

FENG SHUI HOLIDAY

DECORATING FOR THE HOME

BY: SERAFINA KRUPP

Feng Shui is all about bringing together heaven on earth. What better time of doing this but the holidays. During the holidays the seasons change and we have all the inspiration, ideas and incentive to make this happen. You can feel it in the air. Holidays are all about love, family, and friends.

For the autumn season we have the wonderful holiday of Thanksgiving. One of the simplest ways of bringing in this seasonal look and holiday into your home is to change out your throw pillows with colors of orange, yellow, gold, and brown. You can also add a matching color throw or a throw with an animal print. Replace your table cloths and napkins with these colors. Place in your home autumn flowers like marigold, chrysanthemums, sunflowers or red maple leaves. Placing different shaped pumpkins are great accessories in the kitchen; they are also healthy and easy to bake. Scented candles throughout the home bring in wonderful smells and when lit change the whole ambience to a warm loving atmosphere. Bake a pumpkin pie or make cookies, warming up your home deliciously and bringing out your creativity.

In Feng Shui expressing yourself creatively is one of the most powerful ways to activate joy, enthusiasm and participation in life. The holidays are a celebration of life. Turn on the music and dance. Bringing music into your home cleanses the air and home of negative energy and lifts the vibration. How wonderful that Thanksgiving brings us together with family and friends in the honor of being thankful

for what we have. In Feng Shui the more grateful we are for our blessings in life, the more blessings we receive. Put Love in everything you do and especially put love into you.

Winter season brings in the holidays of Hanukkah and Christmas. In my home we celebrate both holidays. For Hanukkah in my home I bring in beautiful blue, white and gold Hanukkah candles. We light the candles on a Menorah which is a candlestick with nine branches. The holiday lasts for eight days and nights. Each evening of Hanukkah, one more candle is lit, with a special blessing. I love doing this because it expresses more than words can express. It has to do with gratefulness and sending your prayers off. I love bringing this energy of blessing into our home. During the holidays, bring candles into your home because they are instant "space shifters". When you light the candles the space will feel magical and warm. They can change a mundane environment into an enchanting one with a strike of a match.

Christmas time is a time when decorating the home with Christmas ornaments can make you feel like a kid again and brings out that inner child that loves to play. My husband loves to bring out his collection of Porcelain lighted houses and creates a miniature Christmas village that lights up our whole family room. Think about how you would like to decorate this year to bring in that childlike excitement again. Bring in colors that bring you joy. The colors for Christmas are usually jewel tones, emerald green, vibrant red, deep blues, rich gold's, and silvers. I love

bringing in all the colors; or you may choose a monochromatic pattern with tones of one color which is a very elegant look.

Whatever your fancy is, go for it. Bringing in colors livens up your home and your home is an expression of you. If you live in a small space and don't have room for a Christmas tree, go to the Christmas tree lot and ask for the left over branches they have cut off the trees. This will bring in the smells of Christmas and will make a great center piece for your table or mantle decorated with a few Christmas bulbs. You can also bring in the smells of Christmas with Christmas sprays, essential oils,

pine cones, or yummy scented candles. It is a magical season of giving. Greatness is not in the big things that we do but it is in the small little kind things that we do where greatness lies. It is a time of exchanging gifts, decorating Christmas trees, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends and of course, waiting for Santa Claus to arrive. Participating in all of these activities enriches our lives and homes if we allow it to. May your holidays be filled with much love, joy, wonderment, and splendor!

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