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Generations



New products for 2016 holiday time

By Peg DeMarco - Special to The News Herald

Earlier this year, some new products made their debut on the horizon and now, since we're about to gear up for the holiday season, perhaps one or two might interest those of you who can't seem to find that special holiday gift for someone who is difficult to shop for.

The first that caught my eye was NeoCover. If you know someone who can't seem to find his or her car keys, watch or glasses, or perhaps a busy carpenter who constantly misplaces his favorite hammer, or an electrician on the run whose Phillips is his lifeline, or anyone who has to get to school or work on time and wants to avoid traffic or a slew of school buses, then this gadget might help.

Neocover is a standard light switch cover with a magnetic touch. Powered by super-strong rare earth neodymium magnets, it grips most metals with seemingly magical strength. It comes with nickel-plated key rings capable of holding up to 27 keys, and it's safe to use with flash drives, security cards, remote access auto keys and similar electronic products. It comes in neutral white and fits well in any house, office or building. For those of you who cringe at something else to install, it boasts, "If you can use a screwdriver, you can install it in seconds on your existing light switch." It's available online at www.neo-cover.com for \$19.95.

The second item was Seyver, an ultra-thin, top-grain leather wallet that doubles as a phone or tablet charger. This would be a super gift for someone who travels everywhere with his or her phone, but often forgets the charger. The charging wallet holds six cards, has a money clip for cash and receipts, and includes an integrated power bank with a lithium-polymer battery. Designers kept the wallet slim (about a half-inch thick), and you can charge Android devices up to 50% and Apple devices up to 70 percent. It even comes with a cable built in, so there's nothing else you need to remember. As long as you've got your wallet, you've got power.

For those of you who knows someone who loves exercising or training for any type of marathon while listening to his or her favorite music, but wants something new and unique, there is AfterShokz headphones. These headphones' transducers guide mini vibrations through the cheekbones to the inner ears that bypasses the eardrums completely and delivers sound without plugging or covering the ears. With nothing ever in, on or covering the ears, users can expect maximum ambient sound awareness while listening to music, other audio or making/taking a call. Lightweight and secure, they sell for about \$130 and come in pink, blue or black. Check them out at www.aftershokz.com.

If you know a creative person who travels around with a notepad all day long, perhaps AquaNotes might be a super gift. This waterproof notepad allows you to record your ideas while you're in the shower. Durable, you can even write underwater and they're recyclable, environmentally friendly, and the notepad is printed with soy-based ink. It's held on the shower wall by a suction cup as is the pencil. Replacement waterproof paper and extra pencils are price friendly and available at www.myaquanotes.com.

If you know someone who constantly throws objects at his or her alarm clock and hates to get up in the morning, Philips has Wake Up Light priced at \$69.99 that wakes you up naturally using sunrise simulation and a gentle beep. Inspired by nature's sunrise, light gradually increases within 30 minutes until your room is filled with bright yellow light. This process stimulates your body to wake up naturally and peacefully and its 10 light settings differs per personal taste.

This sounded super except that the sound of the beep increases in volume. It stops when you tap the top, but after 9 minutes, the gentle beep starts again, making it even more enticing to aim a shoe at.

Hope these products give you some ideas for those difficult to buy for friends and relatives.

Note to my children: Mom passes on the AquaNotes since her creativity doesn't increase with any amount of water, so please just continue with the occasional box of candy.

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