



HardNews

A COMPENDIUM OF CARNAL KNOWLEDGE

Sophisticated SEX



From top: Betony Vernon nipple clamps, Lelo Inez in gold, Shiri Zinn turquoise snakeskin whip, and Paul Seville human-hair whip.



Can't swing the new luxury toys? You can craft your own from household items. Some advice: Stay away from the power tools. They may seem like practical homemade vibes, but as one Maryland woman learned in March, they're not so safe. She and her partner attached a dildo to a saber saw. The saw cut through the plastic dick and injured the 27-year-old woman. Maybe next time she'll think about buying something that's already rigged for pleasure. After all, even those big-ticket toys are cheaper than her hospital bill, and you don't have to explain yourself to the paramedics.—J.P.



The economy may be in need of a serious overhaul, but while we'll gladly brown-bag our lunches, there are some luxuries we're not ready to give up. The manufacturers of high-end sex toys clearly agree, as they're still producing the most desirable—and expensive—products.

Gucci started the trend more than a decade ago with its silver handcuffs, which cost more than \$800. Not to be outdone, luxury lifestyle brand Kiki de Montparnasse offers a pair of 24-karat-gold-dipped handcuffs for only \$350. Kiki doesn't stop there, however; there's also a crocodile-skin paddle for \$895 and a luxurious pearl restraint that ranges in price from \$2,400 to \$6,000 depending on how tight you're looking to be tied.

If Kiki's offerings don't impress, try other luxury S&M toys, like the human-hair whip from leather artisan Paul Seville. At \$370, it's probably cheaper to buy a wig, but where's the fun in that?

There are equally luxurious offerings from conceptual designer Shiri Zinn. She does it all, from strap-on harnesses and dildos to fur-tailed vibrators and more, but her most expensive items are her whips. The one we covet the most is made of turquoise snakeskin and has a handle encrusted in Swarovski crystals.

At just over \$1,100, it doesn't quite break the bank, but it comes awfully close.

Should whips and bondage not strike your fancy, you can try the Betony Vernon solid-silver nipple clamps. For a mere \$618, you get a set of multipurpose clips that can be used on any pinchable skin, from nipples to labia or anywhere in between.

If you still have some money burning a hole in your pocket, the fine folks at Lelo have just what you need. They recently launched the new Luxe line "for people who put no price on pleasure," and they mean it. The cheapest item is the Olga, a \$390 silver dildo—\$790 if you want it in gold. Then there's the Earl, the male version, made for anal use, for \$590 or \$990 depending on your metal. For vibration, there's the Yva, a silver palm-size massager that comes in at \$1,300. But for the ultimate in luxury, the Inez, an internal vibe, costs \$7,900 for silver and \$10,500 for gold—just a few thousand less than you'd spend on a new car. (See PenthouseStore.com for our more reasonably priced toys.)—Jennifer Peters