

Winter Wishes Frequently Asked Questions

*Thank you for your interest in Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts.
Your involvement helps provide a happy holiday for families in need.*

How should I choose my family?

There are several things to consider when choosing a family to sponsor. Reading family stories and finding one that speaks to you is a good place to start. Select a family size that fits your budget as well.

On average, how much does it cost to provide holiday gifts to a child?

Donors have shared that on average, the cost to provide holiday gifts is about \$300 per child. Hitting sales and using coupons is a great way to stretch your dollars.

Am I the only person buying for this family?

Yes, once you select a family you are the only one buying for that family. Once you have chosen your family we ask that you try to buy as many items on the list as possible.

Do I need to purchase all the gifts on the child's list?

We ask that you try to buy as many items on the list as possible. We have worked with families to list what the children want most.

Can I buy more gifts than what is listed?

Yes. Some donors will complete the list and get extra things, too.

Can I personalize gifts?

No. All names of children and caregivers have been changed to protect their privacy. Please, do not personalize anything.

Can I sponsor more than one family?

Yes, you can sponsor more than one family.

Can I sponsor a family with colleagues at work?

Yes. Donors can be families, groups of work friends, members of clubs, and organizations too. To help keep things organized, we do ask that all gifts for that family be delivered to Beverly Bootstraps at the same time.

Should all the items be new or can I give gently used items?

We ask that all holiday gifts are new. No used items, please.

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Should I wrap the gifts?

No. Gifts should be dropped off at Beverly Bootstraps unwrapped. Parents/Caregivers will wrap the gifts for their children. This allows them to participate in the gift-giving, and so that they know what their children are getting.

Can I include wrapping supplies (wrapping paper, tape, bows, etc.) with my gifts?

Yes, that is very helpful. Parents/Caregivers will be given these supplies to wrap the gifts for their children.

Should I include gift receipts?

Yes, please. Including gift receipts is helpful in case exchanges are needed. Remember to remove your personal information from all receipts being included with gifts. Additionally, please keep copies of all your receipts for tax purposes (see below for tax information).

Can I buy a gift for the Parents/Caregivers?

While gifts are not expected, some donors do include a little something for Parents/Caregivers.

If I purchase a gift for the Parents/Caregivers, should I wrap it?

Yes. All kids' gifts should remain unwrapped, but if you purchase a gift for the Parent/Caregiver, that gift can be wrapped so it is a surprise. If you do purchase and wrap a gift, please be sure to put a label stating who it is for (i.e. "For Mom" or "For Caregiver", etc.)

When and where do I drop off my gifts?

Gifts are dropped off the week after Thanksgiving at Beverly Bootstraps, 35 Park Street, Beverly, MA. Once you have selected your family, you will receive more detailed instructions about the drive-thru drop-off days and times.

Will I receive a tax receipt for my participation in Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts?

No. Per IRS regulations, Beverly Bootstraps is unable to provide you with a tax receipt. You will receive a thank you letter from us in mid-January and we recommend attaching your Winter Wishes receipts to this letter. Please consult a tax adviser regarding the value for your tax purposes to determine whether these contributions are deductible in your personal circumstances.

Thank you again for your interest in Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts.

Happy Holidays!