

User Guide

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Grab your keys.

Getting your own 24-hour password.

Get started by signing up for a Test Drive by clicking on the TEST DRIVE link from the GIFT LIST MEDIA home page.



Submit the simple request form and a Username & Password will be generated and sent to you via email from no replies@giftlistmedia.com, please clear @giftlistmedia.com from your spam filter.

The subject line is "Here are your keys for The Gift List Test Drive!"

Please note that AOL and rr.com (and occasionally others) block auto-generated emails. We suggest using an alternate email address if you have one. If you do not receive an email containing your Username/Password within 30 minutes, please email us as queries@giftlistmedia.com and we will email it to you.

This Username/Password will be good for 24 hours.

Get in.

Logging in and searching for media profiles.

Once you have your 'keys,' you're ready to go! Go back to the Gift List Media™ home page to Login. The Login link is in the upper right of the screen under "The Gift List".



Enter the Username/Password you were emailed. The Username will be the email address you're familiar with, however the password will be a random jumble of numbers and letters. It's best to copy and paste to avoid confusion. The Password is case sensitive.



Click the round black Login button.

The current database available for the Test Drive is The Gift List® for Holiday Print & Broadcast 2015™ or The Gift List® for Holiday Web & Blog 2015™. This changes periodically.

Start your engine.

Using the main search criteria options.

Main search screen

The main search screen for that database will open on the screen. It will look like this, except your last visit will be "today's date."



Subscribers see a slightly different search screen. Two search fields, New Records Since and Updated Records Since, are disabled for the Test Drive. However, the explanations are left for your reference.

Pulling new profiles

This field is disabled for Test Driving because it is only applicable to active lists.

New contacts post over the weekend, in order to view just the new
contacts for this week enter last Friday's date. To view records since
you last checked, simply enter a date just after the day you last
reviewed the database. This will filter out contacts you have already
seen and refine your search.

New Records Since

New profiles are added as we reach the editors. If you are checking for new profiles periodically, you can simply enter a date just after the last time you reviewed the database. This will filter out contacts you have already seen and refine your search.

This filter is necessary, because otherwise you would be searching through the entire list each time you logged on. Ugh!

Pulling updated profiles

This field is disabled for Test Driving because it is only applicable to active lists.

For those of you Export your contacts and want to keep track of changes/updates, use this search field to filter out everything but updates to contact information previously posted, such as address changes, email changes, staff changes, etc.

Updated Records Since

Not everyone uses the **MyMedia** data management feature within **The Gift List®** to create and store their pitching lists, but prefer to Export the profiles into MSExcel® or import into other contact management software.

Once the profiles leave our online system, we no longer have access to them. If you plan to do this, you'll need to keep track of changes/updates yourself.

The **Updated Records Since** search field streamlines the process of finding profiles with updates.

This feature works the same way **New Records Since** does. You can enter a date and it will pull up all the changes since that date. This way you won't waste time updated profiles you've already updated.

Searching by name

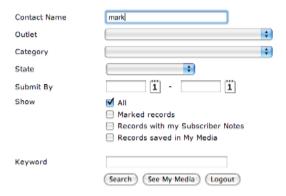
Since the contact names are hidden in the Test Drive, this search feature won't be as much fun. But here's how it works:

Use this field to find a particular contact. Maybe you can't quite recall his or her name, or were

curious to see if someone you knew was listed. This wouldn't be an effective way to build a media list, but it does come in handy.

For example, you could type in "Mark" if you weren't sure of the last name.

Note: The check mark next to the "All" is the default. You do not have to manually indicate that.



Click Search, and voila... Everyone who has the sequence "mark" in their name will show up in the Search Results.

Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

To get back to the Search screen, click on the link where to perform a new search, click here.



Searching by outlet

This search function will get you straight to all the profiles at any one particular outlet we have posted on the list. When you're sending out press materials, it's sometimes important to double check to see who else is listed at that outlet.

We generally don't post more than one or two profiles at a single regional outlet, although some national outlets will have as many as five or six. It depends on the size of the staff and how their departments function.

We typically do not list more than one profile for a particular department or beat unless several

editors work on different product driven features and columns. We will figure out who the best contact and alternate contacts will be mentioned within the main profile, under Submission Hints. If there is another contact that has a separate record, the Submission Hints field will say "See separate profile."

For example, below is an example from a profile in the **Print & Broadcast 2014 list.** The Submission Hints, along with other information, indicated:

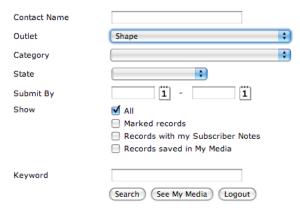
"The gift guide focus will be 50 under \$50 as in previous years." Looking for gifts for men's, women's, children's, teens and tweens. "We may divide it up like we have before as in Gifts For The Food Lover, The Pet Lover, but our main categories are usually gender-specific. I oversee the Realist section of the magazine, which covers a variety of products and solutions. Items featured include everything from a timemanagement app to home accessories or fashion. What we're looking for is something that provides an innovative solution, so it's not necessarily category-specific." Likes innovative or modern designs, eco-products, gadgets, or "just a new take on a classic piece with a modern upgrade."

Stephanie Sisco, Associate Editor for the Home section, is the coordinating the gift guide for all departments, but this editor will have a lot of input into selection. See separate profile for Stephanie Sisco.

This way you can export the list for emailing or label printing, and not have to worry about wasting your time and money on unnecessary duplicates, or confusing the staff. You can make the choice as to who you want to duplicate submission to within that outlet.

For Test Driving, we suggest searching for outlets with which you are already familiar. This way you can see if our research rings true to what you already know about that outlet. It's a good check to make sure we're a good fit for your publicity needs.

For example, let's look up Shape magazine. Click on the Outlet pull-down menu and select Shape from the list.



Click Search, and here are the editors we profiled for Shape for the Holiday 2014 list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Even though the Contact Names are hidden in the Test Drive, you can still click on their names, which are linked to the complete profile. Feel free to try it out now, but we'll go over that in detail in a minute.

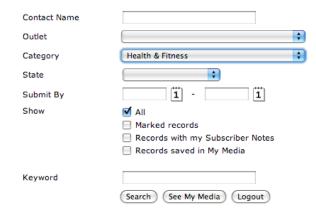
When you're done, click on the link to perform a new search.

Searching by category

Outlets in **The Gift List**® are categorized into groups. Magazines are broken down into basic readership interest categories, and the short leads are listed by type, such as Newspapers or TV (syndicated).

This feature will bring up every profile for every outlet in any single **Category**.

To see how it works, click on the **Category** pull-down menu and select Health & Fitness.



Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Sometimes you want to target an entire category because you have a product/pitch that is specific to the demographic that would read these publications. Doing a **Category** search is the quickest way to start a pitching list.

You can sort by **Outlet** or **Submit By** date to get a better view of what's going on with the category, and we'll discuss those features in a minute.

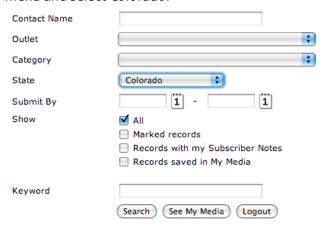
When you're ready, click on the link to perform a new search.

Searching by state

If you have a regional pitch, and you need to isolate all the outlets in a particular state, you can easily pull all the profiles for contacts within that state. (Be aware that New York also contains most of the national media as well, so you'll need to sort through those.)

To help with regional campaigns, we have isolated the regional outlets for many of the magazine categories, such as Health & Fitness (Regional), Women's (Regional), and Parenting (Regional).

To see how it works, click on the **State** pull-down menu and select Colorado.



Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

When you're done, click on the link to perform a new search.

Searching by deadline

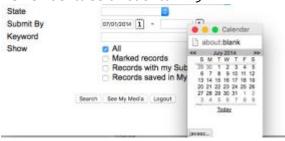
This is of great interest when you're in the midst of the pitching season. Planning the roll out of the campaign is crucial. For one, you need to approach the outlets at the optimum time; and two, you need to pace yourself so the follow-up doesn't fall behind.

If you want to isolate only those profiles with deadlines within a particular time frame you can use the **Submit By** search function.

Remember that the Test Drive is for 2015.

To locate media contacts who are looking to receive information in early to mid July, type **07/01/2015** in the first field. Or select from the calendar.

Remember to scroll back to 2015.



Then, type **07/15/2015** in the second field. Or select from the calendar.

Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

When you're done, click on the link to perform a new search.

Searching by keyword

A popular search method is the **Keyword** search. This is a simple, straightforward search for words used in the consumer product coverage.

Your **Keyword** searches will probably be your most effective search tool in building your pitching list.

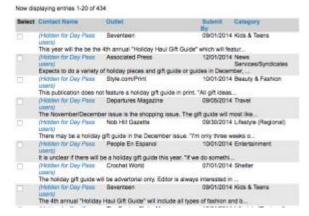
To use this feature, simply type the word in the field. It will look for exact matches, so it's best to type the root word in. If you are looking for gifts for children, try searching for "kid." That will pull up everything that has "kid" including the plural word "kids. " It's also a good idea to pull up similar words like "child" which will pull up "children" as well since the root word is being searched. Another example is searching "tech" rather than "technology." If you search "technology" words such as "technological" will not appear.

For the best results you'll want to try a few different words to make sure you catch everything. For example, descriptives like "ecofriendly," "green," and "organic" should all be

searched. To see how it works type "fashion" in the keyword field.

Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Yikes! 434 profiles!

Let's try to refine that a little.

Click on the link to perform a new search.

Get in Gear.

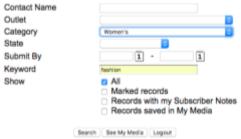
Refining searches to the exact contacts you need.

Combining criteria

You can combine any of the search criteria for an even more refined result.

Let's look at just the profiles in the Women's magazines. Select Women's from the **Category** pull-down menu, and "fashion" from the Keyword field.

Your Search criteria will look like this:



Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:

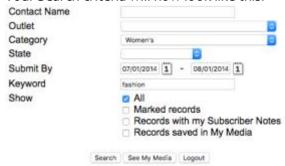
Select	Contact Name	Outlet	Submit By :	Category	
	(Hidden for Day Pass users)	Latina Magazine	09/01/2014	Wamen's	
	"Details for the holiday gift guide are still being traned out, but the guide wi				
	(Priction for Day Pass users)	Cosmopolitan for Latinas	08/01/2014	Woman's	
	"Each department will feature their own gift guide. So, the Fashion Department w				
	(Hidden for Day Pass users)	Vanidades	10/01/2014	Warner's	
	"The focus of this year's holiday gift guide will be beauty and perfume products				
	(Midden for Day Pass users)	Cosmopolitan for Latinas	08/29/2014	Women's	
	Editor is tooking for products "from every angle" to include in this year's hol				
	(Hodgen for Day Place users)	Cosmopolitan	08/01/2014	Warren's	
	"The whole team will contribute	to the gift guide; however, a them	e and price po		
(D)	(History for Day Page users)	Victoria	07/31/2014	Women's	
	"The theme for this year's gift gu	ide is 'nostess', so we will be loo	king for gr		
	(Fillden for Day Pass users)	First For Women	08/01/2014	Warren's	
	The gift guide "will run in the December 8th, 2014 issue, but the publication wi				
	(History for Day Pass usand	Real Simple	07/01/2014	Women's	
	"The theme of this year's gift gui	de will mimic test years '50 Gifts	Linder \$50'		
	(Hidden for Day Pass caers)	Woman's Day	08/01/2014	Women's	
	"There isn't a formal gift guide planned, but there will be plenty of holiday id				

Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

33 profiles, that's better. (You'll also want to search Beauty & Fashion Magazines as both will cover women's fashions. That search results in an additional 32 profiles. And lifestyle magazines which result in an additional 18 profiles.) But let's refine those lists even more. Click on the link to perform a new search.

Let's add a deadline range. Enter 07/01/2014 to 08/01/2014 in the **Submit by** fields, select Women's from the **Category** list, and 'fashion' in the Keyword field.

Your Search criteria will now look like this:



Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Okay, 14 profiles of editors who work at Women's magazines who are interested in fashion items and want pitches in late July to early August.

When you're done, click on the link to perform a new search.

Special showing

The Gift List® contains features that let you add your own information to the profile. These features are described on pages 12 to 14. You

can modify profiles by bookmarking them, adding your own notes, or placing them in a customized media list.

The search criteria below allow you to use your own information as part of your search.

Show	✓ AII
	Records with my Subscriber Notes
	Records saved in My Media

All the search criteria options on the list above can be used alone or in conjunction with other criteria to generate your search.

Showing all

The search screen defaults to "Show All" as shown above. Unless you want to refine the search to one of the contact groups described below, you will always keep it checked.

Bookmarked profiles

Within each profile is a check box to bookmark that profile. Bookmarking is described on page 14. To pull a list of all the profiles you have bookmarked, just check this box and click Search.

Profiles with my Subscriber notes

Within each profile is a blank field where you can type your own notes. Subscriber Notes is described on page 13.

Having a place to jot down notes saves you from having to print and/or export the records. This field also exports to Excel, so you can merge your notes into a status report for a client, cover letters for the media, reminder notes for yourself – whatever you like.

To pull a list of all the profiles where you have entered notes, just check this box and click Search.

Profiles saved in MyMedia

Although you can manage multiple, customized pitching lists in the **MyMedia** area, you can still quickly pull up a single list of every profile in all your **MyMedia** lists combined. **MyMedia** is described on page [x].

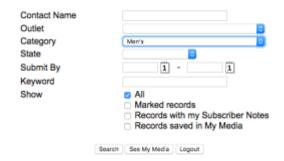
To pull a list of all the profiles saved in your **MyMedia** area, just check this box and click Search.

Navigating the trip.

Understanding and reviewing the media profiles.

Start at search

Go back to the Search screen, and create a search from any criteria that you choose. For this example, do a **Category** search. Search for all magazines in the Men's category.



Click Search to see the list.

Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Viewing the profile

To view the complete profile, simply click on the **Contact Name**.

Click on "Contact Name" for Popular Mechanics. It's the first profile.



Test Drivers see this screen:



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Using the profile page

Within the profile view, there are a few features that you can use to help find and keep track of work product.

Bookmarking a record



Check this box to bookmark this record. Bookmarking a record is like "dog-earring" the page. The bookmark will allow you to search for it from the main search screen, if you need to find it again. It will not add it to a **MyMedia** list.

To find bookmarked records, simply go to the main search screen and check the box for "Marked Records" and click "Search".

Why bookmark?

- If you get interrupted while reviewing records and need to quickly find the record you were reading, you can bookmark it.
- You can bookmark records that you have already sent press releases to, so that you can quickly pull a list for a client status report.
- You can bookmark records that you have collected clips from, so you can keep a record of success to show your client, or future clients, or post on your website.
- You can bookmark records of media contacts that you need to call next week, so that you can generate a quick call sheet for yourself.

Adding your own personal notes



This area is a free space for you to enter in whatever notes you want to keep about this profile. These notes are private to you and you alone – and, of course, anyone who has access to your Username/Password. You can be as candid as you like! Save your notes by clicking "Return to Search Results".

This field exports to MSExcel®, so you can use it to keep track of information that you need for generating status reports for clients, archive your work product, and more.

Printing a profile

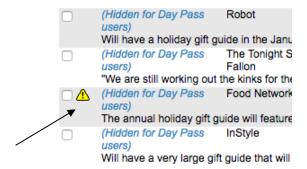
To create a printer friendly page of this profile, click "Print". A new window will open for printing. Just close the window when you're done.

Returning to the search results

Once you are done viewing the profile, click on Return to Search Results to go back to this screen to go to a different profile.

Stop for the triangle

As you navigate the database, you're bound to run into a few yellow triangle traffic signs along the way. This is where they are displayed:



If we change a record after it's been posted, it's flagged with a yellow triangle.

To see all the records that have been updated, you would use the **Updated Records Since** search field, which was explained on page 5.

Fresh data all season

New profiles are posted weekly to **The Gift List**®, but the existing profiles aren't ignored. We maintain the database through November.

Sometimes the changes are minor, sometimes they're very important. If you see a yellow triangle next to a contact that you have been pursuing, it's a good idea to check the update.

We track email bounces and will update basic contact information, as well as make notations as to staff changes, etc. One year every single person at Hearst moved offices, and all their addresses were updated.

If an editor has changed their focus and wants to update their coverage description they may give us a call.

If a publication folds, we will also make a notation without pulling the record from the database.

If a staffer leaves the publication, we will also make a note without pulling the publication from the list.

For example, if you clicked on Mali Baer's profile, you'd see this at the top of the full profile:

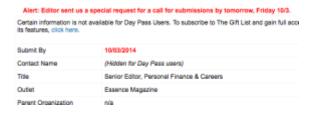
Alert: QUICK & SIMPLE has folded as of July 2008.				
07/15/2008				
Ms. Mali Baer				
New Products Editor				

Quick & Simple

Some other examples of updates we made to this list:

Editors gave us an update:

Outlet



The Editor's deadline was either extended or shortened:



We post a profile that has less than a month lead time:



Staff change:



If you are exporting records, you will need to keep track of these updates and making the changes manually. Records online in **The Gift List**®, even in your **MyMedia** custom lists will update automatically.

Speeding along.

Understanding and working with the search results.

Search tour

Click on Return to Search Results to get back to the list of Women's publications. If you've skipped to this section, go back to "Navigating the trip" on page 14 for instructions on how to generate these search results.



Subscribers see the unhidden version, of course.

Note that the search results default to alpha by **Contact Name**:

But you don't have to view the list in this order. You can sort the list by **Outlet** name, **Submit By** date, or **Category**.

Sorting the list

To sort the search results, simply click on the header of the column you want to sort.

Sorting by outlet

Click on the **Outlet** column header and you'll see that the results are now sorted alpha by **Outlet** name:



Occasionally you'll see "(various publications)" at the top of the search results. This is obviously not some new publication. When you see (Various Publications) listed as the Outlet name, it indicates that that contact is a freelancer and is not on staff at any one particular outlet.

Sorting by deadline

To sort the list by deadline date, click on the Submit By column header:



You'll notice that the top profile does not have Submit By dates. This means that they are not seeking information specifically for their December issue, but act as "evergreens" gathering information year round and covering the material when it works for them.

The typical lead-time is the guide that you will use to estimate the best time to submit your pitch for the issue that you're interested in targeting.

If you scroll down, you'll see the deadlines are sorted from earliest to latest.



Understanding the submit by dates. The Submit By date indicated the answer to the question, "when would you ideally like to have all your product submissions?"

If you previously subscribed to the list, you know that we used the first and the fifteenth of the month for submission dates. Last year we got a lot of feedback from editors that many of them had very specific dates for submissions.

Occasionally there will be a Submit By date listed but there will be further instructions in the Submission Hints field. For example, if the Submit By date is for the November issue, but there is a separate deadline for the December issue, there will be a note that says "Submit By date is for the November issue. The December issue deadline is 10/15."

Sorting by category

Since this was a search of profiles in a single category, they are all Women's. But if you had searched by Keyword, State or Submit By dates you'd have mixed Categories.

And you could sort them by Category by clicking on the column header.

Viewing all the pages

Scroll to the bottom of the Search Results page to see additional features:



The Search Results shows 20 profiles per page. Scroll to the bottom of the Search Results page, and you'll see how to jump to any page in the list.



This list has four pages. You can click on any of the page blocks to switch between pages.

Printing a summary



The button on the far right is Print Summary. Click this button to see a printer friendly version of the Search Results page.

Exporting the list



The Export button will export the Search Results into a Microsoft Excel document.

Depending on the settings you have set on your computer, the process for downloading the file will be a little different for each user.

Owning the road.

Creating custom pitching lists with MyMedia.

Create a search from any criteria that you choose. For this example, we will continue working with the search results from all magazines in the Men's category.

If you've skipped to this section, go back to "Navigating the trip" on page 12 for instructions on how to generate these search results.

Selecting profiles

Scroll to the bottom of the Search Results page. You'll see the function buttons for the search results:



Selecting all

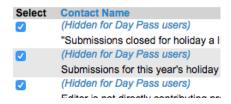
The button on the far left is Select All.



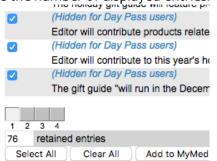
If you are happy with your Search Results and want to include every profile in a pitching list, then you can simple click on this button.

After you click the button, you'll notice that every profile on every page will have a check in the Select column.

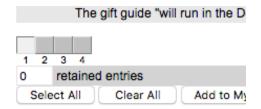
Now displaying entries 1-20 of 76



You'll notice the number of retained entries matches the number of displayed entries.



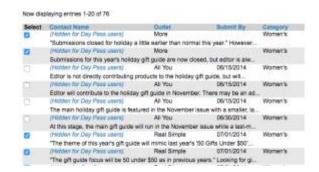
Oops, clearing all



To uncheck all profiles, click on the Clear All button. Alternatively, you can uncheck profiles individually.

Selecting some

You can select profiles individually by simply checking the boxes next to the profile. To uncheck, just click again.



Creating a custom list

Once you have selected the contacts you want included in your custom list, click the Add to MyMedia List button at the bottom of the screen:



(Remember that you are working online, and if you navigate away from this screen without "saving" your work your check marks will be lost. To "save," you must click on the Add to MyMedia List before you go on to the next page. After you create the list, you can go back and move on to the next page to continue selecting contacts and adding them to the pitching list you've created in MyMedia.)

This will take you to the MyMedia area.

The first time you create a custom list in the MyMedia area you will see this screen:



To create your list with the records you have selected, simply give it a name in the field provided.

Then, click on Add Publications/Create Media List.

Using MyMedia

Once you have created the list or have added publications to the list, it will bring you to the MyMedia Lists page:



The list you just created will be shown here. Unless this is the first list you've created, you will see all your custom pitching lists, including the date you created it and how many publications it contains.

You can create as many MyMedia lists as you need. The Gift List does not limit to the number of lists you can store online.

From the MyMedia area you can navigate back to your Search Results or go directly back to the Search screen to perform a new search.

If you've created a new list, you most likely will need to return to the search results to continue reviewing the profiles on the other pages.

Click on the return to the search results. This will return you to the Search Results page. From here you can move on to the subsequent pages and add profiles to your existing list.

To view the list, click on "See My Media".



Adding profiles

For the sake of the Test Drive, let's say you're done selecting profiles from this search. And you're ready to do another search to find more profiles. You can perform multiple searches for a single list, and continue to add results to the same list.

You did a search for Men's publications and created a pitching list, you could review the

Technology category, among other appropriate categories. You can also do a keyword search for "gadget."

To get back to the main Search screen, click on the To perform a new search, click here link:

My Media Lists

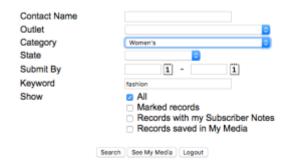
To return to the search results, click here.

To perform a new search, click here.

In the grid below appear your Media Lists.

Date	List Name	Publicat
05/28/2009	Pitching List #1	5

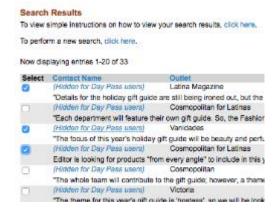
Create your new search, as such:



Click Search to see our results.



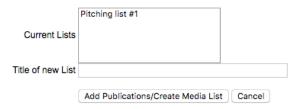
Select the additional profiles you want to add to your existing list.



Click on Add to My Media.

The following screen would prompt you to decide whether you want to create a new list or add to existing list.

You have selected 3 publications to create a new Media List or to add Media List, your next step is to give this list a unique name by comple click on the "Add Publications/Create Media List" button and your pub



Now you have already created a list, you see a slightly different screen. Notice the Current Lists field. To add the profiles to an existing list, click on it to select it.

Click on Add Publications/Create Media List.

It's likely that as you perform multiple searches, you will select duplicate profiles. Duplicates will not be added to the same MyMedia list. So you don't have to worry about exporting multiples of the same profile.

You'll now notice that the number of publications has changed to include the new additions:



Using the features

You can access the MyMedia area directly from the Search Results screen. Click the See MyMedia button:



This will open up the MyMedia List screen:



The features available from this screen are: Review, Rename, Export and Print.

Reviewing profiles

Click on Review to see the records contained in this list.

Removing profiles

To remove a profile from your MyMedia list, uncheck the Select box. For a record to stay in your MyMedia database it must remain checked.

Click the Update Media List button:



When you're done reviewing your list, click Cancel to navigate back to the MyMedia area.

Renaming a list

To rename one of your lists, click on Rename. A box will open for you to give it a new name:



Enter the new name, and click Rename.

Exporting a list

These functions work in the same as described on page 16.

Thank you for taking The Test Drive. If you'd like to subscribe to The Gift List for Holiday 2016 - Print & Broadcast or the Web & Blog list, visit http://giftlistmedia.com/store/