

WE ASKED
STYLE-SETTERS

“WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE HOSTESS GIFT?”



“A hint of curry powder makes these chocolates devilishly yummy. I would eat the whole box if no one was looking.”

Ruthie Sommers,
interior designer

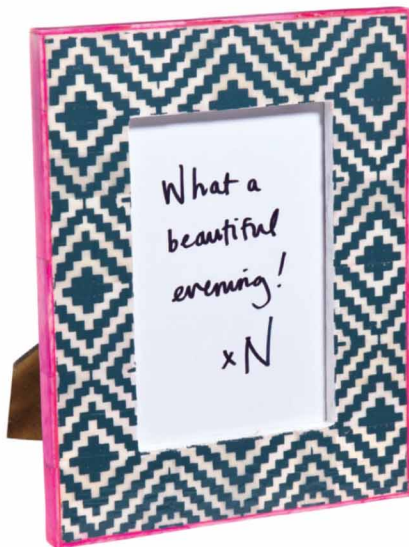
Alexis bonbons, Swanson Vineyards,
\$35; swansonvineyards.com.



“So evocative of summer in New England, these block-printed place mats can be given as a set. Or you can frame one to hang on the wall.”

Katy Elliott,
design blogger

Linen Lobsters place mat, Sarah Elizabeth Shop, \$18; sarah-elizabeth-shop.com.



“I try to bring practical things with an unexpected twist, like a beautiful picture frame with a handwritten note slipped under the glass.”

Nate Berkus, interior designer

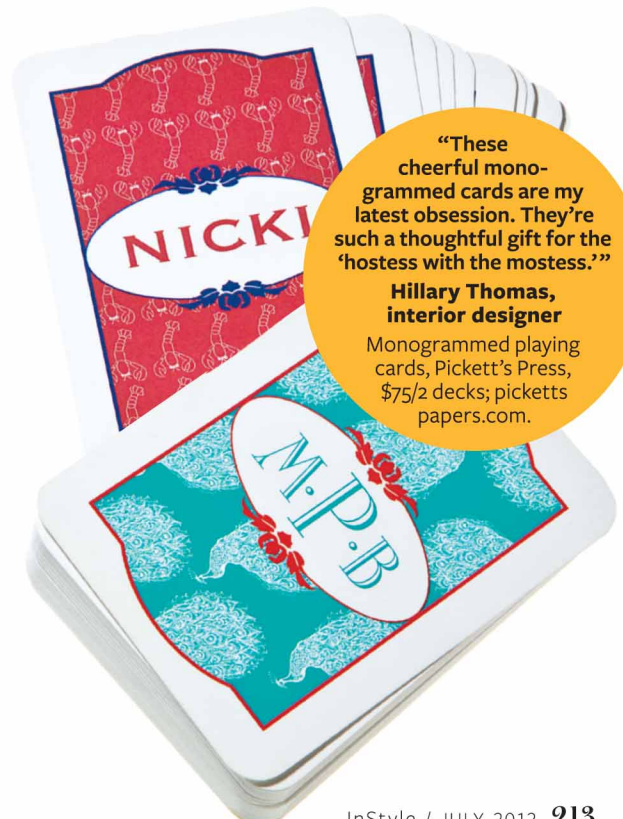
Mission photo frame, Two’s Company,
\$35/4” x 6”; 800-896-7266 for stores.



“I love this sauce so much, I buy it in bulk and give it to friends. The deep, almost smoky flavor improves everything it touches, from soups to salad dressings.”

Ruth Reichl,
editorial adviser,
Gilt Taste

40°N fish sauce, Red Boat, from \$10; redboatfishsauce.com.



“These cheerful monogrammed cards are my latest obsession. They’re such a thoughtful gift for the ‘hostess with the mostess.’”

Hillary Thomas,
interior designer

Monogrammed playing cards, Pickett’s Press,
\$75/2 decks; pickettspapers.com.