

## Even pets get gifts on the holidays

A Christmas stocking for Spot? A toy mouse for Mittens?



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Not only are holiday shoppers buying gifts for themselves this year — they're also pampering their pets. Eight in 10 owners plan to buy "a special holiday treat" for their pet, according to a Petplan Pet Insurance survey. Of those buyers, 28% plan to spend \$50 or more.

Owners are snapping up everything from candy-cane-themed bird-cage toys to crystal-encrusted dog collars. Some are even buying a holiday music CD that is designed with cat and dog hearing sensitivities in mind.

**PHOTOS:** [Holiday gifts for your pets](#)

**STORY:** [After years of saving, shoppers treat themselves](#)

Manhattan resident Samantha Martin bought her three Dachshunds winter coats, as well as toys that will be unwrapped on Christmas morning.

And Jamie Ann Blakley is among the 63% of pet owners who will include a photo of their animal in a holiday greeting card. Her card features her recently adopted Pomeranian, Tiny.

For those who want to spoil a furry friend but don't have one, Iams' Home 4 the Holidays project lets folks donate pet food to shelters and rescue centers, and encourages adoption. Petfinder.com's "foster a lonely pet program" lets people care for shelter or rescue animals during the holidays.