



Themed Gift Basket Tutorial

A gift basket is a really fun gift idea for your hard-to-buy-for friends and family because you can fill it with a variety of cool items and personalize it to the recipient. Plus, the cool presentation of a gift basket can make a few inexpensive items look like a million bucks! Here are a few easy tips and ideas to help you build your next gift basket:



1. **Select your theme.** For the gift basket shown here, we used a Valentine's Day theme, sticking to pink and red colors.
2. **Select your container.** We used a plain bamboo basket, but you could get creative with your containers — try a popcorn bucket, canvas bag, storage container, laundry basket, or a plastic bin.
3. **Add some filler.** Stuff the bottom of your container full of filler, such as tissue paper or metallic shreds, a t-shirt, etc. This helps hold items in place, adds a little color, and fills in any extra space.
4. **Fill your basket with gifts.** These should be centered around your theme. Again, our theme is Valentine's Day, so we chose gifts that would be ideal for your sweetie, such as candles, a date night **activity jar**, **sugar scrub**, and a **DIY designer frame**. (Hunt for these basket-filling gift ideas on this month's Value Seekers Club page.)
5. **Add finishing touches.** Finish off your basket with a basket bag or cellophane. This helps keep your gift items in place and keeps items from falling out of the basket. Add a pretty bow and maybe even a foil balloon or two and it's ready to give.

More Gift Basket Theme Ideas:

1. **Baby Shower**
 - **Base Container** – Choose one of our basket totes or square plastic slot baskets... the new mom can use this later to store baby's bath items or to organize items on the changing table.
 - **Filler** – Use paper shreds in pink, blue, or yellow. Or, use baby wash cloths to fill the bottom of your container.

- Gifts – Stop by Dollar Tree and pick up a variety of baby items such as bottles, pacifiers, wipes, wash, shampoo, lotion, powder, wash cloths, socks, petroleum jelly, etc.
- Finishing touches – Tie the basket off with a pretty pink or blue bow. Grab a few of our baby balloons and attach it to the gift for an extra special touch.

2. College Care Package

- Base Container – For a base gift that keeps on giving, choose our laundry basket. Your college student can use this for laundry or storage later.
- Filler – Grab a bunch of kitchen towels from Dollar Tree and line the bottom of the basket. These can be used later for kitchen cleanup and more.
- Gifts – We carry an endless variety of cool items perfect for a college care package. Here's a small list to get you started: laundry detergent, dryer sheets, household cleaning supplies, food, candy, snacks, kitchen utensils (pizza cutter, ice cream scoop, spatulas, can/bottle opener, measuring cups/spoons, etc.) food storage containers, paper plates/cups/napkins, paper towels, toilet paper, and so much more. Add a Dollar Tree gift card as well — there's sure to be some items come up that the student will need.
- Finishing touches – Use our roll cellophane to “wrap” the basket. Tape the loose ends of the cellophane to the underside of the basket and add a curly ribbon bow to the top.

3. The Spa Experience (great for birthdays, thank yous, or thinking of yous)

- Base Container – Choose one of our bamboo baskets. This can be used later on the bathroom counter or in the closet for toiletry storage.
- Filler – Use net scrubbie sponges for a cool and functional touch.
- Gifts – Think relaxation and rest! Stop by Dollar Tree and pick up items such as body wash, scented body lotion, microfiber facial cloths and scrubbers, eye/sleep masks, candles, bath salts, manicure/pedicure items, wine glasses, chocolate, and more.
- Finishing touches – Use one of our clear plastic basket bags to “wrap” the gift, tying it off with a pretty ribbon bow.

Fun Tips:

- Smaller items that could fall to the bottom of the basket should be left in the packaging for stability and better placement, while bigger items could be taken out of the packaging.
- When arranging gifts inside your basket, it is best to place your largest items first, then fill in around with your smaller items. If you need to, use small pieces of tape to tape items together for better stability.