# ZULILY'S 2021 TOY INDEX

The leaves may still be green and summer vacation memories still fresh on the mind, but it's time to start thinking, planning, and shopping for the holidays.

This holiday season, consumers plan to spend \$998¹ on average gifting, be it for themselves, their families or their friends. Ongoing supply chain challenges as a result of the pandemic and inflation, which is at the highest it's been over the past 13 years, means finding unbeatable deals on the most coveted items will be challenging this holiday season.

In preparation for one of the largest gift-giving seasons, Zulily reveals how the early bird can catch the deal.

New research shows those who plan ahead get more than just the best deals on top toys of the season, such

as **Barbie**, **The LEGO Group** and **PicassoTiles**. Zulily offers up to 70% off on the must-haves for the season – from gifts and home décor to toys – with an average of \$5-\$10 savings per item. Millions of moms (four times as many) are willing to trade off speed for cost savings and can shop now to take advantage of planful behaviors that can leave them with more money in their pockets, peace of mind and other health benefits.

Zulily's new "Brain of the Planner" research – a first-of-its-kind pilot study conducted by third-party researcher ENGINE – used Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyze human emotions through facial and linguistic expressions to understand what motivates moms to plan and what



benefits they experience as a result. Planners experience more feelings of happiness, less stress and better health overall, a.k.a. letting them kick back and truly enjoy the holidays with peace of mind. Planners also report feeling more confident and financially secure and have stronger family relationships.

So, what does that mean for holiday shopping?

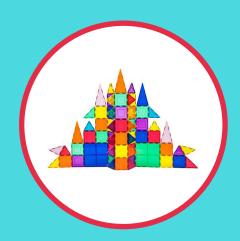


# zulily's top 25 toys for holiday

If you're planning to buy toys for a little one in your life, 'tis the season to start shopping early. Zulily's in-house toy experts compiled a list of the 25 must-have toys of the 2021 holiday season to help moms keep their finger on the pulse of what's trending among kids and what toys they'll wish for most. Moms can find these or similar toys in Santa's Workshop on Zulily.com, which is a dedicated shopping destination for all things toys within their Holiday Shop. With Zulily's assortment changing every day, make sure to shop early, as most of its sales events last only 72 hours – so once it's gone, it's gone! But with new things added every day, customers can check back often to find exactly what they're looking for.



Barbie®
Three-In-One
Dreamcamper Set



PicassoTiles 101Piece 3D Magnetic
Building Tile Playset



Fisher-Price® Giant Rock-a-Stack® Toy



Joybay Sky Blue
Premium LED Swing Car



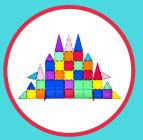
LEGO® Marvel Studios
The Guardians' Ship



6. Barbie® House Doll Play Set



7. Barbie® Holiday Doll



8. PicassoTiles 61-Piece 3D Magnetic Building Tile Play Set



9. Barbie<sup>®</sup> Art Teacher & Student Doll



10. PicassoTiles Marble Run 71-Piece Magnetic Building Blocks



11. LEGO° Star Wars™ Boba Fett's Starship



12. Star Wars™ The Mandalorian™ Tan & Green The Child 11.5" Premium Bundle



13. Polly Pocket™ Pollyville™ Hotel



14. LEGO° DUPLO°
Barn, Tractor &
Farm Animal Care



15. LEGO° Super Mario™ Adventures with Luigi



16. Barbie® Gymnastics Playset



17. Barbie® Travel Dreamplane Set



18. Picasso Tiles Race Track 81-Piece Magnetic Building Blocks



19. Frozen Elsa's Ice Palace



20. PLAYMOBIL Triceratops
Battle for the Legendary
Stones Toy Set



21. Melissa & Doug Paw Patrol Magnetic Pretend Play Set



22. PLAYMOBIL Large Campground Toy Set



23. Melissa & Doug Scoop & Serve Ice Cream Counter Play Set



24. PLAYMOBIL NHL® Hockey Arena Set



25. Small World Toys Mandala Sparkling Stones Paint Set

# TOP trending HOLIDAY ITEMS TO BUY IN ADVANCE

When it comes to holiday décor and preparing the home for guests and merriment, the early bird catches the deals! 71% of moms start buying their holiday gifts in advance. These moms who are gathering garland before even putting the pumpkins away are the ones flush with savings and fresh finds. Not to mention they find peace of mind before the hectic holidays commence and an excuse to decorate early. Shopping data from Zulily reveals moms are stockpiling Christmas décor and other holiday items as early as July. If these items are on your list, use this helpful shopping data to plan ahead and avoid a last-minute panic.

# **DECK THE HALLS**

- In need of new STOCKING HANGERS? October and November see huge spikes in purchases (+1,853% in October – November 2020) compared to the rest of the year. So, whether you're designing your mantlescape to be farmhouse chic or classic holiday, secure your stocking hangers in September while there are still plenty to choose from.
- Christmas in July rolled out and there is never a time too soon to purchase your holiday stockings.
   Beginning in July 2021, the number of HOLIDAY STOCKINGS purchased were already up +256% over previous months, and are expected to reach an impressive +1,609% by the time November rolls around, based on 2020 sales. Whether you're getting a stocking to match each family member's personality or a matching set for the whole family, now is the time to shop.

# **SUGAR & SPICE**

 Wondering which holiday treats reign supreme? Consider the baking utensils purchased most ahead of time: most CAKE PANS, LOAF PANS, and COOKIE CUTTERS are purchased from August - October. Grab your utensils now so you can keep the sweet treats flowing this season!



# TRIM THE TREE

- Trading a pine candle for the unique smell of a Christmas Tree? Most FAUX TREES are purchased in October and November – and most WREATHS and GARLAND are snatched up during that same timeframe – so start looking for the faux trees and green trimmings earlier in September to beat the rush.
- Looking for the perfect HOLIDAY ORNAMENT?
   Data shows planners get them all in July and August,
   with August selling 4x as many as July. If you haven't
   begun the hunt for the perfect set to dress your tree,
   start now before it's too late.

# PRO TIP FOR HOLIDAY SAVINGS IN 2022

Whether you're borrowing inspiration for this holiday or you're a super planner taking advantage of Boxing Day sales, in addition to unbeatable deals during September – November, data from the 2020 holiday season reveals January is the best month to purchase **DECORATIVE PLATES, THROW PILLOWS** and **PASTRY TOOLS**.

While 57% more **WRAPPING PAPER** was purchased in October than September of 2020, January is also a top time for moms to replenish their gift wrap and gift bag stash.

Stockpile these items nearly a year in advance to cue a cozy (and easy) holiday season for next year.

# AMERICA'S most playful CITIES

The most toys might not be found in the North Pole but in... Texas. Whether it be creative play, traditional and retro board games or even intergenerational video games, families are seeking out fun and playing together in some cities more than others! According to Zulily sales data and Google trend searches of toys and games, certain cities rank as America's Most Playful Cities, from the bright lights of Vegas to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. Not to mention Texas, where everything is bigger, even the fun, snagged five spots!



### San Antonio, Texas

San Antonio is not only the most visited city in Texas, it's also a huge fan of having fun. You could line nearly the entire length of the Riverwalk (over 13 miles worth!) based on the number of toys and games they've purchased in the last year.



# Louisville, Ky.

If you stacked all the card games Louisville purchased over the last year, you'd have the equivalent of 1.86 times the height of "The Big Bat," the city's famous exact-scale replica of Babe Ruth's 34-inch Louisville Slugger, which towers over 120 feet into the sky.



## Colorado Springs, Colo.

When it comes to superheroes, Colorado Springs a.k.a. Olympic City USA might know a thing or two. Home to the U.S. Olympics and Paralympics headquarters, training center and museum – it's no surprise action figures were the city's top toy choice.



## Las Vegas, Nev.

Vegas is known for playing games, but did you know they love board games the most? You'd have to pass GO in Monopoly 75 times to equal the number of board games purchased here over the last year.



## **Fort Worth, Texas**

Home to the Texas Motor Speedway, the number of toys and games purchased in Fort Worth over the last year is equivalent to going around "The Great American Speedway" track over six times.





#### 6. Philadelpha, Pa.

Prepare to climb the Rocky steps at the Philadelphia Art Museum 789 times to equal the number of toys and games bought by the "City of Brotherly Love".



#### 7. Omaha, Neb.

You'd have to cross Omaha's renowned bridge, "Bob", 16 times to equal the number of toys and games purchased by this city in the last year. While there, make sure you go "Bobbing" which means taking a photo on Bob's state line between Nebraska and Iowa.



#### 8. Houston, Texas

Houston doesn't have a problem... when it comes to size. As the most populous city in Texas, it's no wonder toy building sets were their top toy choice - they've got architects in the making!



#### 9. Phoenix, Ariz.

"Valley of the Sun" residents might be a little stressed. Phoenix ranked second highest in the country for fidget toy searches.



#### 10. Columbus, Ohio

We were puzzled to see Columbus's top game of choice were puzzles and not card games, considering world famous card trick magician Howard Thurston hails from the citu known as "The Heart of it All".



#### 11. Chicago, Ill.

The "Windy City" will blow you away by how good they are at puzzles - their most purchased game.



#### 12. Portland, Ore.

When it comes to being quirky, Portland reigns supreme as home to the world's smallest city park, the 24" Mill Ends Park which you could fill over 100x with the number of stuffed animals residents have purchased over the last year.



#### 13. Charlotte, N.C.

"Queen City" sure knows how to have fun - you'd have to walk the length of Little Sugar Creek Greenway 2.5 times to equal the number of toys and games purchased by the city of Charlotte over the last year.



#### 14. New York, N.Y.

Start spreading the news. It's no surprise what type of toys the epicenter of art & culture purchased most development toys! You could visit every Subway stop in NYC nine times to equal how many they've purchased.



#### 15. Virginia Beach, Va.

While the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center features an impressive 12,000 animals, Virginia Beach residents purchased nearly three times as many toys and games over the last year.



#### 16. Tucson, Ariz.

Tucson is famous for having 350 days of sun a year. If every toy and game purchased by the city over the last year represented a day, you'd have the equivalent of 107 sunshine-filled years to look forward to!



#### 17. Kansas City, Mo.

With over 200 fountains, Kansas City is known as the "City of Fountains". Based on the number of toys and games they purchased over the last year, you could visit every fountain in the city over 153 times.



#### 18. Dallas, Texas

Based on the number of toys and games purchased by the city of Dallas over the last year, you could fill the Dallas Zoo, which houses 2,000 animals, nearly 22 times.



#### 19. Oklahoma City, Okla. 20. Austin, Texas

As the largest city in the state of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City must be polka music fans - as accordions are their musical instrument of choice, their most purchased in fact.



While an impressive number of toys and games were purchased by the city of Austin over the last year, it only represents 4.3% of the 1.5 million bats (the largest bat colony in North America) living under Congress Avenue Bridge -**Keep Austin Weird!** 

#### **Methodologies:**

The Top Trending Holiday items were identified by looking at sales of holiday items sold on Zulily.com from 7/25/20 through 8/1/21 to determine month-by-month trends.