

news: inspiration



PICNIC PERFECTION

Amelie's Room has just released a collection of luxury designer blankets for fashionable mums tired of tartan polyester rugs. The Mother & Baby Picnic Blankets, \$139, are made from the highest quality 100 percent cotton to be soft on your baby's skin. Each blanket incorporates patches of gorgeous lace, corduroys and plastic coated cottons to inspire little ones with exciting textures.

This elegant debut range is handmade in Australia, visit ameliesroom.com.au or for stockists, phone 0421 009 145.



FARMYARD FRIENDS

Borsten Thorsten the pig and Charly the donkey, both Babs Designs by Lana Natural Wear, make great additions to any menagerie. These organic toys are made in Germany in an environmentally friendly and responsible manner, and come with matching accessories, such as scarves, hats and bags. \$79.95. Visit kideeco.com.au for stockists.



NICE 'N' NATURAL

This new organic range of skincare by Babies Only was developed in conjunction with a paediatric herbalist and an aromatherapist. The products contain quality natural ingredients such as aloe vera, shea butter and essential oils of tea tree, apricot kernel, avocado and lavender. Try

Mum's Belly Oil to help prevent stretch marks, or baby powder, gentle shampoo and tummy tonic for bubs. Prices start from \$14.95, phone 03 9696 6417 for further information.



BIBS & BOBS

Take a look at the fresh new bib designs from MJ-MAXX this summer. The funky collection has been created in the classic tie-on style, with soft terry on the back and cotton fabric on the front. The bibs are machine washable and are available for \$18.95 each in a variety of bright colours and themes. Phone 03 9551 4832 or visit mj-maxx.com.au.



WELCOME HOME

Treat a special newborn with this gift set, \$75, from Infancy. It comes in a sweet little suitcase full to the brim with gorgeous goodies to relax and pamper babies, plus something for mum. Each set contains cute clothing by Infancy, an Alimrose squeaky toy and skincare by Urban Rituelle. Visit infancy.com.au or phone 02 9565 2866.



GIVE A HEART

For a gift with that special touch, you can't go past these gorgeous Heart Boxes by Red Thread. Each is a unique piece of art, with hand-cut paper hearts. Customise the artwork by choosing between a hand painted name or a beautiful inspirational quote. From \$140, visit theredthread.com.au or call 0412 935 777.



FOR WOBBLY WALKERS

Making early steps that little bit easier, the adjustable-speed Brio Toddler Wobbler pushcart can be tailored to your little one's comfort level. There's room for all their toys, and the fitted brake and handle ensure safety while improving baby's motor skills and coordination. Made from eco-friendly hardwood, it costs \$74.95. Call 1300 663 034 or visit funtolearn.com.au for stockists.

COOL CHANGE

With a soft surface to relieve tiny pressure points, The Plush Pad change mat spreads 60x60cm but rolls up for easy portability. Machine washable, water repellent and available for \$55 in six styles, go to mintandlilac.com.au – for free shipping until January 31 2008 enter "agho" at checkout.



FASHION IN REVERSE

Elegant, practical and reversible, this nappy bag from Isoki comes with a change mat, an insulated cooler bag, double-sided, removable storage satchel and is made from long-lasting cotton canvas. As it's also reversible, you can match it to your outfit, or even your mood. It features an adjustable shoulder strap so you can choose whether to carry it across your shoulder or to sling it over your pram, and the bag's metal feet will protect the base from any wear and tear. Available for \$189.95 in a fantastic range of reversible colours and patterns, phone 1300 368 123 or visit isoki.com.au.



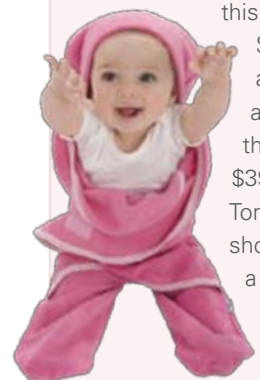
TERRIFIC TOOTSIES

Tippy Toes baby socks are an exciting new range for your tiny tot's tootsies. There are 10 adorable designs to choose from, including the Super Stars, which look like sneakers; Beach Babes, which mimic thongs; and these Baby Janes,

\$19.95 for a set of six. Available in sizes 0-12 and 12-18 months in a cute little box, they make a great gift. Check out the entire collection at annabeltrends.com or phone 07 5593 4755 for stockists.

IT'S A WRAP

Don't be caught out on cooler nights – simply slide baby into this snugly wrap.



Semi-fitted legs and a half hood are features of this Baby Wrap, \$39.95, from La Toriana, an online shop created by a mum who found it hard to get out and search for gifts when her baby was born. Visit latoriana.com.au.

ROCK STAR

Your baby can rock on in the Go Go Rocker by Mamas & Papas, which has been ergonomically designed to ensure supreme comfort and support. With a reversible seat cushion, it is available for \$134.95 in a selection of two-tone colourways – sky blue and chocolate, raspberry and grape, and burnt orange with graphite. It comes with a padded safety harness, head hugger and a multi-positional toy bar with three removable hanging toys. Suitable for newborns through to babies approximately six months old. Phone 1300 663 034 for stockists.



BEING MUMMY

In this beautiful book Anne-Marie Taplin, author of *Being Mummy* (Wakefield Press, \$16.95), gives an honest voice to the joys, tears, excitement and challenges of being a mother. Never losing sight of the enormous pleasure parenthood can offer, the book's simplicity tenderly celebrates the everyday love between mothers and their children.



PAMPER YOURSELF

If you're in need of a little TLC, indulge yourself with the Blessed Tender Loving Care pack, by Venustus, \$88. Utilising organic neroli and mandarin, the body wash, body serum and organic body milk are designed for mums-to-be after the first trimester. The pack also comes with a sweet frangipani hair tie and cotton flannel. Visit venustus.com.au or call 1800 352 123.



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