

Shower Power

YOUR BEST FRIEND IS CRANKY, BIG AS A HOUSE AND IN NEED OF GIFTS. HERE'S HOW TO APPEASE HER. BY STEPHANIE CASTRO

1 DOUBLE DUTY

The ergonomic design and perfectly located pockets of the **O Yikes! Diaper Bag** (\$170) are just the beginning. Add the endless supplies—an insulated universal-size bottle holder, plastic case for baby wipes, diaper-changing pad and more—and an urban, lime, the bag also comes in purple-grape, tangerine-raspberry and frosted titanium. We love the daddy-friendly slingback version because it fits like a backpack, but it also comes in messenger-bag style. oyikes.com

2 SQUARE DANCE

You can't predict how long your baby will sleep (if only!), but you can count on the **Claude Cashmere Blanket** (\$155) to keep her snugly soft. Blocks of recycled cashmere are sewn together like a timeless quilt, but the pattern looks modern—sure to satisfy the new mom's craving for both coziness and chic. Available at [Pumpkin](http://Pumpkin.com), 3366 Sacramento St., 415-567-6780, pumpkinbabes.com

3 FREE THROW

Let's face it, design magazines don't often feature nurseries in their pages—if any room in the house is about function over form, it's this one. But would it hurt to dress it up a little? Design-minded parents will love **Bunny and Bee's decorative nursery pillows** (\$40 each), in four modern, graphic prints. The covers are machine-washable—convenient for the spit-up years. Available at [Egg & the Urban Mercantile](http://Egg&theUrbanMercantile.com), 85 Carl St., 415-564-2248 or bunnycandbee.com

4 NO-BRAINER

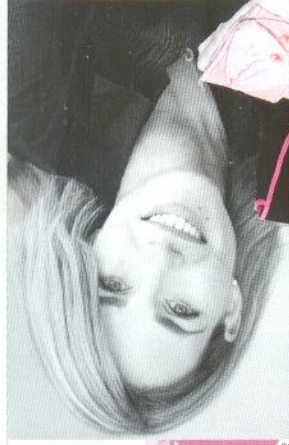
Gift baskets eliminate the need to decide on just one present. A true nod to the classics, **Luxebaby Gifts' Perfect Collection** (\$116) is aimed at baby and Mom: It includes a hand-sewn rag doll, painted wooden blocks, Erbaviva Baby Shampoo and Soap, a brag book and a CD of lullabies. The idea was spawned when friends Terri Korolev and Nancy Lipira-Ferrara—local moms and Luxebaby Gifts co-owners—struggled with what to buy their pregnant friends. luxebabygifts.com

5 IF MAMA AIN'T HAPPY ...

Hormones might make a pregnant woman temporarily unable to ask her partner for help in ... um, emotionally appropriate ways. To the rescue, the coupon booklet **You Owe Me: 30 Favors for the Mom-to-Be** (Chronicle Books, \$6). These pretty pink IOUs let Mom cash in on things like "a movie date," "a maternity shopping spree" and "an uninterrupted nap." Who could argue with that? The expectant mom's stress level will go down just thumbing through this little book. chroniclebooks.com

6 SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED

They've got starter kits for growing bonsai—why not one for growing children? Enter the **Nikkichris Special Delivery System** (\$229): a 38-piece set of essentials for the mom-to-be. "People want to chip in on a stroller," says Joyce Hoelzie (at left), who named her company after her daughter. "Sometimes they forget about the little items you need to get started." Those include onesies, toiletries, a digital thermometer and baby nail clippers, plus dozens of other supplies your friend will soon be unable to live without. Choose from neutral, pink or blue detail. Available at [Plain Jane's](http://PlainJane's.com), 44 West Portal Ave., 415-759-7487 or nikkichris.com



design for life

BABY & ME