

Spice Up Your Holiday Decorating with Everyday Items in Your House



Mississauga, Ontario (December 2016) - As the holidays roll around, you may be looking for ways to add some zest to your décor without spending money or purchasing new items. With a fresh look at things you already have around your house, its easy to come up with new, unexpected combinations that add something special to your decorating.

Check out some tips from our holiday experts at Carlton Cards and you'll be on your way to a fresh look that is totally uniquely you. Getting creative is not only a smart thing budget wise but also a fun activity as well.

- Your Christmas tree isn't the only place for bulbs and lights. Fill a large clear vase (or a cluster of them) with ornaments and lights for a look that will sparkle on a buffet or mantle. This the perfect way to display ornaments you love that have been broken and can no longer be hung on the tree.
- If you want to create an array of candles all shapes and sizes but don't have enough candlesticks, turn a few champagne glasses upside down and place a medium size pillar candle for a unique look.
- Create a beautiful vignette by wrapping a few gift boxes, top them with beautiful ribbon and stack them on a sparkly cake stand or plateau. A great way to use that wedding gift you have stored in the back of your cupboards.
- Favourite childhood holiday books become nostalgic vintage décor when artistically displayed or stacked on a coffee table. They will not only serve as a seasonal decoration but they'll also remind you of happy memories of holidays past.
- Visit Mother Nature to collect various types of evergreen and holly branches. Arrange them around the base of your candlesticks for a scented, natural centerpiece.

- Pinecones are the perfect Christmas accent but if you are collecting them from outdoors, it is important to bake them first in an 200°F oven for 20-30 minutes to make sure you aren't bringing any little critters into your house. Once baked and cooled, they can be made into ornaments by gluing on a festive ribbon or even glued to circular piece of cardboard to create a homey wreath. Try painting a pine cone green and glue the base on wine cork to create a mini Christmas tree.
- Break out the construction paper, crayons, markers and whatever crafting materials you have and let the kids make place cards for your guests. Each will be perfectly unique with childhood whimsy which is what Christmas is all about.

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