look for what the person might really want or need, and buy accordingly.

In short, try to avoid gifts that depend on personal preferences, be it home décor, clothes or accessories.

Instead, look for things you feel like they will get good use out of, because that is what they will truly appreciate.

## SMART TRANSACTIONS

Before you start shopping, load up your bKash account, which will save you a lot of trouble with online shopping and the times you run out of cash at stores that do not accept cards.

Make sure your cards are working, as these come in handy when shopping from super shops and similar places. Last of all, cash and change is a must if the bazaar is where you plan on going since cards will be of no use there.

By Anisha Hassan

Photo: LS Archive/Sazzad Ibne Sayed

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