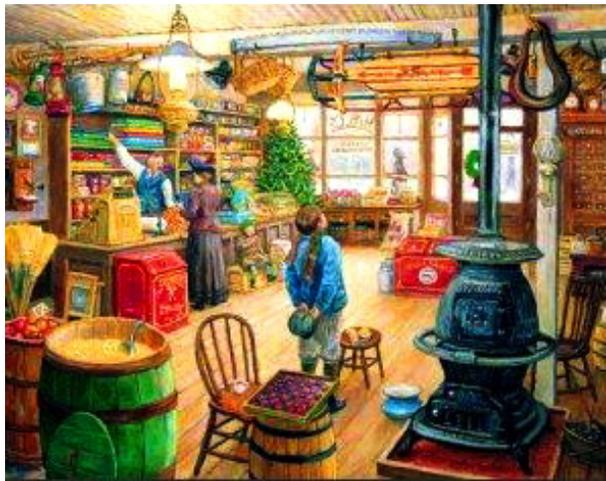


# Christmas Gift Wrapping



November 5, 2014 - In 1917, two brothers operating a stationery store in Kansas City, Missouri, had such a profitable Christmas season they ran out of their standard manila paper for wrapping. Needing a replacement rather quickly they searched their supply room and found a stack of fancy French paper typically used to line envelopes.

They decided to display the paper in their storefront window to see if it would sell. The paper, priced at 10¢ per sheet, sold out instantly that year - and the following year as well!

In 1919, they designed, manufactured and sold their own decorative paper for the sole purpose of wrapping presents. And there you have it; the birth of the gift wrapping industry.

Who were the two brothers, you ask? None other than [Joyce Clyde \(J.C.\) Hall](#) and Rollie Hall! If their names don't ring a bell – they opened a store called Hallmark! Surprised? Me too!

In the Southern Song dynasty of China during the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC, paper was invented. It was during this period that monetary gifts were wrapped in an envelope known as a [chih pao](#) and then distributed by the Chinese court to government officials.

During the Victorian Era, upper class folks would decorate packages elaborately with ribbons and lace to conceal gifts.

In the early 20th century, stores would commonly wrap customers' purchases with sturdy manila paper.



The Japanese traditional and reusable wrapping cloth called furoshiki is still used today (pictured above).

Some people avoid waste by unwrapping gifts with care so that the paper can be reused. Cloth gift sacks or dish clothes can be reused many, many times. A very clever gift wrap indeed!

People still use newspaper for wrapping presents and often attach a brightly coloured gift tag made from Christmas cards they received in previous years.

Here are some unique ways to wrap presents that I thought you might enjoy.



← [www.mollymoo Crafts.com](http://www.mollymoo Crafts.com)



← [www.thebridelink.com](http://www.thebridelink.com)



[www.melodyhome.com](http://www.melodyhome.com) →



← [www.pintertest.com](http://www.pintertest.com)



[www.jillstamps.com](http://www.jillstamps.com) →



← [www.mollymooecrafts.com](http://www.mollymooecrafts.com)



↑ [www.fairivy.com](http://www.fairivy.com)



← [www.ihavey.net](http://www.ihavey.net)



↑ [www.popsugar.com](http://www.popsugar.com)

[www.madaboutpink.com](http://www.madaboutpink.com) →





← [www.livealittlewilderblog.com](http://www.livealittlewilderblog.com)

[www.millarandmore.com](http://www.millarandmore.com) →



← [www.shopgirlmaria.blogspot.com](http://www.shopgirlmaria.blogspot.com)

[www.ashtrecottage.blogspot.com](http://www.ashtrecottage.blogspot.com) →





← [www.pintertest.com](http://www.pintertest.com)



↓ [www.ornamenteg.net](http://www.ornamenteg.net)



↑ [www.pennypaperco.com](http://www.pennypaperco.com)



← [www.pagodaroad.com](http://www.pagodaroad.com)



↑ [www.keitochansays.com](http://www.keitochansays.com)



← [www.apartmenttherapy.com](http://www.apartmenttherapy.com)



← [www.archiwum.lo.zgorzelec.org](http://www.archiwum.lo.zgorzelec.org)



[www.themarysue.com](http://www.themarysue.com) →



← [www.sewcakemake.com](http://www.sewcakemake.com)



## ***Facts about Gift Wrapping***

- According to Statistics Canada, 900,000 tonnes of garbage is produced between Thanksgiving and Christmas each year.
- \$2.9 billion is spent annually on Christmas gift wrapping in the United States producing 85 million tonnes of paper products per year for packaging, wrapping and decorating boxes.
- Wrapping paper and shopping bags account for about 4 million tonnes of trash created annually in the U.S.
- British people throw away 226,800 miles of Christmas wrapping paper annually - that's enough paper to stretch around the world nine times.



## ***Additional Gift Wrapping Resources***

[Huffington Post: 10 Creative Gift Wrapping Ideas](#)

[www.livingmontessorinow.com](http://www.livingmontessorinow.com) – Christmas wrap section for kids

[24 Cute and Incredibly Useful Gift Wrap \(Do It Yourself\) Ideas](#)

[Mail-Friendly gift Wrapping Tips](#)

[35 Gorgeous gift Wrap Ideas](#)



[Things to do with Wrapping Paper and Kids](#)

[DIY Gift Wrapping](#)

[Christmas Gift Wrapping Ideas](#)

[Juicy Green Mom](#) – Green Holiday Gift Wrapping

## ***Additional Statistics***

[Statistics on Canadian Christmases](#) – highly detailed information from Statistics Canada

↑ [www.pintertest.com](http://www.pintertest.com)