

# the realist

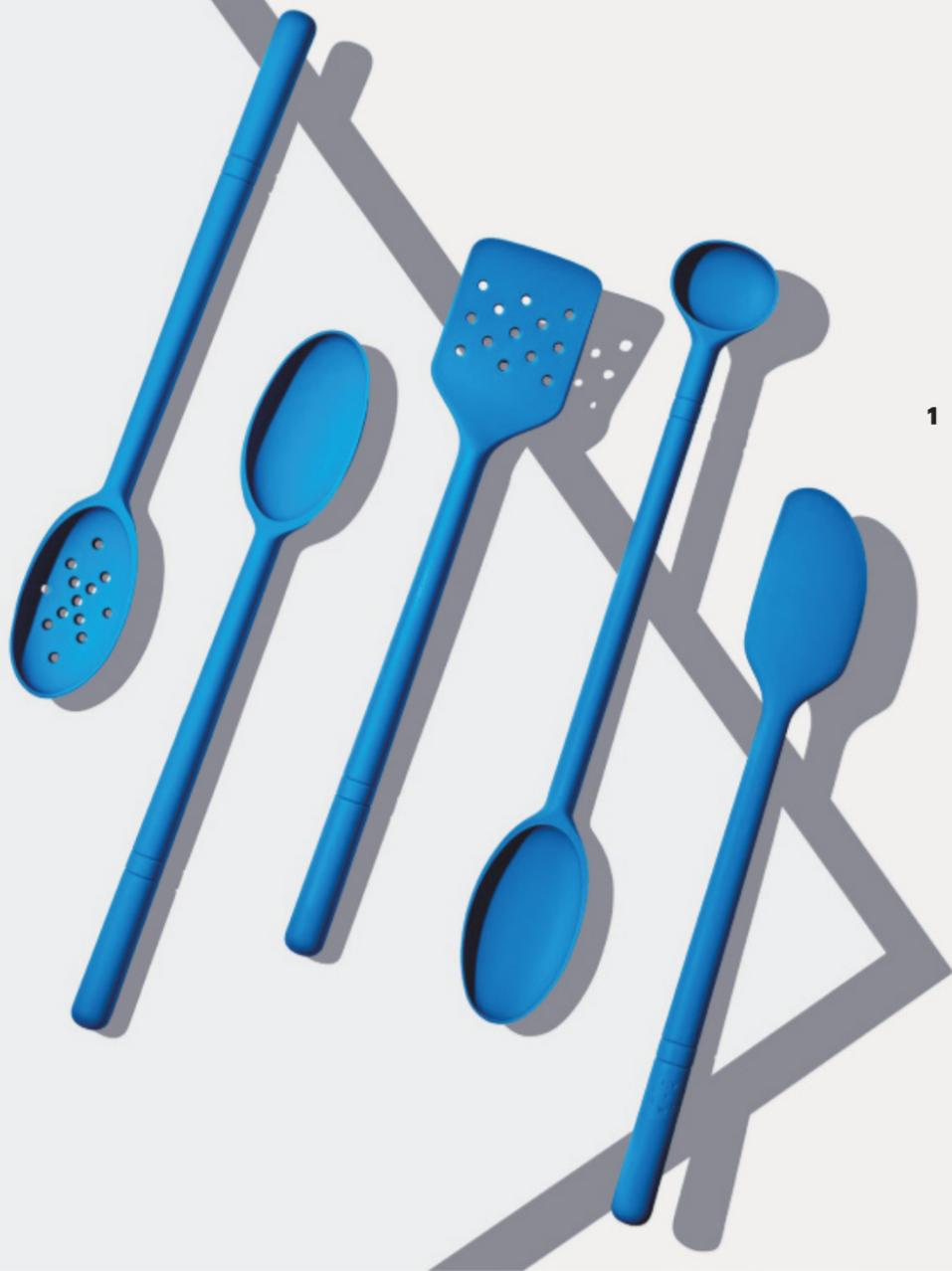


## **REAL SIMPLE'S SUMMER GIFT GUIDE**

CONGRATULATE, THANK, AND  
CHEER ON YOUR LOVED ONES WITH  
THESE THOUGHTFUL PRESENTS.

By Leslie Corona

**WATER COLORS**  
A jewel-tone pitcher will brighten the bedside table in your host's guest room. The ingenious lid doubles as a drinking glass.  
**TO BUY:** Two-Tone Carafe, \$75; [store.moma.org](http://store.moma.org).



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**1 STIR THINGS UP**

When you go to the neighborhood mixer, bring these colorful spoons. **TO BUY:** Five Two Silicone Spoons, \$49 for 5; food52.com.

**2 THIRD-DATE RULE**

A Medjool date is the closest nature comes to making caramel. Get the three-pack of one-pound boxes, give two away, and enjoy one yourself. **TO BUY:** Gift Pack, \$42 for 3 lb.; ranchomeladuco.com.

**3 SOMETHING FISHY**

The four separate dishes can stay assembled as a whole or be spread around the room. **TO BUY:** Celebrate Summer Together 4-Piece Fish Serving Set, \$50; kohls.com.

**4 CHALK IT UP**

These wildly shaped chunks of chalk are a great gift for kids—and parents, since little ones will be kept busy for hours decorating the driveway. **TO BUY:** Moon Chalk Color Set, \$34 for 3 pieces; areaware.com.

**5 A LAYERED APPROACH**

Treat your host (and their green thumb!) to a stylish pot with a saucer that blends in with the rings. **TO BUY:** Tall Stacking Planter, \$90; areaware.com.

**6 WAX ELOQUENT**

Friends who entertain may have more candles than they can shake a stick at, but probably lack holders as chic—not stuffy—as these. **TO BUY:** Flare Candleholders, \$25 each; us.hay.com.

**7 RAINBOW COLLECTION**

The spectrum of colors is a bright take on this family-favorite block-stacking game. **TO BUY:** Sunnyslife Travel Jumbling Tower, \$16; bando.com.

Each outer-space-inspired lump of chalk is a hefty three inches.



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**1 CUSTOM BEANS**

He can be a real diva about his java. Let him take a preferences quiz and then receive a shipment of a roast chosen for his tastes. **TO BUY:** Coffee, from \$12 per bag; [drinktrade.com](http://drinktrade.com).

**2 WRITE AWAY**

Clever desk organizer meets good old-fashioned entertainment: Pops can play the classic game of pegs with colored pencils, not golf tees, during downtime. **TO BUY:** Writer's Block Game, \$48; [store.moma.org](http://store.moma.org).

**3 BACK TO NATURE**

Featuring icons from 61 national parks, this puzzle is just about all he needs for an afternoon or two of fun. **TO BUY:** 500-Piece National Parks Wilderness and Wonder Jigsaw Puzzle, \$26; [blueribbongeneralstore.com](http://blueribbongeneralstore.com).

**4 INSIDE THE BOX**

Who doesn't like a good box? He can stash his treasured mementos and important documents in this sturdy steel container. **TO BUY:** 12-Inch Strongbox, \$52; [bestmadeco.com](http://bestmadeco.com).

**5 BEST FOOT FORWARD**

For the sporty dad who's chasing a 10K personal record, these "smart" insoles provide invaluable metrics, like cadence and step length. **TO BUY:** Nurvv Run, \$300; [us.nurvv.com](http://us.nurvv.com).

**6 WAFFLE HOUSE**

He's always (lovably, justifiably) bragging about his short-order cooking skills—so feed his ego with this kit that has a waffle iron, flour mix, and syrups. **TO BUY:** Breakfast Making Kit, \$80; [mancrates.com](http://mancrates.com).

**7 TAKE IT OUTSIDE**

Combine the best parts of cornhole, washer toss, and Frisbee golf and you've got this quick-assembly outdoor game that will keep him, his friends, and his neighbors occupied for hours. **TO BUY:** Bean Bag Bucketz, \$60; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).



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Four bottles of real, made-in-Vermont maple syrup sweeten this deal.



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## FOR THE grads



### 1 LIGHT UP THE ROOM

This funky neon sign is flexible, so your high school grad can mold it into truly personalized freshman dorm decor. **TO BUY:** Make Your Own Neon Sign, \$20; blueribbongeneralstore.com.

### 2 MULTIPURPOSE PACKING

Zipped shut, it's a very stylish duffel. Opened, it's a hanging organizer that keeps clothes and shoes within easy reach. **TO BUY:** The Weekender Bag, \$80; greatusefulstuff.com.

### 3 MORE-THAN-OK BOOMER

This mini speaker gives mega sound. Perfect for postage-stamp dorm rooms, it slips onto a bookcase or mounts to the wall to become a sleek nightstand. **TO BUY:** Symfonisk WiFi Bookshelf Speaker, \$99; ikea-usa.com.

### 4 MAKE A CASE

For the tech-obsessed teen whose skinny jeans don't leave much to the imagination, let alone room for a PopSocket, this silicone case has a sliding strip that loops into a handle. **TO BUY:** Hand Strap Case, from \$20; digitalnomadcorner.com.

### 5 GREAT LENGTHS

A valuable life lesson for graduates: When you have a ruler handy, you can measure that nightstand (or chair or coffeepot) so you don't make expensive mistakes. **TO BUY:** Leather Covered Tape Measure, \$42; leifshop.com.

### 6 TRUSTY TOOL

Every grad should have an emergency kit. This canister contains more than 46 first-aid staples and doubles as a flashlight. **TO BUY:** VSSL First Aid Kit, \$125; rei.com.

### 7 MIXED BAG

No more digging around the bottom of the tote—external pouches and pockets make pulling out pens and IDs so much simpler. **TO BUY:** OAD x CW Pencils Collab Tote, \$85; oadnewyork.com.



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**1 LOVE NEST**

All eight stoneware plates and bowls nestle together—it's exactly the space-saving set a starter home needs. **TO BUY:** Luna Nesting Dinnerware Set, \$120; [bedbathandbeyond.com](http://bedbathandbeyond.com).

**2 HOME SWEET HOME**

Bees are good for a garden, and this tiny wooden box will give them a place to stay. **TO BUY:** Little Bee House, \$12; [blueribbongeneralstore.com](http://blueribbongeneralstore.com).

**3 COOKWARE THAT SNUGGLES UP**

Help get date night going with a colorful pan that includes a steamer basket, spatula, and easy-pour spout. **TO BUY:** Always Pan, \$145; [fromourplace.com](http://fromourplace.com).

**4 GOING GLOBAL**

Jet-setting lovebirds can keep tabs on the places they've been—and the places they long to go. **TO BUY:** World Traveler's Cork Globe, from \$80; [uncommongoods.com](http://uncommongoods.com).

**5 PRODUCE BAG**

Couples can haul home their farmers' market finds in this felt carryall. A bamboo cutting board makes for a sturdy base—and facilitates impromptu picnics. **TO BUY:** Farmer's Market Tote, \$50; [greatusefulstuff.com](http://greatusefulstuff.com).

**6 THE GREATEST THING SINCE...**

This chic powder-coated bread box with a faux-leather handle keeps loaves fresh. **TO BUY:** Casetto Pull-Out Tray Breadbox, \$100; [store.moma.org](http://store.moma.org).

**7 MADE TO MATCH**

When they go on their beach-hopping honeymoon, they can twin in quick-drying cotton ponchos. **TO BUY:** Watego Ponchos, \$75 each; [maydestore.com](http://maydestore.com).

FOR THE  
newlyweds



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