



Helpful Holiday Hints

Show Your Gift For Packing Presents

(NAPSA)—Present perfect. That's what the people who get your gifts may think if you heed a few hints on wrapping, packaging and mailing.

- Choose the right shipping box. It should be slightly larger than the items being shipped, to leave space on all sides for cushioning. Use a corrugated cardboard box rather than a two-piece box with lid. There are shipping containers made for mailing specific items. Look for mailing tubes, CD mailers, video mailers and photo mailers.

- Protect the present with the proper materials. Keep fragile items separate from each other and away from the sides of the box. Use enough cushioning so items don't move if the box is jostled. Bubble wrap will not only protect the contents of the package neatly, but it's fun to pop once the gift is opened.

- Beauty counts. You can eliminate inconvenience and sloppiness when wrapping gifts by using an invisible tape that's easy to handle. One such is Duck brand One Touch tape. It's made for one-handed use, so you can use one hand to tape and the other to hold down the paper. Also excellent for one-handed use is the Multi-Mount tape dispenser which attaches and easily removes from any smooth flat surface such as a table or wood floor; it can stick to horizontal or vertical surfaces.

- Seal the box properly. Postal carriers will not accept packages sealed with string, twine, masking



It's a wrap: a well-packaged present can be easy to prepare.

tape, electrical tape or cellophane tape. Always use a tape designed for shipping, such as EZ Start packaging tapes. It meets U.S. postal regulations, its superior strength holds securely and it unrolls smoothly and easily the first and every time.

- Label and address your package clearly. Put shipping information on with a permanent, water-resistant pen and always use the complete address, including zip code. If you're not using a new box, completely remove or obscure the old address labels or box marking. Write the shipping information on an address label, on top of the box but not over a seam or closure. Apply EZ Start tape over the label or handwritten address to protect it from water. As an added precaution, put a duplicate address label inside the package and keep the package tracking number to follow up on delivery status.

For more wrapping, mailing and shipping tips, see www.duckproducts.com.