

# Overview

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# Overview

## Welcome

Hopefully, the Your Christmas List web site is so easy to use, you won't need any help! But if you do, you're at the right place. If we are missing anything that would improve the help or help the site in general, please click [here](#) and let us know!

## Features

Here are some of the features of the site:

### Gift List

Add items you would like to receive for Christmas and get exactly what you want. Putting links in the description helps people determine what is it you are describing.

You can also arrange your gifts in the order of priority of what you want.

### User Groups

You can belong to multiple groups. For example, you may belong to a group with your family and another group with your friends. Both your family and your friends will see the same list you posted, and if someone in your family purchased something, your friends know that do you won't get duplicate gifts.

### Purchase Plans

Let everyone (except the recipient, of course) know what you plan on purchasing and what you have already bought. Keep the recipient from getting duplicates, and you can enter new ideas about what to get the recipient. If you know that a specific gift is already purchased, you can purchase an accessory without worrying about them not being able to use it.

### Comments

Post anonymous comments about a gift that can be seen by the recipient as well as everyone in the group. This can be useful if you need to ask a question, but don't want them to know who is asking it. They can reply and everyone can see it.

Or, post a comment that cannot be seen by the recipient. If you need to get an answer from other gift givers or just let them know something, this is the way to do it.

## Secret Santa

The system will assign a random set of givers and recipients without anyone knowing who has whom!

When all of the names have been entered for your group, a simple press of a button will assign Secret Santa names for everyone and send everyone an email to let them know who their Secret Santa Recipient is.

There is also an option to keep a person from getting specific people for their Secret Santa recipient. This helps if you don't want your spouse or child as your Secret Santa recipient.

## Responsive

The site works on any device: desktop, tablet or mobile.

## Family Tested

Our family has been using Your Xmas List for years! It really does help you get exactly what you want for Christmas and usually keeps you from getting duplicates. We say **usually** because it depends on everyone marking their gifts as **Planning to purchase** or **Purchased**, and others paying attention!

# What's New

## What's new in 2020?

The 2020 version of YourXmasList contains more updates than any previous year! This year, the way children are handled has changed dramatically. You are also able to add someone to your group that does not want to participate in a gift exchange, but just wants gift ideas and have the ability to participate in the comments and gift status. These major upgrades are described below.

### 1. New way of handling children

To help with our growing family, we had to come up with a way to deal with children on Secret Santa lists. This year, we have added 5 different types of users to go along with the user model we had in years past. The user types are:

1. Participant - a regular user that logs on to the system and adds gifts to their list
2. Nonparticipant - a user that can belong to a group, but doesn't have a list of their own.
3. Participating Parent - A participant that also has one or more children.
4. Nonparticipating Parent - A nonparticipant that also has one or more children.
5. Participating Child - A child that has an email address that can log on to the system and add gifts to their list. Their gifts must be approved by the parent assigned to them.
6. Nonparticipating Child - A child that does not log on to the system. Their parent must add gifts to their list.

Please see the document on [users](#) for further information about the roles of each different type of users.

### 2. More emailed information

Just like last year, when people in your group add new gifts to their lists, you will get a daily email to alert you.

If you are a parent of one or more children, you will receive email about their activity.

If your child is nonparticipating, you will receive all emails about comments and any *POKEs* they would normally receive.

If your child is participating, you will receive all emails that go to them as well.

### 3. Approval of child's gifts

The parent of a participating child has the responsibility to approve any gift the child adds to their list. Their gift will not appear on anyone else's screen until it is approved. This is to make sure the child is asking for appropriate gifts!

# Getting Started

## Ways to Get Started

There are two ways to start using Your Xmas List:

1. Have an administrator of a current group add you to the group.
2. Start your own group.

## Add to an Existing Group

The first option is out of your control, so it will not be discussed here. You simply ask your friend/family that started the group or a group administrator to add you to their list!

## Starting a New Group

If you would like to start a new group and be the manager of that group, click on [this link](#) to access this form. The form has instructions on how to fill it out.

You will be notified by email when your group is created and you can start adding people to it.