

Retirement gifts are generally given by the senior management of a company, as well as co-workers, family and friends, to a retiree as a symbol of appreciation for their many years of dedicated service. Retirement gifts always make a retiree feel like the work they have provided to the company was valued and appreciated. Retirement gift ideas and choices range from the more traditional to the sentimental individualized gifts. Here are a few helpful hints on how to make the event special.

Whatever you do make it meaningful. Reflect on the person's history with the company and highlight projects and places and contributions he or she has made over the years. Have the CEO write a letter of thanks and personally present it if possible. Include co-workers and family in a small celebration that is reflective of the person. They may want something small and private or perhaps sending them off at a large company meeting will fit their desires. Just keep the person in mind.

Coming up with retirement gift ideas depends on how well you know the guest of honor and your budget. So, talk to his or her friends, co-workers and family to get a sense of what would be appropriate. Once a person retires, they often plan on traveling. Giving a travel-related gift can range from a luggage set or set of golf clubs and a travel package or perhaps a cruise. Just include something tangible that they will have to remember the experience should you choose a travel gift.

Knowing the hobbies of the retiree is important when choosing a retirement gift. For example, there are dozens of hobby-related gifts for the avid golfer, angler, reader or photographer, etc. Presenting the person with a gift related to their favorite pastime is a fine way to acknowledge their contributions and gives them a fun activity in their retirement years.

Personalized gifts are highly appropriate for retirement and there are many gift ideas that fit the bill. Choose the classic retirement gift of a personalized engraved watch, or go more modern with a desktop or mantle clock. Personalized pen sets, plaques, silver tray, a collectible or art prints are all good alternatives. Consider presenting personalized crystal like a bowl or vase engraved with their name and years of employment.

Symbolic awards are those that are custom created just for the retirement ceremony and will reflect the person's history and contributions to the company. One way to achieve this is through a custom collage that pictures elements, projects, history, locations and memorabilia that has significant meaning to the recipient.