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COURTNEY PITT

### LOVE THE TOOLS

Engraved silver flasks make great gifts, but they can be way too expensive. A new twist on this old favorite is an **English Leather-**

**Covered Flask** ideal for 7 oz. of any drink concoction. It comes with a captive top (which means you can't lose it), gold-plated snap-on ball markers, four wooden tees, and divot tool (slips into the back). The guys will love the idea of a "flask with tools." It is made of stainless steel and is light and small enough to fit in a shirt pocket. Priced at \$38, your friends will think this flask is well over a c-note. This great gift can be found at **I Do! I Do! Wedding Accessories** (4704 N. Damen 773.9078890).

### SWEET AS CANDY

Different cultures have different traditions and even though they might be foreign to you, a good party planner can pull ideas from everywhere to make any party a personal reflection. The Italian traditional **Bomboniera** can be commandeered for your own party and your non-Italian guests will complement the ingenious idea. **Confetti Pelino** can customize any color or flower type you wish with Italian sugared-almond centerpieces and floral



favors. The prize-winning candies are made by hand in a four-day process from a recipe over 300 years old. No flour or other starches are used, making these unique confections delicious and truly authentic. Being inventive and resourceful on a tight budget, doesn't mean you have to sacrifice quality and style. Prices start around \$3 for flowers and centerpieces start at \$25. For more information visit [www.confettipelino.com](http://www.confettipelino.com).



### SCENT OF A WOMAN

Smelling nice is always important, but for a gal under pressure, it is a delicate balance between smelling overwhelming and having just a hint of fragrance. **Burberry BRIT RED** is a special edition fragrance with an eccentric and playful attitude that will last for hours and not knock people off their feet. This scent is infused with red roses and warm vanilla to give it an elegant and sensual character. This great gift for a girl on the go comes in a sexy and fiery red bottle. Perfect anytime for getting into party mood. The Eau de Parfum is \$62 for 1.7 oz. and can be found at Saks Fifth Avenue.



# THE LIST

CONTINUED...

## TRUE BLUE

So you finally went to a wedding you enjoyed. The bride and groom are really in love and you think it might last so you want to get them a gift. **Bloomingdale's**, which has a fantastic bridal registry department and staff dedicated to helping the couple select just what they want, also does a fabulous job of helping you—the friend—pick out something special from their long list of unique gifts. Feeling creative? Give them the **Orrefors Intermezzo Blue**



**Martini Glass** (\$99—pair of glasses) and **Decanter** (\$115). Then make up the Happy-Couple-Martini recipe all on your own. Pick up some Grey Goose and create a customized drink (for ideas on vodka cocktails see DIY on page 102) on a note card and include it with the glasses. They will remember you every time they have a cocktail in their chic stemware. For more information please visit [www.bloomingdales.com](http://www.bloomingdales.com).

## PLAYFUL AND GRACEFUL

It is official... the friend has everything, and you don't know what to get her for her birthday; we have the solution. **A Perfect Event** (3050 N. Lincoln) has created the most fashionable accessory around: a **Boa** with giant orchids interlaced throughout the feathers. Any gal pal will love the idea of throwing on a stylish and elegant boa for the night of her big bash. The custom made pieces start at around \$300. Whether her style is traditional or modern, this graceful accessory is sure to make her stand out in the crowd. For more information, please call 773.244.9333 or visit [www.aperfectevent.com](http://www.aperfectevent.com).



## CAN I GET AN AMEN?

So many parties mean so many plates of meat in a cream sauce, tons of champagne, and don't forget the ever present obligatory piece of cake. The Chicken Dance and the Electric Slide will not burn those calories off. Now that you are pray-



ing that you don't have to go to any more events, and if you do... you fit into your clothes, you might as well combine the two. **Gospel Aerobics at Crunch Marina City** (350 N. State, 888.2CRUNCH) will have you saying Hallelujah to your body and soul! This 60-minute sermon of hi-lo aerobics includes spontaneous singing by some of Chicago's most popular church choirs. Pay for your sinful calories by doing an inspirational workout.

## BEACH GEAR

Give all of your girlfriends one of these must haves of the season... **Hand-Made Flip-Flops**. This adorable footwear comes from Brazil and the thong is made with French silk. The designer hand paints polka dots and finishes them with a bow. They come in every color of the rainbow and are just perfect for a walk on the beach or a cocktail in the cabana. The Flip-Flops are just under \$33 and can be found at **M Boutique** (711 W. Armitage, 312.397.1390). **scene**

