

allure

THE BEAUTY EXPERT



The Best Ways to Spend Your Tax Rebate

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While there isn't a financial expert on earth who would advise you to blow your rebate on nail polish, perfume, and highlights, lucky for you, I'm no financial expert. My personal ideal for allocating all of that fresh green goes something like this:

A regal candle. For years, everyone with "good taste" made their homes smell of fig. Trendoids have moved to more cutting-edge blends, but to me, the earthy fig is still decadent and mysterious. And even though my home is neither decadent nor mysterious, when I burn my Diptyque Figuier candle, I can pretend.

A healing session with Soli Davis. A chance meeting with Davis nearly ruined all other spa services for me. More than a facialist or a masseuse, Soli's treatments blend reflexology, Reiki, and Shiatsu, and they leave me feeling light, relaxed, and optimistic. For \$125, it's the cheapest vacation you're ever going to have.

Donate to Operation Smile. If you're reading this blog, clearly you know what a worthy organization Operation Smile is. Volunteers for O.S. travel around the world to repair children's cleft lips and cleft palates into healthy, happy smiles. For only \$240, you can fully fund one of these surgeries, which only takes 45 minutes.

A great mirror. There's nothing like a German-crafted, razor sharp, distortion-free mirror to help you get a better gander at those pores. Consult one while doing your makeup, and you'll always leave the house the way you actually intend to, not sugared in powder or blushed to high heaven. Don't try to scrimp on price. Cheap is cheap, when it comes to these things. Try Irving W. Rice & Co. 's round, rimless mirror, \$88.

A Mason-Pearson brush. I've never met a publicist for Mason-Pearson—in fact, I don't even know if they have one. Luigi, Eugene, Orlando, and co. constantly expound on the merits of Mason-Pearson brushes — I've spent a fortune on hair products to give me the look that the brush does for pennies per use.

A fancy piece of dark chocolate. Just two lonely dollars left. For that, I would treat myself to a small, expensive bite of dark chocolate. Because it packs a fair amount of antioxidants, there is not even a chance I've sabotaged my summertime health pledge.

Posted By *Jessica Matlin*

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