



Carlton Cards Tips on How to Get Everything Done On Time and on Budget



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Exactly how hard has it become to get everything done in a reasonably economic and timely fashion around the holiday season? Carlton Cards holiday experts have the following tips to ensure a timely and economical holiday season without sacrificing any of the fun and enjoyment.

How to get it all done on time

Make a plan: Before you set out to cross off all of your holiday to-dos, sit down and map everything out with a handy calendar to set deadlines for yourself.

Just say no: Everyone loves the holidays and a big reason for that is all of the activity going on. You will undoubtedly be invited to numerous gatherings and house parties to celebrate. If you simply cannot make a particular party, just politely decline. Still feeling a little guilty? Send or drop off a small gift with your regrets.

Take a day off to just shop: The popular vacation week between Christmas and New Years Eve is a great way to unwind from the hectic holiday hustle, but it doesn't help to alleviate any of the stress as you work to get everything done. Take a day or two off before just to get some holiday chores done.

How to stay under budget

Plan ahead: There is no easier way to overspend than to head to the mall with a blank canvas where a to-do list should be. Know what you are going for and have a general idea of what you would like to get.

Stick to your do-able list...and your convenient schedule: The benefit of making a list and setting a schedule can be offset by unreasonable expectations. Give your self tasks that you can honestly complete in a time that you can possibly do so.

Try to only use cash or debit card: The credit card is a great tool for the holidays. It gives us a sense of security and lessens the blow of the high costs of celebrating, entertaining and gifting. However, it also tends to make us a little less conscious of what we might be spending. If you have made a budget based on what you have available, you are more likely to not go over it. Try to leave the credit card in your wallet.

About Carlton Cards Ltd.

Carlton Cards Ltd. is a subsidiary of American Greetings with corporate headquarters in Mississauga, Ontario. For the past 95 years Carlton Cards Ltd. has been helping consumers enhance their relationships to create happiness, laughter and love. The Company offers six English brands: Carlton Cards, American Greetings, Papyrus, Recycled Paper Greetings, Tender Thoughts and Today and Always as well as our French brands: Entre Nous and Papyrus. For more information on the Corporation visit <http://www.carltoncards.ca/>

About American Greetings Corporation

For more than 100 years, American Greetings Corporation has been a creator and manufacturer of innovative social expression products. Along with greeting cards, its product lines include paper product offerings which include DesignWare party goods and American Greetings and Plus Mark gift-wrap, boxed cards and electronic greetings. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, American Greetings generates annual revenue of approximately \$2 billion. For more information on the Company, visit <http://corporate.americangreetings.com/>



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