

STYLE GUIDE



THE **M**  **DERN**
CHRISTMAS TREE®

www.ModernChristmasTrees.com



The Modern Christmas Tree inside the iconic Farnsworth House, Plano, Illinois.



COOKIES & COCKTAILS

Few things pair better with setting up a Christmas tree than some cookies and a cocktail. Whether the mood is right or just about right, the following recipes are sure to delight and enhance your Holiday experience.

SANTA'S FAVORITE COOKIES

(Makes about 3 dozen)

INGREDIENTS:

1 3/4 cups of all-purpose flour
1/2 cup of whole wheat flour
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp cream of tartar
1/2 tsp salt
1 stick of unsalted butter, softened
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup confectioner's sugar
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 large egg
1/ tsp almond extract
1 cup almonds
3 oz (or 1/2 cup) English toffee bits
1/4 cup colored sugar sprinkles

INSTRUCTIONS:

Set racks in the middle of the oven and preheat to 350 F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

Combine all-purpose flour, whole wheat flour, baking soda, cream of tartar and salt in a medium bowl, whisk together well.

In a large bowl, using a mixer, cream the butter granulated sugar and powdered sugar until well mixed. Add almond extract, oil and eggs and mix well again. Slowly add the dry ingredients and mix to combine.

Chop the almonds and stir in along with the toffee bits.

Shape dough into 1 inch balls and roll in colored sugar sprinkles. Place them 1 1/2 inches apart on cookie sheet and flatten with a fork. Bake for 6 minutes and rotate sheet. Bake for another 6-8 minutes, cookies will not brown. Take out of oven and cool on wire rack. Store in an airtight container or freeze for up to 1 month.

COOKIES & COCKTAILS (continued)

MISTLETOE COCKTAIL

INGREDIENTS:

½ tsp lime juice
½ tsp honey
3 mint leaves
1 oz vodka or seltzer water
Ginger beer
5 cranberries
1 sprig of rosemary
White sugar for garnish

TO MAKE:

Cut one wedge out of the lime, rim an 8 oz glass with it and then dip the rim of the glass in a dish of sugar.

Muddle the lime juice, honey and mint leaves in your glass. Fill with crushed ice, add the vodka or 1 oz of seltzer water and fill the remainder of the glass with ginger beer. Garnish your glass with festive rosemary and cranberries and enjoy!



CANDY CANE COCKTAIL

INGREDIENTS:

Homemade candy cane vodka

1 cup vodka
½ cup of vanilla vodka
12 x 3" candy canes or 6 x 6" candy canes with red stripes

Cocktail

3 oz candy cane vodka
2 oz crème de Cacao, clear
2 x 3" or 6" candy canes

TO MAKE:

Break up your candy canes and put into a lidded glass jar. Pour the vanilla and regular vodka over the candy canes. Allow the mixture to sit for 3-4 days, shaking the jar daily. Before using, strain through cheesecloth to remove any undissolved bits. Store in the jar in a cool, dark location.

For two cocktails, place 2 candy canes into a blender and puree until the canes turn into a fine powder. Rim your martini glasses with the sugar. Measure the candy cane vodka, crème de Cacao and ice into a cocktail shaker, shake well and strain into two glasses.



THE NORTH POLE

INGREDIENTS:

4 ounces vodka
2 ounces Kahlúa or more to taste
4 tablespoons chocolate syrup
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 teaspoons molasses
1/8 teaspoon ginger
1/2 cup heavy cream or whole milk
Whipped cream candy canes and
gingerbread cookies, for serving
(optional)

TO MAKE:

In a cocktail shaker combine the vodka, Kahlúa, chocolate syrup, vanilla, molasses, and ginger. Shake until well combined. Add ice and shake again. Strain into 4 glasses. Top off each glass with heavy cream. Dollop with whipped cream and garnish as desired.



The Jubilee Tree available at www.ModernChristmasTree.com/shop

GAMES



White Elephant

Guaranteed laughter with this hilarious gift exchange! This game is based on the classic Secret Santa, but named for the Legend of white elephants spitefully gifted by the King of Siam to anyone who tried to cross him. As the tale goes, these beasts were beautiful, but not very useful and required tremendous upkeep. In the White Elephant gift exchange, the more ridiculous the better.

White Elephant is similar to any other anonymous gift exchange, however you're allowed to steal gifts that have been opened before you.

Here's how it's played:

1

When inviting guests, request they bring an anonymous, wrapped gift. Include a spending limit and any theme so your guests bring something appropriate.

2

Collect the gifts as the guests arrive. Have each guest randomly draw a number from a hat to determine the gift selection order.

3

Gather your guests together for the exchange. Guest who drew #1 selects a gift and holds it up for all to see.

4

All subsequent guests have the option to either select a wrapped gift, or to steal any gift already opened. If someone's gift is stolen, they immediately select and open a wrapped gift.

5

When there are no more unwrapped gifts, the person who drew #1 gets one last option to steal a gift. At this point, there are no more wrapped gifts so the 'steal' becomes a swap-if you take someone's gift you give them yours. If they decide not to steal a gift, keeping the one they have, the game is over. If they do steal a gift, the game continues until someone decides to keep their gift, rather than steal.

If you want to take this activity up a notch in comedy, appoint your funniest guest as commentator!



Mod Libs

The classic game of Mad Libs. Make sure to use a pencil so you can erase and use over and over!

The Night Before Christmas

T'was the night before _____ and all through the _____,
(holiday) (place)
 not a(n) _____ was _____ not even a mouse. The
(noun) (verb-ing)
 _____ were hung by the _____ with care, in the hopes that
(plural noun) (noun)
 _____ soon would be there. The [plural noun] were nestled all
(famous person)
 snug in their _____ while visions of _____ danced in
(plural noun) (plural noun)
 their heads.



Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

Rudolph the _____ nosed reindeer, had a very _____ nose.
(adjective) (adjective)
 And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows. All of the other
 reindeer, used to laugh and call him _____, they never let poor
(funny name)
 Rudolph join in any reindeer games. Then one _____ Christmas Eve,
(adjective)
 Santa came to say, "Rudolph with your _____ so _____,
(body part) (adjective)
 won't you guide my _____ tonight?"
(noun)

Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman was a jolly _____ soul. With a _____
(adjective) (noun)
pipe and a button nose and two eyes made out of _____. Frosty the
(plural noun)
snowman is a fairytale they say, he was made of _____ but the
(noun)
children know how he came to life one day. There must have been some
magic in that old _____ they found, for when they placed it on his
(noun)
_____ he began to dance around.
(body part)



Holiday Pictionary

This game is fun for any sized group and age ranges. And all you need is a large pad of paper or dry erase board and a marker!

Here's how it's played:

1

Before your guests arrive, write 20-30 holiday related words, songs, etc. on individual pieces of paper, fold them up and put them into a hat or bowl.

2

Split your people into two teams and select one team to go first, then select one person from this team to draw clues.

3

The drawer randomly selects one of the holiday related words and has one minute to draw clues for their team to guess it.

4

If their team does not guess the word correctly in one minute the other team has a chance to guess for the win!

Competitive groups will keep score, 25 points for each word correctly named. Play to 150 points.



COLORING PAGES

The following coloring pages are designed to keep your little ones occupied and in the holiday spirit.

Please share their artwork with us! Send to: matt@modernchristmastrees.com







