

It's a Wrap!

If you're like most teens, chances are you have a basic idea how much money you plan to spend on holiday gifts for your family and friends.

Unfortunately, the gift is only part of the total expense.

You then have to wrap it – and the cost of fancy gift bags, ribbons, bows and wrapping paper can add up quickly.

This year, keep your expenses in check by trying out these crafty (and cheap) wrapping ideas:

- **Reuse old gift bags and wrapping paper.** Ask your parents if they have any leftover wrapping materials from previous years that you can use.
- **Use yarn instead of ribbon.** You'll get a lot more for your money, and you'll have an abundance of color options to choose from!
- **Get creative with paper.** Opt for brown packing paper or old newspapers instead of traditional wrapping paper.
- **Place gifts in a plain white box.** Use markers to doodle your very own design on the box or decorate it with colored tape.