



Prevention of Blindness Society
of Metropolitan Washington®

2020 Low Vision Holiday Wish List

This list is full of great gift ideas that low vision members of the POB community have found useful. Items are useful around the home, at the office, or while out in public. We encourage you to consider sharing this list with friends and family!

Please note: This list provides a sample of items that some individuals with low-vision have found useful. POB does not officially endorse or recommend any products or sales outlets. Websites such as [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), [WalMart.com](https://www.walmart.com), [maxiaids.com](https://www.maxiaids.com), and [lssproducts.com](https://www.lssproducts.com) may provide other suggestions! Many items are available from several different sites – comparing prices among sellers will help you get the best value.

Gifts for Those That Love to Cook:

- **Contrast color cutting [boards](#).** Use different colors for different items – green meat, red bread, blue vegetables, etc.
- [Large print measuring cups and spoons](#)
- [Alerting indicators](#) for pouring [liquids](#)
- [Long heat-proof oven mitts](#)
- [Double spatula](#)
- [Large print](#) or [braille](#) cookbooks
- [Large print or tactile kitchen timer](#) [talking timer](#)
- **Safe cutting products:** [food chopper](#), cut-resistant [glove](#)
- Talking [thermometer](#)
- [Large funnel](#) – Use it to pour from a large container or awkward bag into small mouth jars, bottles and dispensers. For example: olive oil, juice, dry spices, salt
- [Tovala](#) Microwave Oven – You can also scan more than 750 grocery items, and the oven reads its automatic cooking instructions, so you won't need to read the small cooking instructions.

Gifts for Readers:

- **Talking books (FREE!) – call your local library**
- **Audiobook subscription (audible.com, Scribd.com, etc.)**
- **[Books for children with vision impairments](#)**
- **Tablets (Kindle, iPad, Galaxy, etc.) – Like smartphones with a larger screen! Accessibility options for those with vision impairments include voice readers, larger print, and contrast options. Download apps on the tablet as well.**

Games and Fun:

- **[Traditional playing cards with “super jumbo” print](#)**
- **[Card games](#) such as Uno, Rook, or GoFish. Many also have braille versions.**
- **[Large print Sudoku and crosswords, large print wordsearch,](#) and [braille Sudoku](#)**
- **[Bananagrams](#) – like Scrabble without the board and large print**
- **[Tactile or large print board games](#) – chess/checkers, Monopoly, dominoes, and more! Many have tactile or large print versions.**
- **Other traditional games that are easy on the eyes include Connect4, Othello, Parcheesi, Sorry!, and Chinese Checkers**

Arts and Crafts Gifts:

- [3D “marking” pen](#)
- [Sewing aids](#) – [floor task lamp with storage](#)

Everyday Items:

- [Task lamps](#) – desktop and standing, great for cooking, reading, arts and crafts, games, and more. Speak with your low vision specialist about the best types of lighting for you. Most basic task lamps work well.
- [Scotch 35 Yellow Vinyl](#) (or white) Electrical and a Sharpie. This tape sticks to any smooth surface without damage. Yellow contrasts with most other colors. Write what the item is if not obvious. Put an attention-grabbing X of yellow tape to help spot and locate the item, like a phone or remote control. You can also use wide masking tape for large-print labeling
- White erase board with markers – great for making lists at home, keeping score while playing games, or other tasks.
- [Tactile dots](#) – Helps navigate flat-lay controls on devices you use. Place on devices like your oven, microwave, keyboards, dishwasher, and more.
- [Talking medical thermometer](#) and [talking thermostat](#)
- [Extra-large](#) and [talking](#) clocks

- [Large print keyboards](#) or [large keyboard stickers](#) for your current keyboard
- [Large print appliances](#): phones, thermometers, and more
- [Large print calendars and address books](#)

Helpful Gadgets:

Note: Many of these gadgets can be expensive. While these items can be beneficial, we recommend working with your low vision specialist before making big purchases to ensure it is the right item for you.

- [Amazon Alexa/Echo](#) or [Google Home/Nest](#) – these devices are great for in the home. Ask them anything; they can make reminders, set alarms, make calls, get news, and much more. Check out this [blog post](#) to learn how it can help.
- Smartphones and tablets have many stock settings that can be useful for those with low vision, including magnifier, contrast, and audio functions. Also, dozens of free “apps” are available that have many useful functions. If you already have a smartphone, check out the settings with your loved one, and call (301) 951-4444 to learn what is available.

Even More Great Gifts:

- [Scriptalk](#) – place your pill bottles on top of the device, and it reads directions. Call your local pharmacy to request.
- [Accessible Pharmacy](#) – home delivery pharmacy service for the blind and visually impaired. High-tech and no-tech solutions.
- Errand “coupons” – make coupons your loved one can redeem for tasks such as grocery shopping, completing home chores or repairs, paperwork, or even a walk at the park! This is a great chance to share time with loved ones and get things done simultaneously!
- Set aside time to help set up or demonstrate the gifts and practice with your loved one. This can be the most valuable gift of them all!

Free Gifts from POB and Other Organizations:

- POB has created simple “one-pagers” on various low vision topics, such as transportation, staying active, and using technology.
 - [Accessible Tour and Theatre](#)
 - [Android](#) and [iPhone](#) Accessibility and Smartphone Apps
 - [Eccentric Viewing](#) Guide
 - [Lamps, Lighting](#), and [More Lighting](#)
 - [Magnifiers](#)
 - [“Hear” the news](#) and [Reading](#) with Low Vision
 - [Public Transit and Taxi Service](#) and more [Transportation](#)
 - [Support Groups](#)
- In collaboration with the Checkered Eye Project, POB has created double-ply cloth facemasks with low vision insignia. Order a free facemask (while supplies last) by calling (301) 951-4444.
- The newest edition of *Your Eyes & Low Vision*, a resource guide for individuals with vision loss, is now available. Call (301) 951-4444, or visit youreyes.org for the online version!
- [Getting Started: A Guide for People New to Vision Loss](#) (free book)