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Fresh Ideas & Info for November



The cool temperatures of autumn are here and winter is just around the corner. Keep warm by dressing up your hearth and home with our ideas for indoor activities in this month's issue. From making centerpieces for the upcoming holiday to getting a start on gift-giving ideas, you're sure to be busy this season!

Helpful Hints

Choosing wall-to-wall carpeting or large area rugs will make a room appear larger. The unified look produces a more spacious affect than the spotty look of a lot of little rugs.



floral ideas

Thanksgiving Centerpieces

For Thanksgiving, everyone wants to have the dinner table set beautifully. Nothing completes the Thanksgiving table more than a beautiful floral bouquet, celebrating the flowers of the harvest.

[read more](#)



Everlasting Harvest Basket

[buy now](#)



garden ideas

Fall Gardening Alternatives

The colder seasons don't necessarily mean that you have to stop working on your garden. Decorating with live plants or starting a garden journal will keep you warm and indoors.

[read more](#)



Three Year Garden Journal

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home ideas

Warm Winter Evenings

Nothing compares to a warm winter evening spent by the hearth with a book and a roaring fire. But if your fireplace needs a little spicing up, we have some ideas that might help you create a little spark in your winter nights.

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Care & Handling

- Chrysanthemums
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Floral Ideas & Info



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Ideas in Season

Beautiful Thanksgiving Centerpieces

For Thanksgiving, everyone wants to have the dinner table set beautifully, full of color and light, richly representing the bountiful harvest. Nothing completes the Thanksgiving table more than a beautiful floral bouquet, celebrating the flowers of the harvest.

Artful Centerpieces

Centerpieces are a very easy way to creatively and beautifully add to your table. Traditional Thanksgiving folklore would have the Pilgrim's table decorated with a cornucopia filled with harvest produce: squash, small pumpkins, sweet potatoes, potatoes, corn, wheat, and other vegetables and grains. While cornucopias aren't as common a decoration as they might have been in the 17th century, the idea of a bountiful harvest centerpiece still holds the same appeal. A centerpiece can be as complex or as simple as you desire. Full floral bouquets featuring harvest grasses and flowers - like our [Fields of Europe - Autumn](#) bouquet or our [Everlasting Harvest Basket](#) centerpiece - will complete your Thanksgiving table with a show of the harvest. Alternatively, selecting specific harvest vegetables and artfully arranging them in groupings along the table will provide a colorful, inventive and festive trimming for your table.



Fields of Europe - Autumn
[buy now](#)

Illuminate!

Candles are a fantastic way to add to your centerpiece. You can choose small taper candles placed in either a Thanksgiving or Harvest-related candleholder or surround a large column of candles. Textured candles, like our [Honeycomb Pillars](#), enhance the centerpiece with light and texture. Either surrounded by flowers or encircled with vegetables and grains, adding candles to your table adds warmth and light to your Thanksgiving meal.



Honeycomb Pillars - Set of 3 - On Sale!
[buy now](#)

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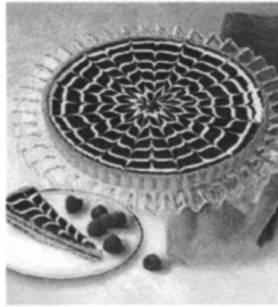
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Gourmet Ideas & Info

Ideas in Season



Raspberry Almond Tart
[buy now](#) 


Bake up a New Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving dinner is an American tradition and so is Thanksgiving dessert: a warm slice of spiced pumpkin pie. But if your family is in need of a little change this Thanksgiving or if you have a family member that just doesn't like pumpkin pie...what are your options?

Spice up your Thanksgiving Dessert

What does your family like? Are they chocolate fans or apple pie fans? Do they prefer cake or a pie? Like pumpkin pie, apple pie is another Thanksgiving favorite...but have you ever tried Shoo Fly Pie? When the first American settlers came to the new world, they brought with them long-lasting, non-perishable items like flour, brown sugar, molasses, salt and shortening. With that limited food stock, the pioneer women created Shoo Fly Pie, a three-layer pie of crust, gooey inside and crumb topping. It's the true Pilgrim Pie! If that's not to your liking, you could try a Cranberry Mince Pie. Full of rich red cranberries and mincemeat, this is a rich, tart pie sure to satisfy cranberry lovers. Both of these pies provide savory alternatives to the traditional pies while still keeping with the season. If you're feeling adventurous, try out the recipes we've listed below!



Miss Grace Original Lemon Cake
[buy now](#) 

Don't Feel Like Baking?

If you don't feel like baking, our gourmet cooks have come up with some fantastic desert alternatives - quick, ready-to-eat and mouth-wateringly tasty - these gourmet deserts will make this a Thanksgiving to remember. Our [Raspberry Almond Tart](#) is a scrumptious and beautiful desert. If your family prefers cake to pie, you could also try our [Miss Grace Original Lemon Cake](#) to top off your Thanksgiving meal. If those don't spark your tastebuds, peruse our wide selection of fresh-baked gourmet cakes and pies sure to satisfy any desert lover!

Cranberry Mince Pie

Ingredients:
 2/3 cup sugar

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2 Tablespoons cornstarch
2/3 cup water
1 1/2 cups fresh cranberries, rinsed and drained
Pastry for 2 crust pie
1 jar mincemeat
1 egg yolk mixed with 2 Tablespoons water

Directions:

In sauce pan combine sugar and cornstarch, add water. Over high heat cook and stir to boiling. Add cranberries and continue to boil. Reduce heat simmer 5-10 minutes - stir occasionally. Place mincemeat into one of pastry lined pie plates and top with cranberry mixture. Cover with 2nd pie crust - flute edges, cut slits to vent. Brush egg mixture over crust. Bake 425 degrees F for 30 minutes or until golden brown.

Shoo Fly Pie

Ingredients:

Nine inch pie shell

Crumb Mixture

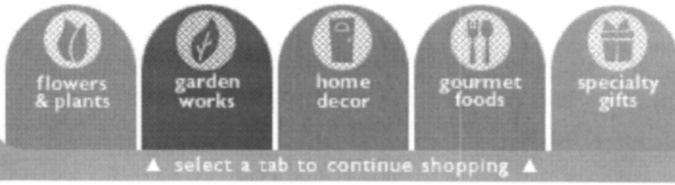
3/4 cup flour
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp cinnamon
1/2 tsp ginger
1/8 tsp nutmeg
1/8 tsp ground cloves
1/2 cup brown sugar
2 Tablespoons shortening

Liquid Mixture

1/2 cup dark molasses
3/4 cup boiling water
1 egg, well beaten
1/2 tsp baking soda

Line a 9-inch pie plate with shell. Combine ingredients of Crumb Mixture using hand or pastry blender. Combine Liquid Mixture Ingredients and pour into pie shell. Top with crumb mixture. Bake at 400 degrees F until starts to brown - about 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 325. Bake until firm.

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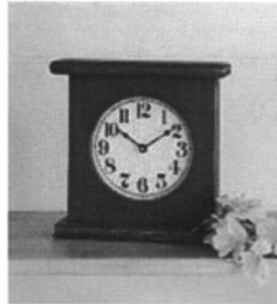
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Gift Ideas & Info

Ideas in Season

Give the Gift of Organization

Everyone probably knows one of these people: someone who's always late, can never find anything or constantly losing their keys? This holiday season, give them the gift of organization - a gift that will benefit both them and everyone else in their lives.



Pine Clock
[buy now](#)

Help Keep Them on Time

Is your loved one always 10 minutes late? Sometimes simple tricks like setting all of the clocks in the house 10 minutes ahead will make the difference between early and late. A beautiful mantel clock like our Pine Clock or our [Federal Star Clock](#) will help keep your tardy friend on schedule.



Pockets Organizer
[buy now](#)

Organize the Missing Link

Does your loved one forget where they put the keys the moment they put them down? Can you never find a pen in your household because no one puts them back in the same place? If disorganization is the problem in your family, there are many solutions to keep chaos away from your household. In order to really fix the organizational problems, you have to make them habits - and the solutions have to be easy. One of the easiest ways to do this is to provide easy, clear "homes" for the items that are most likely to get lost. Simple solutions like hanging a key rack near the door so that keys get hung up the moment you walk in will keep the keys from getting lost. Keeping a pencil holder near the phone so that writing implements are kept where they need to be will hopefully keep you from writing important phone numbers with an old broken crayon - the only writing implement you could find when you needed it. A box like our [Pockets Organizer](#) can keep all of your items together in one location - keys, glasses, pens, pencils, cellular phones, change or other easily lost items. With drawers and shelves to separate the different items, you'll never spend half an hour looking for your keys again!

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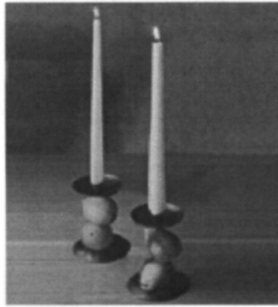
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Ideas in Season



Small Fruit Spike - Set of 2
buy now

Warm Winter Evenings

As the slow chill of winter begins to creep in, nothing compares to a warm winter evening spent by the hearth with a book and a roaring fire. But if your fireplace needs a little spicing up, we have some ideas that might help you create a little spark in your winter nights.

Decorate your Mantel

One of the simplest and easiest ways to spice up your fireplace is to decorate the mantel. Clear of the casually placed photos and items cluttering up one of the prime decorating spaces in your house and select a specific theme of items. Decorating a mantel is simple, but you should select a theme to avoid the scattered, unplanned look. Using a mix of flowers, foliage, candles, grasses and leaves, you can create a special, decorative look that is distinct for each season or holiday. For Thanksgiving, place a layer of mixed grasses across the entire mantle as a base, then selectively place traditional Thanksgiving vegetables here and there across the mantle. Adding candles enhances a mantleplace, by adding light and color. Our Small Fruit Spike set of candleholders fits beautifully with a Thanksgiving or Harvest theme. A central bouquet of harvest flowers would complete the look.

Enhance Your Hearth

If your fireplace is looking a little tired, it might be time to spruce it up with a new hearth grate or equipment. Along with a good scrubbing, the addition of hearth accessories can add a lot to the look of your fireplace and your enjoyment of it. Our Grand Oak Folding Screen adds beauty and functionality to any fireplace, with silhouettes of slowly sloping branches of an old oak tree gracefully trimming the top of the screen. Add an Iron Finish Toolset and a Folding Wood Rack and your hearth will have had a long-deserved makeover. These pieces are not only beautiful, but functional as well - neatly storing your wood and providing you with the tools to safely stoke your fire!



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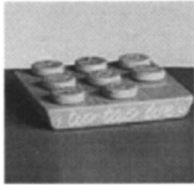
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Let Us Give Thanks

Enjoy the Evening Together



Tic Tac Toe
buy now 

When all is said and done, a night at home in front of a fireplace is a time to relax and spend time with loved ones. Grab a good book or play a game of [Tic Tac Toe](#) and let the weather rage outside!

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