



**SURPRISE!**  
Easy flourishes—  
pom-poms, balls,  
confetti—make  
a gift really  
stand out

## How to Wrap a... Festive Gift

Give your holiday packages an easy upgrade—and impress everyone on your list

**GREEN PAPER, RED BOW:** Been there, done that. Instead, indulge your crafty side with a few fresh, fun ideas. We asked **Joy Cho**, left, of the blog *Oh Joy!* for some pretty, practical tips to add color and creativity to your mound of holiday presents. What makes Cho such a wrap star? Her innovative touches and her unwavering belief that good

things should always come in gorgeous packages. So this year, gather your paper and ribbons, grab scissors and tape, and watch as everyone *oohs* and *aahs* over their gifts before they even know what's inside. —Rachel Bowie



## 1 CONFETTI BOMB

Cascading paper dots create “ribbons” of vibrant color



**Paper it over** Cover your gift with brown kraft paper to start. You'll also need double-sided tape and loose confetti (available at party stores).



**Get dotty** Wrap double-sided tape around your gift in two vertical and two horizontal rows. Press bunches of confetti onto the sticky tape.



**Give it the brush-off** Remove any loose confetti. What's left behind will form two clean, well-defined rows of ribbonlike spots.



## 2

### STAR BRIGHT

Choose a simple motif, then decorate your gift with hand-drawn holiday-themed designs



**Fancy that** Wrap with solid white or black paper, then pick up Sharpie markers in gold or silver (or both!) and a bright ribbon.



**Be sketchy** Go with a simple design (like stars, above), then draw multiples. Or try large polka dots, trees, or even a favorite holiday quote.



**Tie one on** Allow time for the marker to dry and then add just a simple ribbon. (You don't want it to compete with your artwork.)

## 3

### WOVEN WONDER

Make use of leftover pieces of wrapping paper and ribbon (you knew they'd come in handy!)



**Let it shine** Gather your paper and ribbon scraps and survey their colors. Wrap your gift in a solid metallic paper that coordinates with what you have.



**Strip down** Cut paper scraps into 1/2-inch- and 1-inch-thick strips; wrap each one around the box, alternating directions. Weave strips in and out as you go.



**Stick 'em up** Prevent the strips from sliding around on the box by using a few small pieces of double-sided tape to secure them in place.

## 4

### POM-POM POWER

Add a touch of whimsy to gifts by creating your own oversize cheery ball of colorful fringe



**Pick your knit** After wrapping your present in colored paper, choose one or two different hues of yarn (ribbon also works).



**Have a ball** Wind yarn around a standard-size book until it has some heft to it. Slide it off, tie in the middle, and snip the ends open, then trim and fluff.



**Size does matter** Attach with extra yarn, and be sure to play with scale: A large pom-pom looks especially saucy and fun on a teensy gift.