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Chic to click: Best shopping sites

By Nerissa Pacio and Joannie Sevilla
Mercury News

With the holidays upon us, we've scoured the Internet for our picks of the top style-related Web sites. Our criteria? Great steals, unique items, variety and big-time buzz.

These sites can help you look your best, locate those impossible-to-find Manolos, get runway news of the latest trends and buy that gift that just screams your fashionista of a best friend -- all without leaving your home.

So put on your PJs -- and surf, click and shop away. But with Christmas only 12 days away, be sure to check the sites' last-minute shopping tips to get your gifts delivered in time.

(Sites are grouped according to category but not in any particular order.)

Starter sites

www.ebay.com -- The mother of all fashion shopping sites

www.froogle.com -- Type in what you're looking for and voila! Froogle tells you where to buy.

www.splendora.com -- Find exactly where to shop in S.F., L.A. and NYC and nearby cities.

Beauty and skin care

www.makeup411.com -- Pick your favorite celebrity, movie or TV show, and this Web site will tell you what products to use to achieve that Hollywood look.

www.eyeslipsface.com -- Eco-friendly packaging, cute miniature sizes and dirt-cheap prices (glosses, eye shadows, lipsticks and a host of other products are a measly buck). Bonus: skincare tips according to your skin type.

www.sephora.com -- The online site for the international beauty store always has the latest in makeup, skincare products and fragrances. Shop or just browse for what to look for at department store counters.

www.drugstore.com -- Everything under the sun, including a link to www.beauty.com for higher-end cosmetics,

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www.cosmeticscop.com -- Cosmetic reviews and great beauty tips.

www.skinstore.com -- Top place to buy hard-to-find skincare products from spas and doctors' offices.

www.dermanew.com -- The best at-home microdermabrasion site with detailed instructions and illustrations.

www.blissspa.com -- Can't make it to New York? Bring the Bliss spa experience home. Everything from cellulite-reducing sneakers to Crème de la Mer.

Clothes and accessories

www.agnesb.net -- Quintessentially French. There's a store in San Francisco, but the site puts entire outfits together for you.

www.bergdorfgoodman.com -- The new Web site of the Fifth Avenue store has a designer index where you can browse through a lineup of designers' latest collections.

www.style.com -- The online home of Vogue and W magazines. Has dozens of designers' slide shows of their most current collections, plus runway videos. The new component, www.style.com/shopping, includes links to buying the stuff.

www.bluefly.com -- Steep discounts -- up to 75 percent off -- on men's and women's clothing and accessories. More than 350 designers, from Yves Saint Laurent to BCBG. Check out the \$50-and-less clearance items.

www.neimanmarcus.com -- One of the best shopping sites that has a bricks-and-mortar store. Enormous selection of Manolo Blahniks -- watch for the Manolo online sale when shoes can be as much as half off.

www.planetlulu.com -- Hosted by a sample sale company in Los Angeles, the invite-only monthly online sale "party" features slightly distressed designer clothes and accessories at 50 to 75 percent off.

www.scoopnyc.com -- Easy-to-navigate site of the hot boutique in NYC's meatpacking district, with designer brands including Chip & Pepper, Citizens of Humanity, Marc by Marc Jacobs, Paper Denim & Cloth and more. Bonus: tips on must-have pieces for the season.

www.shopbop.com -- A variety of luxe clothes and accessories -- Miss Sixty, Juicy Couture, C&C, Diane Von Furstenberg, Diesel, to name a few. Bonus: slide show of fall looks.

www.shopintuition.com -- This L.A. store's site has a great selection of of-the-moment fashion, what you see celebs wearing in mags such as People, Star, Us Weekly.

www.chelsea-girl.com -- Vintage designer, a frequent online shopping site for celebs. Based in SoHo.

www.zappos.com -- Huge selection of the hottest brands in shoes, available in extra small and extra large sizes. Free shipping on all orders.

www.eluxury.com -- The only retailer you can trust online to sell authentic Louis Vuitton, Dior and designer jeans.

www.ishopblush.com -- Gorgeous shawls, Uggs, Edge Design moccasins and constant updates on incoming stock.

www.adasa.com -- This Hawaiian boutique offers no tax on orders from the mainland, free shipping over \$100 and lots of Juicy, Seven, Marc Jacobs and more.

www.marygreen.com -- Beautiful camisoles and lingerie -- you'll see why this site made Oprah Winfrey's list!

www.delias.com -- Young and fun casual wear and lots of great bargains.

www.revolveclothing.com -- Fab collection of jeans.

www.desori.com -- Make your own jewelry online. Great prices!

www.alternativeoutfitters.com -- Best selection of cruelty-free clothing and accessories.

www.windsorfashion.com -- Ball gowns to floaty tops at excellent prices.

www.tee-zone.com -- Super selection of C&C, James Perse and Petit Bateau T's and tanks.

www.therapyboutique.com -- Everyone needs retail therapy. Big sales and selection of BCBG, To the Max and Only Hearts lingerie, to name a few.

www.jms.com -- Just My Size specializes in brand-name plus-size clothing and lingerie. Bonus: A feature that allows you to pick your body type and search for the best-fitting clothes for your figure.

Unique gifts

www.wishingfish.com -- Retro houseware, Japanese novelties, kitschy games, mod stationery. Where else could you find a latch hook pillow kit?

www.giannarose.com -- Gorgeous gift soaps, lotions and bath accoutrements for pampering or just displaying in your guest bathroom. Our favorite: soaps in the shape of an old-fashioned dress form.

www.jaquabeauty.com -- The best girly gifts for bridesmaids, girlfriends and you.

www.iomoi.com -- Beautiful online stationery -- the concept is to e-mail invitations and thank-you cards instead of using snail mail.

www.shopgirlsnightin.com -- A great site to help host your next girls'-night-in party.

www.redenvelope.com -- Like the Tiffany's gift box, a package from Red Envelope means you're getting something good. Perfect for the hard-to-buy types like in-laws or your boyfriend's sister.

www.bellabeancouture.com -- For the gal that wants her pooch to be as fashionable as she is. Argyle collars and leashes, satin quilted collars, fashions with preppy stripes and polka dots.

www.chocochochouse.com -- Chocolate handbags give a whole new meaning to a box of candy.

www.soulscents.org -- Beauty gifts for men, women and children. Sugar scrubs, shampoos, massage kits for baby and even gift baskets.

www.fill-r-up.com -- The ultimate site for gift baskets for everyone from pets to college students away from home. Tell them what you want and they'll "fill-r-up!"

www.mommyshop.com -- More than an online shopping portal for baby and kid products, it touts itself as an online community for moms and child-care professionals for advice and support. Bonus: a good selection of daddy-appropriate baby bags and specials on free shipping.

Fashion Web zines

www.thebudgetfashionista.com -- Tips on saving your cash but looking great. Up-to-the-minute list of sales in major cities and an e-mail newsletter that shows you how to wear one trendy item four ways.

www.stylebakery.com -- A fun portal to trendy Web retailers where you can buy their featured fashion and beauty items. Cute bakery theme includes a feature on up-and-coming designers called "designer on the rise."

www.dailycandy.com -- The hottest of the webzines. An insider's guide to the culture, beauty, fashion and food in New York, Chicago, L.A. and S.F. Sign up for entertaining and smartly written daily e-mail newsletters.

www.fashionweekdaily.com -- Snarky, hilarious, insider site for true fashionistas and those in the biz.

www.fashiondish.com -- A Tinseltown-centric fashion tabloid with the latest paparazzi pics created by a former People and Elle staffer.

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