

Due to our Policies and Regulations, we CANNOT ACCEPT these items:

- home-baked food
- glass bottles or glass jars
- aerosol cans or sprays
- expired food
- canned food
- lighters, matches or lighter fluid
- hotel samples
- VHS or cassette tapes
- live plants, tobacco, knives, nudity, etc.
- hard-cover books

HOLIDAY CARE PACKAGE IDEAS:

- DVDs (used or new: holiday, romantic and comedy preferred. No war/violent themes, please!)
- photos of company employees or children holding holiday greetings or banners
- paper garlands with hand-written messages to the troops
- holiday cards for the troops and blank ones for them to send home
- miniature felt stockings or felt Santa hats (use fabric paint to write messages on them!)
- small stocking-stuffer items
- plastic, paper or resin ornaments and decorations
- small Hanukkah menorahs and dreidels
- spiritual materials
- music cds (used or new)
- holiday snacks: popcorn balls; caramelized popcorn (store-bought only); peanuts in festive cans
- candy: life savers; candy canes; ribbon candy; holiday chocolates; peanut brittle; peppermint bark, Hanukkah candy such as chocolate gelt, etc.

Small toys, such as **Beanie Babies**, and **school supplies** are also much appreciated. These items are given to Iraqi and Afghan children to establish relationships, and often to reward the children for assisting the soldiers by providing information. This is a great way to get rid of those Beanie Babies in the attic!

FOOD, SNACKS AND DRINKS:

For food items, no cans are allowed, and individual portions are preferred (like what you would pack in your child's lunch. This is easier to share, and to take out on missions.

- beef jerky / slim jims
- coffee (instant is preferred)
- powder drink mix, hot chocolate, herbal tea
- sunflower, pumpkin seeds, peanuts, mixed nuts
- tuna & chicken salad
- pretzels, chips, crackers, granola/ cereal bars
- gum / hard candy
- cookies (Girl Scout cookies are extra special!)
- trail mix, dried fruit, fruit roll-ups, gummies
- ramen noodles, cup-o-soup
- microwave food (popcorn, Easy Mac)
- Rice Krispie Treats, Little Debbie's & Hostess
- oatmeal packs, dry cereal
- condiments, spices; sugar; salad dressing
- caffeinated gum or candy (to stay alert)

TOILETRIES:

NO HOTEL SAMPLES! (Note: Our goal is to send troops reminders of home, not free samples.) Travel sizes are the best for these items:

- baby wipes
- hand sanitizer
- shampoo /conditioner
- deodorant
- baby powder & foot powder
- tissues
- hand & body lotion / moisturizer
- mouthwash

The following items may be purchased in the regular sizes.

- body wash, liquid soap, facial cleanser
- hair gel
- combs, brushes, bobby pins
- razors
- lip balm
- sunblock, aloe vera gel
- bug spray
- toothpaste, toothbrushes & dental floss
- breath mints
- cough drops
- loufa sponges, washcloths

- nail files, emery boards, nail clippers
- feminine hygiene products
- cotton swabs, cotton balls
- band-aids, gauze pads, ace bandages, icy hot
- moleskin
- shoe insole cushions
- Tylenol, Motrin, Advil or aspirin packets
- eye drops
- nasal spray
- multi-vitamins

ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS:

Books, games & movies can be new or used.

- batteries (AA, AAA, C & 9 volt)
- DVD movies (recent releases only)
- Xbox games, PSP, PS2 & PS3 games
- I-tunes® gift cards
- disposable cameras
- computer flash drives & thumb drives
- electronic handheld games
- small photographs or posters of scenery
- pens & mechanical pencils, small note pads
- stationery, envelopes, blank cards to send home

- double-sided tape, scrap-booking items
- day planners, calendars
- word games, puzzle books, sudoku
- yo-yo's, dominoes, playing cards (new), poker chips & mats, dice
- board games (travel size is great, too!)
- dart boards (regular or magnetic)
- nerf footballs, whiffle bats, balls & mitts, Frisbees, hackey sacks
- paperback books

OTHER:

All clothing and linen needs to be green, tan, black or white

- linens: pillow cases, twin sheets, towels
- cotton green & tan under shirts - new (sizes: m, l & xl) [note: "under-armor" shirts are not allowed.]
- laundry detergent & fabric softener sheets
- flashlights
- air fresheners (not plug-in)
- socks (cotton or wool)
- phone cards - pre-paid
- gift cards to send home (Wal-mart is the best)
- bandanas, baseball hats, football jerseys
- black/green duct tape, dust masks
- fly swatters, fly paper, mosquito netting

- sunglasses (black only; no reflective lenses)
- alarm clocks (wind-up or battery-operated)
- small portable heaters & fans (110 voltage okay)
- fleece blankets
- disposable hand warmers and foot warmers
- winter hats
- water bottles, travel mugs & thermoses with lids,
- coffee makers & filters (110 voltage okay)
- coffee bean grinders - small
- hot pots - small
- water purification tablets for Camelbaks
- religious booklets, small bibles, inspirational readings

FEMALE TROOP IDEAS:

- shampoo, conditioner,
- hair bands, bobby pins, hair brushes
- body wash, loufa gloves, bath sponges
- shower caps & shoes
- baby wipes & towelettes
- feminine hygiene products
- nail clippers/files, foot lotion, etc.
- feminine deodorant

- cosmetic & toiletries bags, mesh laundry bags
- razors (disposable & normal)
- lip protection & products
- body lotions and creams
- neutral/clear polish or lip gloss
- cotton underwear (all sizes) and sports bras

MILITARY WORKING DOG GIFT IDEAS:

- Dog brushes - Furminator® brand are the most requested
- Water bowls - the kind the troops need are called "buddy bowls"® (it's a brand name) or collapsible bowls such as the outward hound® port-a-bowls.
- Dog beds - (larger sizes for German Shepherds)
- Latex toys - they cannot accept toys made in China, unless the toys are made by Hartz or some other reputable brand. Toys must be latex - not vinyl. Tennis balls are *not* allowed.
- Snacks and treats - such as dog bones, milk bone biscuits and rawhides. They must be in unopened packages and cannot be made in China. *(We're currently inundated with bone-shaped biscuits - please consider another brand/type of treat like the ones above. Thank you!)*
- Dog shampoo - unscented
- Kong toys (and refills)
- Dog goggles/eyewear.
- Dog booties.
- Science Diet and Science Diet ZD dog food (*dry; small bags only!*).