

# Wild, Wacky, and Weird Products for Halloween and Beyond

## CSN Stores Features Countless ‘Out-There’ Gifts that are Sure to Put a Smile on Your Face

Let’s face it. This year is shaping up to be pretty tough economically for many people. Given that, who won’t need to laugh more this holiday season?

Our gift-giving experts at CSN Stores ([csnstores.com](http://csnstores.com)) say surprising someone with a present that inspires a belly laugh, chuckle or grin is a good strategy during tough times.

“Get out there and make someone smile this holiday season,” said Will Flanagan, one of CSN’s Gifting Gurus. “This year, it’s not just about the gift itself, but the positive emotion it evokes. So going with something strikingly different or even downright goofy will help you to stand out among the more low-key, going-through-the-motions gift givers. If nothing else, people should appreciate your originality.”

But where do you find a bunch of entertaining, quirky gifts? Look no further. Flanagan and his band of gifting gurus have evaluated literally thousands of potential gifts, honing them down to a Top 19 list with items to make almost anyone grin. Here’s what made the cut for Holiday ‘08:

### 1. [LumiSource Bug-Eyed Green Frog](http://CSNStores.com), CSNStores.com, \$9.90.



Place this fun little frog on a windowsill, desk, or counter and watch him bobble around! Made of wire and painted metal, the Bug-Eyed Frog has strategically-placed wires throughout his body to make his head move and wiggle. This little whimsical frog is cute and hard to resist!

### 2. [Gas-Powered Party Blender \(2 Stroke Engine\)](http://CSNStores.com), CSNStores.com, \$275



Auto enthusiasts will love this gas-powered party blender. It's great for hanging out at home or tailgating on the road for the big game. Either way, it could be a big hit with guests.

**3. [Sozo Oops Weeblocks](#), CSNBaby.com, \$9.99**



The Weeblock is a revolutionary innovation designed to protect parents at their most vulnerable, while changing a baby boy. The Weeblock is strategically placed during changing time and comes in a variety of designs to add a little fun to the experience. This has real personality and could be ideal for Baby's First Holiday Season. Available in a variety of designs and colors including: Lil' Ladies' Man, Captain Blast Off, Stop or I'll Squirt, Whiz Kid and Weeblock Jock.

**4. [Droog - Do Frame Tape](#), AllModern.com, \$14.74**



With an eye ever-focused on functionality, Martí Guixé designed the clever Do Frame Tape as a humorous and easy means to create instant do-it-yourself picture frames. Do Frame Tape is a generous roll of self-adhesive vinyl tape, that let's you put a frame on nearly any photo – or nearly any object with edges.

**5. [Droog SUCKER](#), AllModern.com, \$14.74**



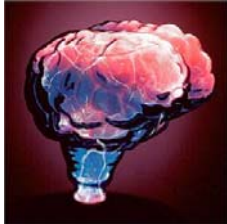
Droog's designers wanted to create multi-functional hooks that didn't need drills, screws or anything that would damage any surface in a home. So they came up with the sucker, which is available in many colors, including purple, charcoal, teal and more. They're hugely popular, affordable and attention-getting gifts.

**6. [LumiSource Shaker Lamp with Leopard Shade](#), CSNStores.com, \$28.60**



Looking to shake things up? Start with this fun lamp, that's both functional and chic. Perfect for a bar, the base of the Shaker Lamp mimics a drink shaker, made with chrome and stainless steel. Alternately, you can get this lamp with a shade that features martini recipes.

**7. [LumiSource Mini-Brain Electra Lamp](#), CSNStores.com, \$24.20**



Radiant and captivating, the Electra Lamps like this one will add a colorful glow to any space and will surely become the center of attention. The unique glow and design is created by electric charges, twirling and plunging inside glass globes filled with phosphorous.

**8. [Droog Optical Illusion Glasses](#), AllModern.com, \$47.72**



These beauties are designed to be true ice-breakers at any festive gathering. They create all kinds of interesting images when filled with beverages. They could leave guests wondering if they've had too much holiday punch.

**9. [Alessi "Lilliput" Salt and Pepper Shakers](#), CSNStores.com, \$32**



Alessi Designer Stefano Giovannoni has perfected the idea of functional kitchen items as artwork, bringing a touch of the future to everyday tasks. The shakers are made from thermoplastic resin in a choice of four different colors -- all with magnetic feet. This allows each shaker to be individually placed on its stainless steel tray. Or for a more dramatic and unexpected tabletop statement, you can place the shakers on the center steel holding bar. These little characters appear to defy gravity, while defeating salt and pepper spills once and for all.

**10. [Offi HoweePup Jr. Pet Lamp in Soft White](#), [AllModernLighting.com](#), \$59**



Imagine a lamp that can capture your child's personality and budding artistic ability, while also bathing her room in soft light. This "pup" can also help her personalize her space. Made of non-toxic plastic, this charming pet lamp comes with washable markers. So the pup can change its look multiple times. It's also available in several other colors including: Mellow Yellow, Sky Blue, Sunset Orange, Hot Pink and Misty Green. It's a funny, interactive invention.

**11. [Midwest Tropical Fountain Aqua End Table Aquarium](#), [AccentFurnitureDirect.com](#): \$389.95**



For people who love RETRO '70s décor, this aquarium end table is the perfect gift. Now you can bring a piece of the sea (and the Brady Bunch-era) into your family room or bedroom. This is truly art in motion, creating a relaxing atmosphere. Resting on a black acrylic pedestal, each table aquarium is illuminated from below a bed of blue glass.

**12. [Droog Clothes Hanger Lamp](#), [AllModern.com](#), \$294.96**



A clever, highly customizable design by Hector Serrano, the Clothes Hanger Lamp features a simple concept: someone just needs to supply the shade, which takes the form of any clothing. The lamp features an acrylic frame and the person who receives this gift from you can simply hang his or her shirts/blouses on the light to add an ever-changing, sense of fashion to any room's decor. This innovative lighting is as conversation-provoking as it is creative, and is perfect for the fashionista on your list -- or the guy who loves wearing loud shirts.

**13. [Luceplan Titania Ceiling Suspension Lights](#), AllModern.com, \$396**



Not to worry -- these aren't UFOs invading a suburban home. They're the new Titania Suspension Lights. The Titania Collection has an elliptical shape. Its outer casing is composed of blades that serve simultaneously as non-dazzle screens, reflectors of the central light source, and heat dissipaters. Five pairs of polycarbonate, interchangeable filters determine the varying colors of its lamellar body. Titania can be colored as desired, by a simple movement of the hand to slot the different filters in and out of the lamp, while always maintaining an emission of white light! Your home will never look the same again.

**14. [Aramith Crown Standard Pool Ball Set & Crazy 8-Ball](#), CSNHome.com, \$75**



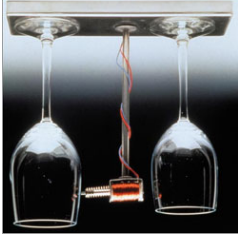
A gorgeous set of pool balls, these pure, phenolic resin billiard balls not only look good, but can last up to five times longer than other balls made from polymers and polyester. And on top that, they are burn spot resistant, which allows them to keep their polish longer and cause less wear on your pool table cloth. In fact, the American Poolplayers Association (APA) exclusively uses Aramith's billiard balls for all official tournament play. And what is a crazy 8 ball? It's a ball that's weight has been intentionally placed off center, causing it to wobble and lurch as it rolls. Using this 8-Ball can help play an interesting trick on someone during a friendly pool game. This set is built for someone who loves playing pool – and loves playing games.

**15. [Hansa Standing Upright Polar Bear Stuffed Animal](#), EveryStuffedAnimal.com, \$700**



This polar bear is realistic enough to make you look twice and fluffy enough to hug. Standing over four feet tall, the life-size arctic creature is posed on his hind legs for a better view of your space. For kids who are learning about the environment and ways to help save the endangered polar bear, this could be an especially memorable and meaningful gift.

**16. [Droog - Bottoms Up Doorbell](#), AllModern.com, \$216.88**



This clever design by Peter van der Jagt gives total transparency - literally - to the concept of a doorbell. Typical doorbells conceal the process of sound within an opaque box. In the Bottoms Up Doorbell, however, nothing is hidden.

**17. [Droog Shadylace Parasol](#), AllModern.com, \$355.68**



Just when you think a patio umbrella is probably the most boring thing you could add to your yard, down swoop those innovative designers at Droog with something new. Creating a striking dappled effect through the use of translucent cutouts, Designer Chris Kabel's Shadylace Parasol adds a dramatic highlight to your patio or backyard. As the sun hits the parasol, light passes through to create the effect of shade coming through leaves and branches. Available in green or white, the parasol is finished with a small bird on top to add an even lighter-hearted touch.

**18. [SEI Tissue Butler](#), CSNStores.com, \$99.99**



This tissue butler is a clever way to solve a frequent problem. It is a functional piece of art that will surely make anyone smile. This loyal butler holds one roll out in front while cleverly concealing another roll under his hat. This has already been a popular item this year.

19. [Magis PUZZLE Carpet](#), AllModern.com, \$188



Bring a little taste of the outdoors into your child's playroom with the Puzzle Carpet from Magis. One part puzzle, one part carpet--stimulate your young child's mind and at the same time, provide a colorful, soft carpet to sit on! With a contemporary color palate inspired by nature, enhance your child's mind while decorating his or her play area. Beyond the green grass color, there's also a blue water/wave pattern and a sand-colored option, as well.

NOTE TO EDITORS: If you're interested in adding one of these beauties to your regular gift guide just for fun, or if you'd like to use a few to start a Humorous Holiday/Goofy Gift Guide of your own, please contact Chuck Casto at [ccasto@csnstores.com](mailto:ccasto@csnstores.com) or 617-502-7223. We can provide hi-res JPEGs, additional information or even more ideas. As one of the Top 3 home furnishing and housewares companies in the U.S., we have more than 1 MILLION products on our 200+ sites, so I'm sure we can help you find what you're seeking (in funny or even elegant or practical gifts).