

HOME FOR THE

# Holidays

**YOUR  
BEST  
HOLIDAY  
HOSTING  
SEASON**

**Delicious recipes  
Festive decor  
Fun DIY projects**

Let us help  
you make  
your season  
brighter!



# HOME FOR THE Holidays

A warm welcome to pies and cookies **BAKING** in the oven, wood crackling in the fireplace, and big hugs from **FAMILY** and friends. We're ready for it all—and more. Thanksgiving through Christmas is all about **HOME**. It's about decorating and making and **CELEBRATING** and enjoying. How can you make your home even more special this season? **LET US COUNT THE WAYS...**

## HANG A WREATH

Nothing says “The holidays are here!” better. Count on a wreath to round up feelings of good cheer the moment it goes on display.



### FRESH TAKE

Pink-tinged Japanese maple leaves and sedum wired to a wreath form display the softer side of autumn color. Hang from a ribbon in a contrasting hue.



## ...AND BRING IN SOME BRANCHES

Thanksgiving decor is as easy as slipping a leafy branch in a hurricane or vase. Twist bittersweet vines around the bottom for an extra splash of fall.



### FRAMED SENTIMENTS

A message board, left—linen-covered foam core in a frame—encourages guests to pin their gratitudes. Paper leaves, some cut from pages of old books, provide the jotting space.

### TURKEY TO GO

Leftovers leave in style with turkey, cranberries, and stuffing wrapped in parchment, above. Pop in a baguette and a few sides, then package in a take-home box.

# 3 give thanks

## A JUICY PEAR

is golden as a take-home gift.

Layer colored tissue paper on top of a square of metallic gold tissue paper. Wrap around a pear, tying tightly at the top with silk cord or ribbon. Cut the excess tissue paper into a leaf shape above the cord or ribbon “stem.”





# 4 make dinner extra-special

A parade of family favorites becomes conversation-starters, served buffet-style and IDed on paper leaf shapes, *above*. Elevate dishes on blocks of wood (or stacked cutting boards) and footed plates. For a potluck, step up the presentation by transferring guests' contributions to matching dishes.



# CRAFT A message on napkins and pies.

Alphabet stamps and white ink brightened with a fabric pen personalize a cloth napkin, *above*. Use alphabet cookie cutters for piecrust letters, *left*. For flexibility, bake independently of the pies.



Toast the season with a crowd-pleasing cocktail. Bonus points for a help-yourself bar.

# 5

**BY THE PITCHER**  
Stir up a big-batch cocktail, *this photo*, that can hang out in the fridge so you're not playing barkeep as family rolls in. For extra chill, pop in frozen grapes.

**CRANBERRY COOLER**  
A signature drink makes a party special. Crisp, light Cranberry Chill, *above left*, is festive fall through winter. Mix 1 part cranberry juice cocktail to 2 parts limeade, then add a splash of champagne or club soda. Garnish with a skewer of berries.

**SWEET SWIZZLE**  
For sparkling swizzle sticks, use rock candy, *below*. Serve drinks in champagne flutes, which will be tall enough to hold the sugary sticks.

# SWEET STICKS



# 6 SET IT WITH PINECONES

In a blue and white scheme, nature's iconic element is right at home for Christmas, Hanukkah, or a winter party.



## CHAIR FLAIR

Dressed-up chairs, *this photo*, make a big first impression at the table. Lightly spray pinecones white, glue to velvet ribbons, and hang from stick-on plastic hooks.

## WARM WISHES

For party favors or hostess gifts with a handmade touch, wrap velvet ribbon around silver votives, *above*. Glue on mini pinecones. Done!

# glow with it

7  
Illuminate any spot in your home. Group glass pieces—champagne flutes, tumblers, vases—into a collection, pop in candles, and enjoy the flicker.



**A FEW GLISTENING** accents will capture the spirit of the season.

Use glass cake stands and compotes as easy-make centerpieces, *above*. Layer with greenery, top with glass and silver ornaments, and tuck in glitter feathers. Or grab a silver tray (trays keep displays orderly) and create a vignette with silvery vessels in different heights and sizes, *below*.



# 8 put it in glass



**NO-FUSS TERRARIUM**  
“Plant” evergreen and berry clippings in fake snow in a footed terrarium (or fish bowl), *above*, then drop in ornaments. A stem peeking out the top implies growth.

**OPEN-AIR SNOW GLOBE**  
Line the bottom of a clear vase with sheet moss, add bottle brush trees, and dust with fake snow, *this photo*. All the pretty without any shaking!

**DOMED CENTERPIECE**  
For a centerpiece in seconds, group small collectibles such as vintage ornaments on a plate and top with a cloche, *below*. The lesson? Anything under glass looks special.



## NEED A FESTIVE FOOD GIFT? Candy Cane Popcorn Mix is a sweet surprise.

Melt 1¼ pounds vanilla-flavor candy coating. Stir in ½ cup finely crushed candy canes. Pour over a mixture of 7 cups popcorn, 3 cups small pretzel twists, and 2 cups dry-roasted cashews; stir to coat. Spread onto a piece of foil. Sprinkle with ½ cup crushed candy canes. Break into pieces when cool.



## 9 GRAB SOME CANDY CANES

The season's fave flavor makes basic treats special. Crushed, it's sparkly “glitter” for cupcakes and ice cream sandwiches.



## CLEVER! A candy cane doubles as a hanger.

Pipe a bead of royal icing along the back of a small candy cane, attach to the back of a cookie, and hold in place to set. Hang on a glass for a fun milk-and-cookies presentation.



# 10

**TAKE IT OUTSIDE** A front porch (or a back patio you can see from the kitchen window) deserves a little holiday love.

## WINTRY TABLESCAPE

A linen-draped table is the foundation for this holiday scene. Group candles in jars and vessels partially filled with fake snow. Add a tabletop tree and a sprinkling of pinecones.

## FRESH LAYERS

A big wreath and greenery framing the door finish things off. For lushness, wire a medium wreath to the inside of a large one.

### SUBHEAD WILL GO HERE

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et et laut asperchil  
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