



Sentimental Gifts

Gifts don't have to cost a lot of money. Whether it's an engagement, wedding, 21st, 18th, birth or another occasion; the best gifts are those from the heart!

Cookbook



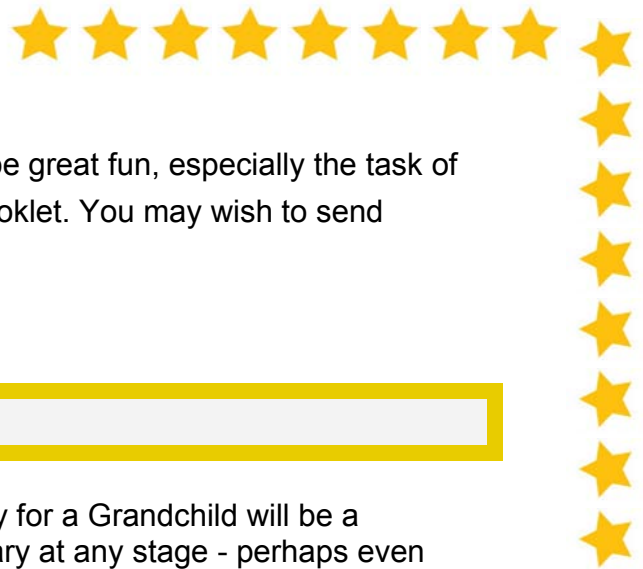
Compile a cookbook of your favourite recipes and those of other family members. You can also write any special memories you have associated with cooking on each page - for example any disasters, triumphs, and memories of cooking with your Grandchild etc. Leave spaces for your Grandchild to add their favourite recipes as well.

Perhaps you could work on a family tree together, and make it the foreward of your booklet.

You may wish to also write to family members and ask for their favourite recipes and those that they remember other family members cooking.



Publishing your family recipe book can be great fun, especially the task of seeking out old photos to use in your booklet. You may wish to send copies to the whole family.



Diary

A diary is a personal item but one written purely for a Grandchild will be a treasured item later in life. You can start the diary at any stage - perhaps even when they are born!

You can write in your diary as often as you like. You may choose to record each time you see them - how you felt, what you did, how they have changed since last time. You could include pictures, newspaper articles, ticket stubs etc.

The diary can be an ongoing project that you will eventually give them, maybe for their 21st, wedding day or birth of their first child.

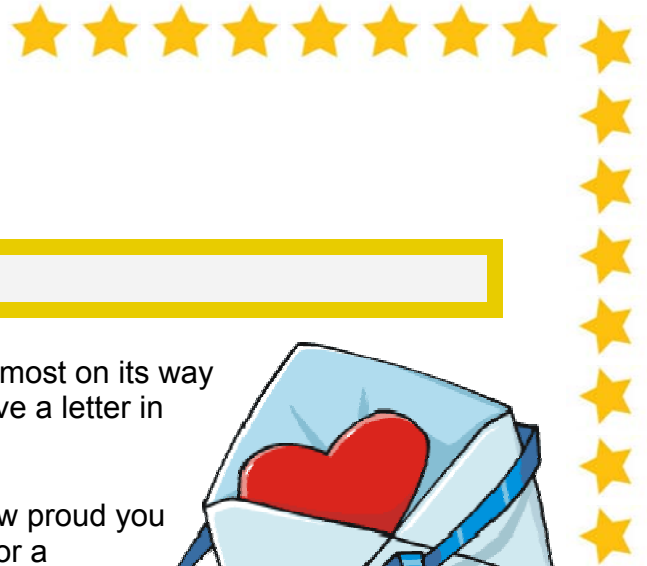
Time Capsule

This would be a wonderful gift that will keep on giving! It would be perfect for celebrating the birth of a child or a wedding.

Your time capsule will be a personal gift, but you may like to include:

- Photos
- Letters
- Newspaper articles/front page
- Items of clothing
- Souvenirs
- Recipes
- Coins/ stamps from the current year

Once you have decided what to put into your capsule, find a suitable size box and decorate it. You could use wrapping paper, paint or any other materials. Be sure to leave instructions as to when and where the capsule should be opened.



Letter

In today's technological world letter writing is almost on its way to extinction! Everyone however, loves to receive a letter in the post....why don't you try it?

Write a special letter telling your Grandchild how proud you are of their achievements. The letter could be for a special occasion (wedding, Birthday, graduation) or you could just post it as a complete surprise.

Corresponding may become a regular method of keeping in touch and could become a valued support for younger family members.

Keepsakes and mementos (like a dried flower or ticket) could be included and you could use these to start or supplement the Diary activity.



Family Tree

Complete a family tree for your side of the family. Be sure to include all dates for births, deaths and marriages. It's a good idea to also put any nicknames people were known as in brackets after their name.

Present your family tree on a large sheet of paper (available from craft and dollar shops). You could frame it or leave spaces for the recipient to continue the tree as their family grows.

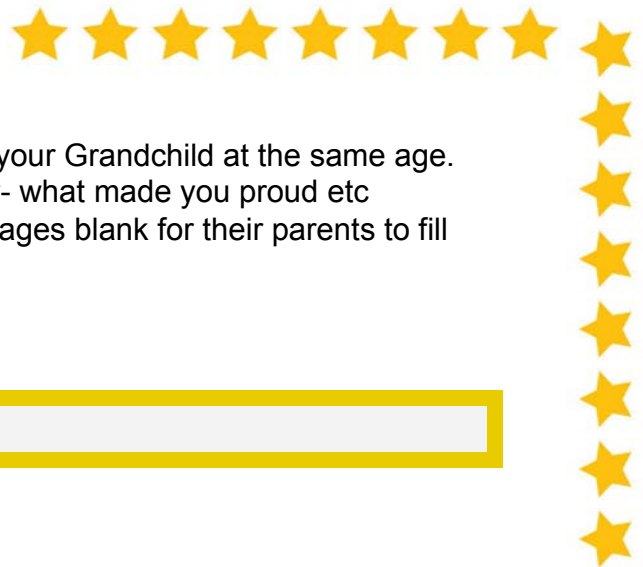
You and Me Album

Create a special album of you and your Grandchild.

- On each page display a photo of a special time in your life (birth, birthdays, first day of school, graduation, wedding day)
- Write your memories of that time next to the photo. Try to include as much information as possible - this is your legacy!



- On the opposite page display a photo of your Grandchild at the same age. Write how you felt about them on that day- what made you proud etc
- If the album is for a newborn, leave the pages blank for their parents to fill in



Memoir Board

You will need:

- An art canvas
- Paint and utensils (we suggest pastel or wash colours), you may wish to use fabric instead)
- 3m of ribbon to compliment the paint colour chosen
- Stapler and craft glue
- Photos of family memoirs
- Captions to match the photos- neatly presented on cardboard (We suggest you use zigzag scissors on edges)
- Decorative materials if required jewels, buttons, stickers etc

Instructions:

1. Prepare the caption cards and the photos you will be using
2. Cover or paint the canvas and allow to dry if necessary
3. Play with arranging the photos and captions on the board - don't be afraid to use angles and to be different
4. Once happy with your layout, glue each piece onto the canvas, and allow required time to dry
5. Decorate as appropriate using materials of your choice
6. Using your ribbon, criss-cross pieces on diagonals of the board, creating 10-15cm squares. This will create a safe plateau to make future additions. Use the stapler to hold ribbon to the back of the frame