

## If You Have No Time

A handful of online services will create custom cards for you, then address, seal, stamp, and mail them. About a dozen were tested to see which did the best job of letting you skip a few steps without skimping on quality. The winners:



### Shutterfly

With a digital image and a few minutes, you can create a folding 3½-by-5- or 5-by-7-inch photo card or a flat 4-by-8-inch card. After you upload the photo, you can improve it if you like by using the site's easy editing tools (crop, fix red-eye, add color effects)—or just choose a border design and create your message. All along, the site shows excellent previews. Shutterfly's address-book feature was the only one of those tested that lets you give each person a nickname, so you get "Harriet Walker" on the envelope but "Dear Grandma," not "Dear Harriet Walker," inside. Bonus: Shutterfly is also a digital-photo sharing and storage service. **TO ORDER:** \$1.50 to \$2.50 per 5-by-7-inch card, \$10 per box of twelve 3½-by-5-inch cards, or 60 to 80 cents per flat card, plus mailing costs (prices go down with larger quantities); [www.shutterfly.com](http://www.shutterfly.com). To ensure that your cards arrive by the 24th, place your order by December 13.



### Cardstore.com

In addition to offering a photo-card service similar to Shutterfly's, Cardstore.com lets you customize nonphoto holiday (and other special-occasion) cards, then mails them off for you. In the Season's Greetings category, you can quickly browse through subcategories, from religious to whimsical, vintage to pets, even "Christmas-by-Region" (Santa's sleigh flying over San Francisco, anyone?). Bonus: To knock out the gift part of the season, enclose a gift card to one of 16 retailers, including Bass Pro Shop, Barnes & Noble, and Starbucks. **TO ORDER:** \$2 to \$3 per card, plus mailing, [www.cardstore.com](http://www.cardstore.com). Place your order by December 11 to ensure a Christmas Eve arrival.