

NOV 2018

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- Put away Halloween decorations and costumes, and be sure to donate costumes that don't fit anymore.
- Donate or freeze extra candy.
- Add in a little extra Fall décor (especially if you are hosting Thanksgiving - keep it simple and natural as it is a quick couple of weeks).
- Do a quick inventory on candles and buy what you need to make your home glow.
- Do some quick decluttering and organizing..... even if it's just the high traffic areas of your house so you have a little peace of mind and room to operate the next few months. For me it is always the pantry, coat closet and catch-all drawer so we can find hats, gloves, socks, etc. on demand.

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- Prep for Thanksgiving – are you hosting? If so, determine number of guests, your menu, table setting, décor, etc.
- Christmas cards – select photo, edit photo as necessary, select card, order a sample (I like to see one before I order 100's), review master mailing list, and print labels.
- Make your master gift-giving list – be sure to include hostess gifts, neighbors, teachers, clients, assistants, coaches, garbage men, etc.... And a few extra for the unexpected person you may have overlooked.
- Review wrapping supplies: tissue paper, wrapping paper, gift tags, tape, ribbon, boxes, and bags.....I try and do gift bags as much as possible as they are a huge time saver.
- Do an outfit assessment for parties and vacation and make a list of what you need to shop for. Start shopping ASAP as the clock is ticking and selections get slim as soon as we hit December.

18

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- Thanksgiving week – final menu check, confirm recipes and make the grocery list.
- Set Thanksgiving table ~ it's my favorite part of hosting so I like to do it early except flowers.
- Order Christmas cards based on sample you received.
- As you put away all of your fall décor, start to pull out Christmas decorations. I like to go through them and discard, donate or replace anything before I start decorating.
- Decorate – I like to do the outside first. Then one room at a time inside. Some years I do more than others which really depends on how much time and energy I have.

25

01

- Prep cards for mailing – this always takes longer than you think!
- Finish decorating inside.
- Get the Christmas tree... another 3 day project in our house. 1 day to get the tree, another day to light it, and the third day to decorate which we usually do with a nice bottle of wine, our favorite Christmas music and the kids somewhere nearby.
- Kids make their Christmas list for us.

DEC2018

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02**08**

- Put Cards in the mail.
- Online shopping.
- Stocking stuffer shopping – I do this over a few days, but I like to get most of it done in one fail swoop!
- Utilize one of your free days or nights and enjoy a little holiday baking. Freeze some cookies if you can... it's always nice to be able to pull something out of the freezer if you can.

09**15**

- Finish all shopping.
- Wrap gifts.

16**22**

- Pack for vacation if you're traveling.
- Double check all travel plans – air, hotel, car, reservations.
- Plan menu for Christmas Eve, Christmas morning and Christmas dinner. Keep it simple!
- Ask for guests to bring the more labor intensive dishes!
- Make a grocery list for each event and shop as early as possible to avoid crowds.

23**29**

- Merry Christmas.
- Enjoy the holidays and your much needed vacation or staycation.

MERRY
Christmas

AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

