



**peonies**

I just love girly flowers like these. They remind me of my mother's garden, and they look like little pom-poms, which always make me smile. *Herbaceous peonies* FROM \$19.95/ROOT, SONGSPARROW.COM

# 10 things that make me happy



**mission-style chair**

Solid and un-precious—this brings back happy memories of the furniture at my Catholic school in Inglewood, CA. “*Kaustby*” \$39.99 [IKEA.COM](http://IKEA.COM) FOR STORES



**ciara and run-dmc cds**

My husband and I have thousands of CDs in our apartment. But the new Ciara has been on the top of the pile since it came out, and a classic like Run-DMC will always be number one with me. “*Ciara: The Evolution*” \$11.99 *Run-DMC “Greatest Hits”* \$9.49 [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM)



**le creuset cookware**

Cooking at home relaxes me and these pots are my favorites—once you try them, you can never go back. *Cast-iron 3 1/2-quart “Round French Oven”* \$160 [LECREUSET.COM](http://LECREUSET.COM) FOR STORES



**mac lipgloss**

Comes in amazing colors, goes on supersmooth and really lasts, which is the most important thing in a lip gloss. Who has time to reapply all day? “*Pink Poodle*” \$14 [MACCOSMETICS.COM](http://MACCOSMETICS.COM)



**votive candles**

These candles are no joke. When you purchase “*Mandarin*”—my all-time favorite—you are getting mandarin, not some weak, perfume-y imitation. \$28 [GLOBAL TABLE \(212\) 431-5839](http://GLOBALTABLE.COM)

**lemon squeezer**

My husband and I drink lemon water every morning. Even if it's just an old wives' tale that it cleanses your liver and gets your metabolism going, it makes me feel better to do it. “*Two-in-One*” juicer \$20 [WILLIAMS-SONOMA.COM](http://WILLIAMS-SONOMA.COM)



**Who:** Danyl Smith  
**Where:** New York City  
**What:** Editor in chief of *Vibe* magazine. Her upcoming novel is *Kindness for Weakness*.

**mandarin oriental hotel**

You can see all of Manhattan from the rooms, yet it feels so private. The spa, food and service are all incredible—it's the ultimate in-town holiday. [MANDARINORIENTAL.COM](http://MANDARINORIENTAL.COM) FOR RATES

**bose ipod dock**

Nothing else comes close. I have one in my office and two at home. This is a rare case where the ad rings true: My iPod really does deserve Bose. “*SoundDock*” digital music system \$299 [BOSE.COM](http://BOSE.COM)



**dresses by milly**

So cute and feminine, and the colors pop. They're the perfect thing to wear to the office when I have cocktails or a dinner after work, and they look great on all figures. *Cotton wrap* \$445 [BERGDORFGOODMAN \(212\) 753-7300](http://BERGDORFGOODMAN.COM)



DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN; HAIR AND MAKEUP: D'ANGELO THOMPSON; MANHATTAN VIEW: MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL GROUP; FLOWERS: BOTANICA/GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY; STILLS: DOMINO DIGITAL STUDIO