

Gift Ideas

Powering Up Your Presents

(NAPSA)—Sure signs that warm months are here include longer days, flowers blooming and a plethora of parties. From Mother's Day and Father's Day to housewarmings and baby showers, look no further for the perfect presents than your local home improvement store.

According to Skil Power Tools research, nearly half the people who have purchased a power tool did so as a gift for someone else. These gifts are perfect for the more than 68 percent of Americans who own their own home and tend to do home improvement projects themselves.

For those looking for power, practicality and some punch in their presents, Skil Power Tools' resident tool gal, Betsy Shaw, has some great recommendations for every occasion.

New Parents: Childproofing a home is a must. Give expecting parents a safety kit that includes cabinet locks, outlet covers and finger protectors, as well as a cordless power screwdriver to make installing those items easier. Look for a compact tool, such as the Skil iXO palm-sized power screwdriver, which is perfect for tight spaces. In addition, its lithium-ion battery holds its charge even after 18 months of non-use.

DIY Dad: Show dad you believe in his DIY skills by giving him a new convertible workshop. From a drill press and table saw to a scroll saw and router table, a convertible workshop can be transformed into five different tools on one platform, which



Cut through gift clutter with a jigsaw this year.

means taking up less precious space in the garage.

Crafty Mom: Jigsaws are great gifts for moms who are into decorating. Less intimidating than a circular saw, a jigsaw can make straight cuts and curve cuts for everything from lawn ornaments to door adornments. In addition, new jigsaws now come with great features at a great price. For example, the new Skil 4390 jigsaw is the only tool with a built-in work light for under \$50.

Happy Homeowner: As they fly from the coop for a house of their own, new homeowners need tools for their new nests. Give them a jump start with a combo kit. Often found with multiple tools sharing one battery system, combo kits are perfect for building a tool chest from scratch.

Shaw adds that with a power tool as a present, you're also giving them a sense of pride that comes with accomplishing projects around the home.