

Best gifts under £150 this Christmas

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Looking for a Christmas gift for your tech-savvy friend or family member? Get a seriously good gift for less than £150 with some inspiration from T3



(Image credit: Future)

BY ALISTAIR CHARLTON

Having a budget of £150 to spend on your loved ones will make you very popular this Christmas, so let us help you make the right decision on where to spend that cash.

As a reader of T3, you'll likely be expecting to see some gadgets from top tech brands, and we won't disappoint. We've included some of the best wireless earphones around, plus a set of voice-controlled smart light bulbs, and one of our favourite dash cams of 2020.

Then there's the all-important coffee machine, and the slightly left-field in the form of a quality telescope perfect for first-time astronomers. This list of the best gifts for under £150 has something for everyone.

But don't worry: if you're shopping for someone more outdoorsy or fashion forward we've got suggestions for them too, thanks to a well-priced two-man tent, and a luxury vintage-style messenger bag.

We've compiled a selection of [Christmas gifts](#) to suit a budget of up to £150; if you've got slightly more – or slightly less – to spend, check out our other gift guides below and get set for a very merry Christmas.

- [The best gifts under £50 this Christmas](#)
- [The best gifts under £250 this Christmas](#)
- [Best Christmas gifts](#): inspirational present ideas for everyone



(Image credit: Apple)

1. APPLE AIRPODS

True wireless earbuds with great gift potential

REASONS TO BUY

- +Quality sound
- +Comfortable fit
- +No faffing with wires

REASONS TO AVOID

- Easy to lose
- Poor noise isolation

Take a walk down any high street and you'll see how popular AirPods are – it's white-buds-with-stick-out-arms city out there! Apple has just released [AirPods Pro](#) but they are *well* over £150. The originals remain comparatively affordable – look out for [cheap AirPods](#) especially amongst the [Black Friday deals](#) – and highly sought-after.

For sound quality and fit, the AirPods Pro or our favourite, [Beats Powerbeats Pro](#) might surpass the AirPods but Apple's true wireless superstars have several massive selling points over both of them. Firstly they're a lot cheaper – definitely one of the best gifts for under £150 you can buy this Christmas – but they are also genuine style icons, very comfortable to wear, and the way they fit means you can have them in and listen to music, use Siri or take calls, but without shutting the outside world out entirely.

Especially in quieter areas, the sound quality of the AirPods is surprisingly great, and you can't beat their ease of use, especially if you have an iOS device – although they do work fine with Android too. Nobody is going to be disappointed to receive a pair of AirPods in their stocking.

- Not a fan of Apple? Check out these other [true wireless headphones](#)
- True wireless not for you? Check out the [best over-ear headphones](#)



(Image credit: Mahabis)

2. MAHABIS CURVE SLIPPER

A functional slipper that's great for indoors and outdoors

REASONS TO BUY

- +Rubber soles
- +Super comfy wool lining
- +Warm

[£99 | MAHABIS](#)

Mahabis set out with a goal to re-invent the slipper – and they've invented a must-have Christmas present at the same time.

For those who like to potter about the house and garden on the weekend, the new-for-2020 Mahabis Curve slippers are unbeatable. Whether you're collecting the morning newspaper, taking out the bins or watering the plants, the stylish rubber soles allow you to go in and out of the house without ruining them.



Designed in London but inspired by Scandinavian aesthetics, the new Curve features an upper constructed from 'Rewooly', a sustainable felt textile made of 50% regenerated woollen fibres. The soft inner lining is made entirely of organic Italian wool, that is breathable and able to wick away moisture, keeping your feet cosy, warm and dry. The Curve is available in nine different colourways to match your personal style, and a wide range of sizes for men and women.

- [Best slippers](#)



(Image credit: Nextbase)

3. NEXTBASE 522GW DASH CAM

The dash cam to beat just became the Christmas gift to beat

REASONS TO BUY

- +Outstanding video quality
- +Comes with Alexa built in
- +Compact

The Nextbase 522GW is, quite frankly, the [best dash cam](#) you can buy regardless of budget.

Before we get into the fancy details, it's worth pointing out that the Netxbase 522GW is brilliant at the basics, recording with the best image quality you'll find on a dash cam.

But what makes it the best? Well, it comes with Alexa which means you can use it hands-free to play music and search for nearby parking. Fun aside, it also has some very impressive safety features, including Emergency SOS, which will alert the emergency services to your location should you have an accident.

If you're shopping for someone who loves their wheels, this could be the perfect accessory gift for under £150 this Christmas.

- [Best dash cam](#)



(Image credit: Apple)

4. APPLE HOMEPOD MINI

A pint-sized Siri smart speaker

REASONS TO BUY

- +Siri smarts
- +Smart home integration
- +Compact design

[£99 | PRE-ORDER FROM APPLE](#)

Apple's all-new HomePod Mini is a Siri-powered smart speaker that promises room-filling sound from its compact design. Available in black or white, the HomePod Mini smartly connects to any Apple products you already own, and can even work as a home intercom system if you buy more than one.

The £99 HomePod Mini taps into Apple Music, naturally, as well as Apple's Podcasts app, while Siri can answer your general knowledge questions, update your calendar and to-do list, and generally help manage your daily life. A smart speaker indeed.



(Image credit: Fujifilm)

5. FUJIFILM INSTAX SQ1

An affordable instant camera with a retro look and feel

REASONS TO BUY

- +Modern design
- +Automatic settings
- +Large print size
- +Selfie mode

REASONS TO AVOID

- Expensive film, as with all instant cameras

The Instax Square SQ1 is the latest addition to Fujifilm's line-up on instant cameras. This brand-new, minimalist, user-friendly camera creates square format instant prints that are 1.5 times the size of its Instax Mini counterparts.

It's designed for instant photography fans across the globe, and features Automatic Exposure and One-Touch Selfie Mode to make getting perfect pictures even easier.

One of the best things about the SQ1 is how easy it is to use – just point and shoot thanks to automatic exposure. It automatically senses the level of ambient light when the shutter button is pressed and optimises the shutter speed and flash output according to lighting conditions.

- [Best instant camera](#)



(Image credit: Nespresso)

6. NESPRESSO VERTUO NEXT

The coffee machine with different cup sizes and included milk frother

REASONS TO BUY

+Five different cup sizes from espresso to alto

+One-touch brewing

No matter how your friend takes their coffee – and no matter what size of mug they prefer – the Nespresso Vertuo Next will have them covered. This machine reads the barcode of each capsule to make sure every coffee is made perfectly, and there are five portion sizes available, from 40ml Espresso to 414ml Alto.

This bundle also includes the all-important milk frother, and operating it all is super simple; just insert the capsule for the drink you want, and the one-touch brewing system does the rest. Heat-up time is just 30 seconds and the capsule container is large enough to take 10 espresso or six mug capsules at once.

- [Best coffee maker](#)
- [Best espresso machine](#)



(Image credit: Celestron)

7. CELESTRON 31035 ASTROMASTER REFLECTOR TELESCOPE

A high-quality telescope for the hobbyist astronomer

REASONS TO BUY

- +Includes astronomy software
- +Looks professional
- +No tools required for setup

Christmas gifts can be great opportunities to spark new hobbies, and for less than £150 you can gift someone the stars... literally!

There are [better telescopes](#) we would recommend for pro astronomers, but for the beginner or hobbyist this portable option is terrific. They'll be able to see the Moon, plus nearby planets, and it comes with Starry Night astronomy software with a 10,000 object database, printable sky maps and 75 enhanced images to get them started.

It comes with two 1.25" eyepieces (20mm and 10mm) and a StarPointer red dot finderscope. This telescope has an aperture of 76mm, a focal length of 700mm and a magnification range of between 11x and 180x. What's more, the lenses aren't plastic like you often find in some cheaper telescopes, so you're gifting a quality, portable telescope for under £150.

- [Best telescope](#)



(Image credit: Paria Outdoors)

8. PARIA OUTDOORS BRYCE 2-MAN BACKPACKING TENT

An affordable tent that's great for backpacking, kayaking... and camping

REASONS TO BUY

+Lightweight

+Bright colour makes it extra safe

+Waterproof

We promised that not every gift in this list would be a gadget or gizmo, so for the outdoorsy types we recommend the Bryce backpacking tent from Paria.

For under £150 they'll get a lightweight, waterproof tent that's easy to pitch and comfortably sleeps two people. Perfect for romantic breaks or weekends away with the best bud. It comes with everything they'll need, including a one-piece collapsible pole set, 12 aluminium alloy Y-stakes, and a reflective guy line.

Also included are three stuff sacks for the guy lines, poles and stakes, helping to keep everything organised, and dry.

- [The best tents](#)
- [The best backpacking tents](#)



(Image credit: Signify)

9. PHILIPS HUE SMART LIGHT STARTER KIT

Take the first steps towards building a smart home

REASONS TO BUY

- +Includes three multicolour E27 bulbs
- +Works with Alexa, Google Home and Apple HomeKit
- +Easily expandable

Smart lighting is a common first step to make when building a smart home. So if your loved one already has a smart speaker with Alexa or the Google Assistant, this kit will set them on their way towards the wonders of voice-controlled smart lighting.

This kit includes the Bridge hub needed to connect Hue light to the router (and onwards to the smartphone app), plus three bulbs that can be adjusted to any colour, temperature and brightness. E27, B22 and GU10 bulb fixtures are all available.

These lights can be configured to simulate sunrise (perfect for waking you up on a dark winter's morning), then provide bright, crisp light during the day to help with concentration, before shifting to a soft, warm glow in the evening. Or you can turn them all bright blue, it's your call.



(Image credit: Pure)

10. PURE HIGHWAY 600

Digital radio adapter for more tunes in crystal clear digital DAB quality

REASONS TO BUY

- +Easy to install
- +20 station presets

Do you know someone who is fed up to always listening to the same radio station on their daily commute? Set them free with the Pure Highway 600, a DAB digital adapter that's packed full of features.

The basics? They can listen to a vast selection of music crisply and clearer, whether that's on the radio or via your phone. Yes, not only can they program in 20 DAB radio stations, but they can also play any music, or podcasts, straight from their smartphone, wirelessly.

Beyond music, the Pure Highway 600 has built-in voice control, allowing them to make and take calls over Bluetooth, all hands free.

Our favourite feature is the "Go" button, which lets you add songs you hear on the radio straight to playlists.



(Image credit: Simba)

11. SIMBA ORBIT WEIGHTED BLANKET

Nano-bead blanket promises a better, deeper sleep

REASONS TO BUY

- +Extra weight claimed to help sleep
- +Removable, breathable and washable cotton

Know someone who struggles to get a good night of deep, restful sleep? Help is at hand, thanks to the Simba Orbit weighted blanket. Filled with weighted glass beads and with a soft cotton exterior, the blanket is designed to help calm you down with a full-body hug each and every night. Dreamy.

Simba claims the extra weight helps your nervous system switch from 'fight or flight' mode to 'rest and relax', which also helps to regulate your heartbeat, relax your muscles and put your mind at ease. The blanket is available in a single size (so not to disrupt your partner) and there are two weight options of 6.8kg and 9kg.