

# REAL SIMPLE

| life made easier |

## Your holiday get-ahead guide:

step-by-step recipes  
affordable entertaining ideas  
easy organic decorations  
clever hostess gifts

*plus the best:*  
cleaning tools  
cashmere sweaters  
cold remedies  
makeup pencils

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**1. SPREADS, \$24**

for three jars.

Any of these low-fat spreads—in olive and white bean, Tuscan artichoke, and spicy roasted red pepper—create a delectable duo with a hearty loaf of multigrain bread.

**TO BUY:** NapaStyle Bread Spreads Trio, [www.napastyle.com](http://www.napastyle.com).

**2. OLIVES, \$84**

for 12 jars.

These olives—infused with sake, vodka, vermouth, or gin—will kick your regular garnish right out of the glass.

Give your hostess a jar along with a bottle of the real stuff.

Everyone's martini will thank you. (And olives can keep for two years, so stock up.)

**TO BUY:** Sable & Rosenfeld Tippy Olives, [www.gourmetathome.net](http://www.gourmetathome.net).

**3. SALT, \$139**

for 12 jars.

Packaged in glass jars, these artisanal salts from locations like France and Hawaii are present-ready in a pinch.

**TO BUY:** Artisan Salt Company Ultimate Collection, [www.seasalt.com](http://www.seasalt.com).

**4. HONEY, \$21**

for four jars.

She'll get a buzz out of these flavored nectars, such as orange blossom, black sage, and creamed raspberry.

**TO BUY:** Savannah Bee Company Honey Sampler, [www.savannahbee.com](http://www.savannahbee.com).

**5. DISH SOAP, \$10**

for three bottles.

Help your hostess tackle that inevitable tower of dishes in style with one of Mrs. Meyer's all-natural dish soaps, scented with lemon verbena, geranium, or lavender. Add a pretty block-print dish towel by Artgoodies (shown bottom right, \$15, [www.elsewares.com](http://www.elsewares.com)). Better still, stay behind for the cleanup.

**TO BUY:** Mrs. Meyer's Clean Day Dish Soap Pack, [www.mrsmeyers.com](http://www.mrsmeyers.com).

