

## **Themed Care Packages**

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Sending care packages is simply part of life for most military spouses. You are always searching for a new idea or something special to send to your loved one. In my experiences, the most fun care packages to do are those for birthdays, anniversaries, and holiday. Getting creative and involving your children can be a lot of fun. I have put together a list of care package “themes” with ideas of what to pack. I hope this gets your creative juices flowing and you enjoy putting together something special for your soldier.

### **Movie Care Package**

Movie (DVD or VHS)

Microwave Popcorn (or already popped if they don't have a microwave)

M&Ms

Doritos

Cracker Jacks

Rice Krispie Treats

Twizzlers

Cookies (Oreos and Chips Ahoy)

Ruffles chips & dip

Hot Tamales

Nachos (tortilla chips & cheese)

Make a “*Now Featuring*” Movie poster on your computer and add it to the package

### **Get Well Package**

Puzzle

Chicken Noodle soup packets

Gourmet tea packets

Cold medicine

Crackers

Inspirational “Get Well” quotes

Goldfish

Dole Fruit Bowls

Get Well “pills” (candy coated mints)

Get Well card

Chapstick

### **At Ease Package**

Glow in the dark yo yo

Crossword Puzzle Book

Silly Putty

Deck of Cards

Ritz Bitz

Pringles

Cookies

Twizzlers

Cheetos

Cereal Bars

**“Scruff” Care Package**

Razors  
Baby wipes  
Chapstick  
Shaving cream  
Deodorant  
Mouthwash  
Lotion (if your soldier is female, step it up a notch and do something from a SPA line)  
Foot powder  
Soap  
Big fluffy towel  
Toilet paper

**Comforts of Home Package**

Small Bottle of Febreze  
Candle  
Snuggle dryer sheets  
Phone card  
Blanket (a nice comfy one)  
Glade PlugIns  
Pair of slippers or cozy socks  
Hot cocoa or coffee  
Decorative coffee mug  
Pillowcase with your perfume/cologne sprayed on it  
Book on tape

**“Big Kid” Package**

Squirt guns  
Silly Putty  
Silly String  
Whoopie Cushion  
Funny face eyeglasses  
Sidewalk chalk  
Crayons & color book  
Jacks  
Marbles  
Balloons  
Frisbee  
Football/soccer Ball (mini)  
Hacky Sack

**Sports Theme Package**

Favorite sport magazine  
Taped TV or DVD of favorite sport  
Cheetos  
Popcorn  
Personalized mug  
Cookies

### **“A Day At Home” Package**

There are several variations of this package. The idea is to replicate a day with you. First, you will need a camera. Take pictures of each thing you do. Use your creativity, but here are a few ideas:

We woke up (take a picture in bed) and ate breakfast (take a picture eating cereal) and then took a shower (take picture in towel). We started the day off by doing some yard work and mowing the lawn (take picture mowing lawn). After our work, we had lunch (take picture with lunch) and then we colored pictures – or threw around a football etc. (Take pictures doing the activity). We all ate dinner together (take picture having dinner). We had a full day so we were tired when it was time to set down and watch our favorite TV programs (take picture watching TV). Later we snuggled up in our jammies (take picture in jammies) and had a nighttime snack (take picture snacking). We love you very much and miss you! (take a picture of a goodnight kiss)

Now take all of your pictures (referencing above) and send them with “treats”:

Pillowcase with cologne/perfume sprayed or maybe a decorated one

Several small boxes of cereal or cereal bars

Shower gel or shampoo or even a towel

Grass clippings in a baggie or dirt from backyard (strange but reminds them of home)

Color books or football (something that matches the day’s activity)

Lunch and snacks

New pajamas

Popcorn

Recorded TV show or movie DVD

Hershey’s Kisses