



## loose change

trend watch

# SECONDHAND SCENT

No disagreement here: Smoking isn't healthy. But while we're all for more people kicking the habit, we're still fans of tobacco's sweet aroma. Luckily, a growing crop of home fragrances has made its essence easier than ever to inhale—without coughing up too much cash. From Lafco NY's \$17 liquid soap (near right) and Caldrea's \$12 linen spray (middle) to Fresh's \$12.50 bar soap (far right, top) and Nouvelle's \$14 candle (far right, bottom), these blends evoke luscious scents (imagine clove, leather, rose bouquets). And since the products calm without causing harm, they pack a lot more value than a carton of Parliaments. (lafcony.com, caldrea.com, fresh.com, shopfeatheryournest.com) —ALLISON REYNOLDS



## what's the difference? toothbrushes

With so many new toothbrush styles to choose from, polishing those pearly whites sure ain't what it used to be. Before you grit your teeth in frustration, read on to find out which model fits your mouth—and budget—best. —TRACY PEREZ



	Manual	Battery-Powered	Sonic Technology
<b>model and cost</b>	1. Colgate 360°, \$3.50	2. Oral-B CrossAction Power, \$7 (includes one AA battery)	3. Philips Sonicare IntelliClean i8500, \$150 (includes three Crest toothpaste cartridges; \$8 for six refills)
<b>size</b>	7.5 inches long; 0.56 ounces	8 inches long; 2.5 ounces	10 inches long; 8.4 ounces, plus charging cradle
<b>how it works</b>	The 360° has a raised brush tip and tapered bristles to better scrub molars and along the gum line. But the routine is same as ever: Brusha, brusha, brusha.	Apply some paste, turn it on, and this gizmo's part-spinning, part-vibrating head goes to work until you shut it off.	Pump the button a few times, and paste from a built-in dispenser flows into the head, which makes 31,000 strokes per minute. Beeps every 30 seconds to remind you to shift the brush; shuts off after two minutes.
<b>special features</b>	It boasts "polishing cups" (circular bristle sections for stain removal) and a tongue cleaner on its flip side.	This Oral-B brush features the brand's signature blue bristles that fade to white when it's time to replace the brush head (about every three months; \$7 per two-pack).	Two speed settings: high for regular brushing, lower for those with sensitive gums or teeth. Comes with a travel bag and a two-year warranty.
<b>expert says</b>	New York City-based dentist Dr. Debra Glassman praises the brush's tongue cleaner as it can "prevent bad breath and bacteria buildup."	The fact that this brush does the work for you makes it "an easier brushing experience" than with a manual, says Glassman.	"I highly recommend it," says Glassman. "The timer forces you to brush your teeth thoroughly."
<b>we say</b>	Its slim head should fit comfortably in any mouth size. We also like how the soft bristles fan out and cover a wide surface area.	Head and handle are slightly bulky. And we wish the motor offered a bit more oomph—we ended up putting our own arm power into it (which supposedly isn't needed).	The Philips gives us that just-from-the-dentist feeling, though inserting the paste cartridge is a bit tricky. That said, each lasts about 30 uses—or you can buy a tube of your own.
<b>verdict</b>	One of the best traditionals we've tried—and at less than \$4, there's really no reason not to!	A good, cheap way to test out a power brush. Just don't expect to be swept away by the results.	Pricy, but this "Rolls Royce of toothbrushes" lives up to its billing.