

BUY DETROIT

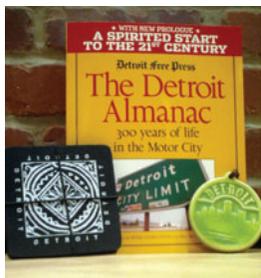
GIFT INSIDER DISCOVERS DETROIT-THEMED PRESENTS

Gift Expert Lindsay Roberts, editor of TheGiftInsider.com, scours local boutiques, magazines and the web to find the best, newest, coolest, and most unique and creative gift ideas around so that you don't have to. Roberts is a West Bloomfield native living in Chicago. Detroit pride remains in her heart, and The Gift Insider brand.

DETROIT'S CITY BIRD BOUTIQUE



City Bird is a cool boutique that is full of Detroit-themed gifts with urban appeal. They use images from vintage Detroit street maps on a range of products - from clocks to soaps to jewelry. For the holidays, this glass Renaissance Center Ornament is a unique and thoughtful gift to stock up on for out-of-town family and friends. *460 West Canfield, Detroit, ilovecitybird.com. Price: \$10.*



THE DETROIT SHOPPE

If you haven't checked out Somerset's The Detroit Shoppe, part museum, part retail and completely dedicated to all things Detroit, you'd better hurry over soon, as it closes its doors forever on January 23 (the last day of the Detroit Auto Show). As if the concept isn't cool enough, they donate all proceeds from

store sales to Detroit charities and cultural institutions. Stock up on Faygo, Coney Dog Kits, Vernors, Motown music, iconic Detroit photographs and their Detroit Moves Me T-shirt. *The Detroit Shoppe, The Somerset Collection, Troy, detroitmovesme.com. Prices vary.*

ELM DESIGN LOFT BOUTIQUE

Mark Keller blazed a path for a fashion alternative to mainstream culture when he opened his first women's clothing store back in 1975. Mark has that edgy cool eye for fashion and has dressed the independent-minded women of Detroit for 30 years. He recently opened, ELM Design, a loft boutique located above the ultra-chic Linda Dresner store in downtown Birmingham. Fashion here is more about independent style rather than trends. From my mom's generation to my own, he's oh so cool. *ELM Design Loft Boutique, 99 West Maple Road, Birmingham, www.elm.is. Prices vary.*

Lindsay Roberts



MITTENBERRY – TOASTY TEXTING

Michiganders Ed and Vivian Weng are a brother and sister duo who found a need for something and made it happen. They created Mittenberry, a line of cute and cozy mittens with thumb flaps for easy texting, emailing and bbming. No more freezing hands while trying to operate your phone. Genius and perfect for Michigan winters. *mittenberry.com/theshop. Price: \$24.99.*



DETROIT GRAFFITI PILLOWS

If you've checked out our site before, you know The Gift Insider is obsessed with the Detroit Graffiti Collection. Local Detroit artist Julie Istvan is the face behind these designs - unique and classy with just the perfect amount of urban edge. The collection's T-shirts are pretty cool, too. *Denise Ilitch Designs, 2253 Cole Street, Birmingham, deniseilitchdesigns.com. Prices vary.*



PURE DETROIT SHOP

Happen to be downtown and in need of an authentic Detroit-themed gift? Check out one of Pure Detroit's three shops in the city - stocked with unique tees, hoodies, books and memorabilia designed by local artists. *Pure Detroit Shop, three Downtown Detroit Locations, puredetroit.com. Price: \$32.*



LOCALLY MADE EXOTIC SKIN PURSES

The luxe b.may line of exotic reptile skin bags is highly coveted this holiday season. The bag designs are simple — all about color and texture. You might see some exotic colored python, but very little hardware or embellishment. Designer Barbara May handcrafts all of these unique pieces in her northern Michigan Baglab, a renovated Bay Shore cottage and handbag showroom. *Linda Dresner, 299 West Maple Road, Birmingham, MI 48009, bmaybags.com. Prices vary.*  — Lindsay Roberts

TheGiftInsider.com is a free gift recommendation service that helps connect web-savvy shoppers with hand-selected, creative gift ideas. The site lets visitors browse for gifts by price, person, occasion or personality and offers exclusive discount codes for most featured items.

