

Home Décor for the Holidays

Decking your halls and living spaces for the holidays, sets the scene for celebrations. How do you make your home merry without spending a lot of money? Interior decorator and home stager Kathy Wood has reached into her sack of Christmas ideas and pulled out some cost conscious tips.

DIY decorations: Mix up a batch of salt dough and enlist the kids to help make ornaments to hang on the tree. Use cookie cutters or mold into simple shapes like candy canes and wreaths. Add paint and embellishments after they cool. Make some extras to decorate gifts.

Back to nature: Take a hike and gather nature's offerings to take home. Hunt for pine cones and fallen branches to display in bowls, vases and containers. A coat of spray paint will get them ready for the festive season.

Power in numbers: Gather together similar items and display them in a group for greater impact. Unite your Santa collection on a mirror to create a jolly focal point. A mass of candles brings warmth and beauty to your home for the holidays.

Make Scrooge proud: A few dollars can go a long way, especially at the Dollar Store. Everything from greenery to ornaments and wired ribbon can be found and incorporated into your home decor. Shiny balls and beads, arranged in a glass bowl make a glittering, glamorous centre piece.

Repurpose: Pull your silver metal Christmas cookie cutters out of the drawer in the kitchen, shine them and hang them in the windows and doorways with red ribbon. They will add festive sparkle in an unexpected way.

Festive views: Paint windows and glass doors with Christmas scenes and greetings. If you aren't comfortable with your free-hand artistic skills, purchase stencils or cut shapes out of sponges to be your guide.

Look it up: Go surfing for ideas on the web for inexpensive DIY decorating ideas. Magazines can be inspirational and don't let the cover price deter you, the library lends magazines and you'll find inspiration on the bookshelves as well.

For home décor inspiration throughout the year, check out Wood's videos on DailyWebTV.com where you can learn something new every day.