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Christmas gifts for food lovers

A fabulous selection of festive treats for the foodies in your life. By Emma Marsden



Cover up

We love this slogan-led pinny for its tongue-in-cheek environmentally friendly message!

Save water drink champagne apron, £25, [The General Trading Company](#)



Crack it

A keepsake box for serving nuts, which cannily houses nutcrackers. Why not fill it with whole walnuts, brazils, pecans and hazelnuts before wrapping.

Walnut box with cracker, £19.50, www.divertimenti.co.uk



Extra special

A good preserve should taste of its source – not be just sugary (as many jams are) or a jumble of indistinct vegetables, vinegar and sugar (as many chutneys are). This one combines locally sourced ingredients, is made without additives and boasts the strong and wonderful flavours of pumpkin and nut. Delicious on toast or with cheese - and a fab festive treat for any foodie.

José pumpkin and nut preserve, £7, www.conranshop.co.uk



Festive feast

Here's a hamper packed with yummy goodies and Cornish credentials. It contains all the ingredients you want *and need* to have in over Christmas – cheese, ale, chutney, oatcakes and ham – packed in a use-again wicker basket.

Ploughman's hamper, £39.50, [The Eden](#)



Pudding in a bottle

This chocolate and raspberry vodka is a great alternative to giving a bottle of whisky at Christmas. The flavours work incredibly well: there's a good balance between the fruity sweetness and the powerful kick of vodka. Enjoy a slosh neat, chilled or drizzled over chocolate cake for an indulgent finish.

Stoli Chocolat Razberi vodka, £19.59, www.thedrinkshop.com



Grow your own

An educational and horticultural gift, this box contains the seeds you to grow the topping for a home-baked pizza: tomatoes, basil and oregano. It's peat-free so is also environmentally friendly as the pots and compost discs are made from coconut husk.

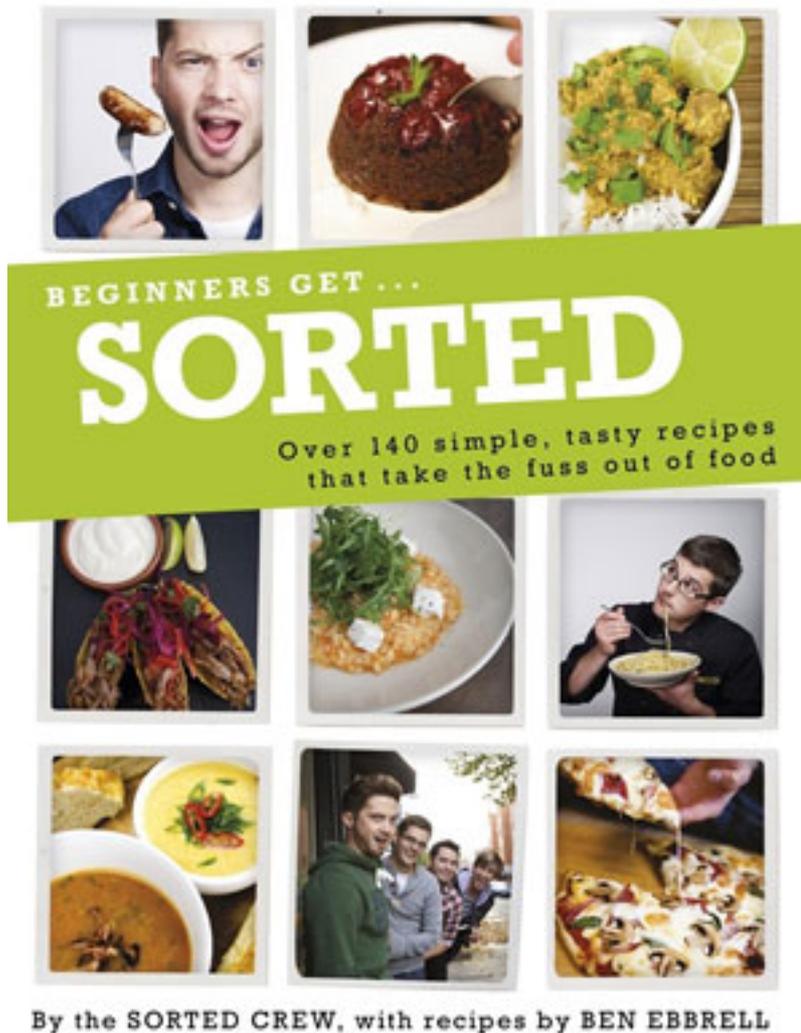
Sow and Grow Pizza Chef gift box,
£10, www.cargohomeshop.com



Artisan treat

Amelia Rope makes her chocolates with oils such as lemon, and as the chocolate melts in the mouth, the flavour slowly seeps out. Her chocolate is hand-blended, made from single-origin chocolate and totally delicious!

Amelia Rope chocolates, £16 for 12 cubes, www.ameliarope.com



Sorted!

The 'Sorted' crew are childhood pals with an infectious passion for food and they are out to prove that you can have a bit of fun in the kitchen with their clear, inspiring recipes. This is a cookbook every budding foodie should own.

Beginners get... Sorted cookbook,
£16.99, www.allaboutyoubookshop.co.uk

Look here too...

[Freeze-ahead recipes for Christmas](#)
[Christmas cake and pud recipes](#)
[Christmas craft projects](#)



Learn something new

Know someone who's passionate about chocolate? The city of York has a heritage of chocolate making that stretches over the last 300 years. And when the wind's blowing in the right direction, you can still smell it being made. This tour is a wonderful chance to see, hear and explore how York built its wealth from chocolate, and enjoy tastings along the way.

York's Sweet Story, from £25 for a family ticket (two adults and two children) if you book online, www.yorkschocolatestory.com



Mix your own gin

A kit that contains individual botanical distillates (the posh term for gin 'flavours') for gin-lovers to blend a unique spirit. It's produced by London's smallest distillery, which also makes Sacred Gin and Vodka. The 'Traditional Collection', pictured here, is organic and contains essential juniper, with mixed citrus, angelica, cardamom, coriander and liquorice. Fun and fabulous.

Sacred Microdistillery Gin Blending Kit, around £87.50, www.sacredgin.com

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