

Parents always say "do not open this gift until Christmas". That's the best way to keep a surprise a secret. When it comes to many electronics keeping them under wraps until Christmas morning might be a mistake. I'm looking at a few things you'll definitely want to unwrap early and why.

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0-8 Jamey Tucker/whatthetech.tv

### **ON-CAMERA TEASE**

You might not think it's a good idea to unwrap presents before Christmas morning, but there are some gifts you really should. I'm Jamey Tucker coming up with a list of tech gadgets to unwrap, and why.

### **ANCHOR INTRO**

MOMS AND DADS MAY TELL THE KIDS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT OPEN THEIR CHRISTMAS GIFTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS MORNING. THAT DOESN'T STOP THEM THOUGH.

AND IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA FOR PARENTS TO UNWRAP SOME PRESENTS EARLY. AS OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER EXPLAINS IT MIGHT MAKE CHRISTMAS MORNING LESS FRUSTRATING.

### **PACKAGE SCRIPT**

Christmas day millions of new phones, tablets, and gaming systems will be activated online. And if you've ever set up a new phone, or downloaded software for a game, you know that can take a while. On Christmas Day, it can take hours.

Activating a phone is fairly simple. Just place the old phone next to the new phone and follow the instructions but it'll have to connect to Apple servers and your wireless carrier.

Game systems can take even longer. Even if you give them game discs they'll still have to download any software updates from Sony or Microsoft. Some can take hours.

And if your WiFi is a little slow or if everyone else is setting up devices, you may not have the bandwidth to handle the internet connections.

Here are a few things you should open before Christmas.  
Game systems including Playstation and Xbox. Smartphones and tablets, and Apple Watch and Apple AirPods.

Really, anything that requires an internet connection just to set up the device is going to take longer than usual to get it up and running. And since you've already unwrapped them, put them on charge. Otherwise, they'll have to play with a new phone or watch while it's plugged into an outlet. That's What the Tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

## **ANCHOR TAG**

IN THE PAST FEW YEARS APPLE, SONY, AND MICROSOFT HAVE HAD PROBLEMS DUE TO A HIGH NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRYING TO CONNECT TO THEIR SERVERS. SOME PROBLEMS TOOK MORE THAN A DAY TO RESOLVE.

## **WEB STORY**

Parents may know you should always put bicycles together ahead of Christmas morning. A child's excitement about their first 2-wheeler is quickly dampened when they have to watch dad spend half of Christmas day putting it together.

The same is certainly true today for tech gifts.

In the last five years, many of the major tech companies including Apple, Samsung, Microsoft, and Sony have had trouble meeting the demand for new activations within the first few hours of Christmas morning.

If you're giving someone a smartphone, video game system, or Apple Watch, unwrap it before Christmas day, activate the device, and either wrap it back up or place it under the tree.

If you're giving someone an iPhone, activating it requires only that you have access to their old device and place it near the new iPhone. Onscreen instructions will take you through all of the steps of getting the phone activated. You may also need to log in to your cellular provider's server.

It wouldn't hurt to set up Apple Watch, AirPods, iPads, and other Apple products ahead of time.

Activating gaming systems may require you to know and enter your username, email address, and password so surprises won't be easy if you want to get those devices up and running early. If you're giving someone a video game for one of those systems it might be a good idea to install the app ahead of time. Even if the gift is a video game disc, it might need to be updated. In past years this can take hours.

The same applies to smart home devices although Amazon will ship its Echo devices already tied to your account.

If the device requires batteries, such as iPhones, smartphones, watches, tablets, and game controllers, unwrapping them early allows you to ensure they are fully charged. Otherwise, the receiver of the gifts will likely have to sit with the device tethered to a cable and electrical outlet.

Using any of these tech gadgets isn't as simple as plugging them in.