



## Things to think about before you sign up for a Christmas hamper

- **Would you, or your family, eat everything that is included in the hamper?**

In a Christmas hamper, you might get products that you and your family wouldn't normally eat (e.g. wrong flavor). Therefore, why would you pay full price for them?

- **Does the hamper take into consideration your family's dietary needs?**

On a regular shopping trip to your local supermarket, you are not going to buy food that you and your family can't eat. Why would you pay full price for a Christmas hamper if can't eat all the food?

- **If you had to pay the total balance today for the items, would you still buy them?**

If you look at the overall cost of a Christmas hamper, at the end of the payment period you have paid full price (sometimes more due to admin costs) for each item. Keep in mind, that most of the products in a Christmas hamper can be purchased at a cheaper price throughout the year at your local supermarket.

Some supermarkets have savings built into their loyalty cards that you can leave until Christmas. Consider purchasing non-perishable products during the year and then using your loyal points to purchase perishables closer to Christmas.

- **Do you usually buy the brands that are included in the hamper?**

Christmas hampers may include more expensive products and brands that normally you wouldn't buy. Christmas *does not* have to be expensive.

- **Some hampers include more than one brand of the same product. Do you really need more than one brand of the same product?**

Unless you are planning on having a taste test competition with your family members on Christmas day, it doesn't make a lot of sense to have more than one brand of the same product. The variety of brands in a Christmas hamper probably has more to do with product agreements between the Christmas hamper companies and their food suppliers.

- **Do you have the facilities to store, freeze and cook the items in the hamper?**

Some products in the hamper will need to be stored in a refrigerator or freezer or cooked in an oven or microwave. For example, if you receive a whole turkey in your hamper do have the fridge/freezer space to store it and an oven big enough to cook it?

- **Can you commit to a fixed payment arrangement for a set amount of time?**

Christmas hampers require a financial commitment from you. If you can not make a payment, are you aware of what will happen to your order?