

The Animal Lover

People everywhere love their pets, and some people take it to an extreme. It's easy to find someone on your Christmas shopping list who loves to pamper their pooches or cuddle their cats.

When shopping for animal lovers, remember you're shopping for their pet, too. You should look for gifts that will make both the pet and the owner happy when they open it.

A PAMPERED PET

Most animal lovers treat their pets like royalty, and you should look for gifts that do the same.

One area to consider is the place they sleep at night. High-end doghouses or pet beds can be a great way to make them feel more cozy. You can also look for grooming products that will give them a spa-like experience — including a pleasant scent that should make the owner happy.

Finally, think about getting some bling. Sequined cat collars, decorated leashes and even cute clothing and pet accessories can add some sparkle to an animal's style.

SEAT COVERS

Many pet lovers won't go anywhere unless Fido tags along. For people who frequently travel with their pets — especially bigger animals — it makes sense to protect their car while transporting them.

Seat covers can be a good option. Some covers are designed specifically for pets, which means they can be easily removed and cleaned. They're also designed to protect seats from any pet stains that ordinary seat covers couldn't stop.

PHOTO GIFTS

Just like human members of the family, pets can be remembered and celebrated with photos.

Look for gifts that would look great on the mantle. Pet-related photo frames, along with customized photo gifts such as blankets and mugs, can be good options for people who can't get enough of their pets.

You could also consider talking to a local professional photographer to see

if they offer pet photography as an option. A photo package could be a the perfect present for an owner who wants to remember their animals forever.

MICROCHIPPING

Finally, you can get peace of mind by paying to have pets microchipped in case they're ever lost.

Pets that are stolen or wander from home can be lost forever. New tech-

nology can help find them, though, if they end up at a shelter or veterinarian's office where their microchip is scanned. The owner's information can then be pulled up on a computer so the pet can be reunited with them.

Most vet offices offer microchipping as a service. They will charge a one-time fee for the procedure, plus an ongoing fee that covers keeping the computer database updated. See if you can buy both the microchip and the ongoing service as a gift.

