



It's Easy to Turn an Empty Shoebox into a Gift!

1. Decorate your Empty Shoebox



- Please wrap the top and bottom of the Shoebox **separately**. If you have trouble, [watch a tutorial](#).
- Don't have enough empty Shoeboxes lying around? Consider picking up decorative boxes from a dollar store or craft store.
- Please use standard sized Shoeboxes, not oversized boot boxes or child-sized boxes. We want everyone to receive a gift similar in size and value.
- Use good quality paper and avoid using bows and intricate ribbon, as boxes are usually stacked on top of one another and undergo some degree of wear and tear during transport

2. Fill your Shoebox

- Each Shoebox must be valued at approximately \$50 – see our suggested items below!
- Consider lining the Shoeboxes with tissue paper first for a more polished, elegant look
- Don't overstuff your box; make sure the lid fits on properly and doesn't pop off
- Avoid including items that are overly delicate to avoid anything getting broken in transit

Tip: The high quality of our gifts is an important element that sets The Shoebox Project apart from other donations the shelters receive throughout the year. Select only items that you would like to receive as a gift or items that you might purchase for your mother or a close friend!

Tip: Shoeboxes that come in two-pieces are much easier to wrap than the one-piece boxes with lids that fold over.





Please DO:

- Wrap the lid and bottom of the shoebox separately
- Include only new and unused items
- Use a regular-sized shoebox
- Remove the price tags
- Include items that total about \$50

Please DON'T:

- Don't wrap your box shut - it must be opened and inspected before distribution
- Don't use an over-sized box
- Don't include items totaling a value of much more or less than \$50 (so that all women will receive similar gifts)

What to Include:

- Something warm: socks, mitts, scarf, hat, hand warmers, specialty teas
- Something sweet: nut-free chocolate and candy (not alcohol-filled)
- Perfume, earrings, bracelet
- Body or hand lotion, soaps, toothbrush, toothpaste
- Brush, comb, shampoo, conditioner
- Nail polish, mascara, eye shadow, lipstick, lip balm
- Shower gel
- Purse-sized Kleenex, small cosmetic bag
- Gift cards (Tim Hortons, Shoppers, McDonalds, etc.)
 - *Please write the amount on the card or include the receipt*
- Bus tickets
- Journals, colouring books, pens, coloured pencils
- Supportive message

What to Leave Out:

- Used goods
- Hotel Samples
- Sized clothing (i.e. S, M, L, XL)
- Mouthwash containing alcohol
- Candles
- Foundations, concealers
- Hand-sanitizers
- Razors
- Jumbo-sized containers
- Books
- Feminine hygiene products
- Anything opened or not packaged



3. Write an Inspirational Message

Women who receive a gift from The Shoebox Project are touched by the effort that goes into decorating the Shoebox as well as the special cards, messages, and poems contained inside. Get creative and have fun!



4. Drop it off

Please check for drop-off details. **DEADLINE
DECEMBER 1ST**

Please note that we **do not** issue charitable receipts for donations of Shoeboxes.



5. Don't forget to share!

It's fun to share photos of your Shoebox or your Shoebox-making party on <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Muskoka-Shoebox-Project/1675042822739884>

QUESTIONS

Email us at muskoka@shoeboxproject.com

