

BUY A GIFT CARD ONLINE

Promise to return to support them, purchase gift cards to your favorite local shops and restaurants. This puts money in the pocket of the storeowner today to help them cover operating expenses and prepare for a strong future.

SHOP ONLINE

Many retailers have online shops and an online presence. Use this time to check out their online offerings. Several businesses are offering discounts and/or free shipping to encourage customers to continue to support their local businesses.

Reminder: Some shops that don't offer online shopping are happy to take an order over the phone and have it delivered to you during this time – don't hesitate to ask!

ORDER TAKEOUT

Dining from home more these days? Order delivery or takeout from many restaurants. If you are working to avoid the crowds, call ahead and pick up – many will even deliver to your car when you arrive!

Delivery services such as DoorDash, GrubHub or UberEats serve many establishments and are additional great options. You could also purchase a restaurant gift card to use for a later date.

TIP A LITTLE EXTRA

If you can afford to, leave a little extra cash for service workers – they especially are going to need the help. Consider a full tip on takeout orders, and leaving a little extra for the kitchen staff, too.

IF YOU HAVE RESERVATIONS

If you have reservations, don't be a no-show. Please call ahead of time to let the establishment know if you aren't going to make it so they can plan food and staffing needs accordingly.

SOCIAL CURRENCY

Spending more time online? Engage with your favorite businesses — leave a positive Google, Yelp, or Facebook review. Like, follow, comment and engage with them on social media. It's free to you and helps businesses build their online presence for today and the future. Continue to build relationships with your favorite local businesses and remind them that we are here for them!

ARTS & CULTURE

Did you have tickets to a show that was cancelled? Many cultural institutions are nonprofits, so instead of asking for a refund, consider making your ticket cost a donation to the organization.

Also, many performances may be rescheduled in the future, so be sure to check emails and social media posts from that organization for updates.