

Still Trying to Find that Perfect Gift? Kiva Cards Enable Family and Friends to Give the Gift of Hope Around the World

Buy it last-minute and deliver online - Kiva Cards Offer a Unique, Meaningful Gift That Keeps on Giving

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December 20, 2012 – Even last minute gift ideas can make a world of difference. With Christmas just around the corner, you may have put off picking a gift for that hard-to-shop-for person -- or you may have simply run out of time.

Don't fret: the Kiva Card is a quick, easy and meaningful gift option that gives your friends and family a way to support entrepreneurs around the globe. For as little as \$25, Kiva Cards give those special people in your life the opportunity to change someone else's — halfway around the world or even in their own backyard. Simply visit www.kiva.org/gifts to print out a Kiva Card or send it through Facebook or email.

Kiva is the world's first and largest nonprofit microlending platform with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Together, with its growing community of 920,000 lenders, Kiva has crowd-funded more than \$380 million in microloans to 855,000 people in 66 countries, including the U.S.

With a \$25 Kiva Card, the people on your list will find something that they can truly connect with, no matter what their interests are. When your Kiva Card recipient redeems the \$25 loan credit on Kiva.org, they can browse through hundreds stories and photos of people around the world seeking small loans. They can then choose who they want to lend the \$25 to -- from a small business owner in a country they may have visited, to artisans, farmers, clean energy users and many more.

As the borrower repays, your Kiva Card recipient will get updates on their progress. With a 98.9% repayment rate, your gift recipient can lend to people on Kiva.org again and again, making your gift the one that truly keeps on giving.

"The spirit of giving that surrounds the holidays is a powerful force for good," says Kiva President Premal Shah. "A beautiful aspect of the Kiva Card is that the recipient can lend their support to people they connect with and the \$25 can be loaned again and again, extending the spirit of the holidays year-round for years to come."

Kiva Cards are a great way to spread joy around the world and back this holiday season. Visit <http://www.kiva.org/gifts> to give a Kiva Card today.

No matter who's on your list, Kiva Cards can connect them with the causes, people and places they care about:

The Foodie

Kiva supports loans for people around the world engaged in sustainable, fair trade and artisan foods from beekeepers in Kenya, an organic coffee co-op in Mexico, a baker in New Orleans and many more.

Gifts for Women

Kiva Cards are the perfect gift for any women in your life. Over 80% of the borrowers on Kiva are women, and lending to a woman can change the course of history. She starts or expands a business, hires local workers, uses the money to send her children to school and purchase goods from neighboring vendors. The local economy is stronger because of her. Her family is stronger because of her. Help spark a ripple effect of change powered by women around the world.

Gifts for Geeks

Kiva Cards are perfect for the techies and knowledge buffs in your life who like to geek out. Not only will a Kiva Card allow them to help change someone's life, they're guaranteed to get drawn into browsing the inspiring borrower profiles and picking the person whose business they think sounds most promising. Whether they're interested in finance, travel, culture, business or tech, Kiva has it all.

Education

Kiva supports loans for families and students seeking loans for tuition, school supplies or ways to expand household income so that attending school is possible. Kiva lenders help to fund 0% interest student loans in regions where education is too often out of reach.

Clean Energy

This holiday season you can purchase a "green" gift for a friend or family member by giving them a Kiva Card. Kiva supports a wide variety of clean energy loans in regions where there is little access to electricity and people rely on kerosene cook stoves and lamps that are costly, unhealthy and dangerous. With solar lamps, children are able to study longer and parents can work from their homes to help bring in additional income.

Preserving Traditional Artistry

Kiva supports a range of artisan and traditional craftspeople from weavers and woodworkers to cooks and jewelry makers. For example, traditional Zapotec weaving has been an indigenous art form in Mexico dating back before Europeans arrived. Kiva lenders funded a loan that helps to preserve this ancient art through the support of a man's workshop that also houses several other traditional weavers. This is just one of many examples.