

This holiday season, family meals mean more than ever and what better way to set the scene for making memories at home than with a beautiful holiday tablescape? After all, the table is the first thing your family and guests see before they sit down to eat, setting the tone for the entire meal. Follow these simple steps to create a beautiful tablescape this holiday season.

WHAT IS TABLESCAPING?

Tablescaping takes the concept of the centerpiece to the next level. Instead of just using a single piece in the center of your table, tablescaping uses an assortment of elements to create a themed vignette limited only by your available table space and your imagination.

But don't just stop at the dining room table. Tablescaping can be done lots of places- mantles, bookshelves, side and entryway tables, etc.

STEPS TO CREATING

LAYERING ORDER

The key to a great tablescape is layering your pieces, from the table runner to picks and lights to oranments and seasonal produce. Layering helps to create dimension and interest. Before getting started, think of the layering order for assembling your tablescape:

- 1. Start with your base (tablecloth, table runner, place mats, or charger plates).
- 2. Add in your centerpiece (floral arrangement, cake stand, candles, etc.).
- 3. Next, weave in lights and picks.
- 4. Add in other elements like pumpkins, gourds, apples, votives, pinecones, ornaments, etc.).

CHOOSE A THEME (COLOR OR OVERALL THEME)

Consider the season or the occasion when selecting an overall theme. Use nature's timing to influence your tablescape. Colorful fall foliage and fall produce (mini pumpkins, gourds, pinecones, etc.) at Thanksgiving or fresh or faux greenery and berries at Christmas. Everything on your table should correspond to this chosen palette.

PRO-TIP: A burst of color carefully arranged on a neutral background is all you need to create a compelling tablescape. We recommend choosing two or three complementary colors (drawing inspiration from your centerpiece), and one contrasting color.

CHOOSE A CENTERPIECE

Once you have chosen a theme and color palette, decide on your centerpiece. Oftentimes, the centerpiece provides the inspiration for the rest of décor. Whether your scheme is pumpkininspired fall or rustic or festive holiday, your centerpiece serves as the foundation and focal point of the table. Centerpieces can include but are not limited to:

floral arrangements • seasonal holiday décor or produce (ornaments, pumpkins, gourds, persimmons) • flowers and plants • assorted candles • pedestals or cake stands • and more.

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PRO-TIP: Use a variety of heights and textures to add dimension to your design. Just remember not to pile your tablescape too high or your guests may have a hard time seeing each other across the table!

CHOOSE A BASE (FRESH OR FAUX)

Select from garlands or individual greens (fresh or faux), table runners, tablecloth, etc. Whether you use fresh or faux greenery is really up to you. Nothing says Christmas like the smell of fresh-cut greens, but keep in mind that they do require regular care and don't last as long. Faux garlands and greenery don't have a expiration date and come in lots of options including pre-lit and predecorated. This can make decorating process a little more efficient. A faux garland also allows you to easily transition from Thanksgiving to Christmas, letting you use the same garland for both seasons. If you're using a table runner, opt for a neutral one. Often bold prints or heavy floral runners can distract from the overall design.

PRO-TIP: For round or square tables, wrap the garland in a circular shape. Make sure to fluff all the branches so they are spread out evenly.

ADD PICKS

Now it's time to add more texture and interest to your garland. For Christmas, use holiday-inspired picks and sprays. For Thanksgiving, use fall-in spired picks and sprays. Make sure you balance each side (what you add to one side, add the same to the other side).

ADD LIGHTING:

Lights add ambiance, dimension and sparkle to your design and are available in an endless variety of styles, sizes and colors. Be sure to consider string light length in your design. Light options include but are not limited to:

Invisilites • Durawise lights • votives or candlesticks • candle (real or flameless) • lanterns • and more.

PRO-TIP: Flameless candles are ideal for tablescape designs. They're safe- no flame, no mess, drips, or spills.

Invisilites - micro LED lights on a thin, flexible wire that are super easy to use. They come in a variety of styles, designs and colors, sure to match any décor for the holiday season, or to use year-round.

Simplux Candles - are stunningly realistic and feature patented TRUE-FLAME Technology® that makes them virtually indistinguishable from the real thing. The three-dimensional flame will never burn out, always remains cool to the touch, and is safe around for children and pets.

Lumineo Durawise Lights – these battery operated lights are available in either 48 or 96 light counts and can be used indoors or outdoors. With a built-in timer that stays on for 6 hours and turns off for 18, all you do is set it and forget it. Available in cool white, warm white and multi-colored with either a black or transparent wire.

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ADDITIONAL EMBELLISHMENTS

Depending on the time of year, incorporate additional seasonal elements for added color, texture and depth. Bring in outdoor elements from your yard like pinecones, twigs, greenery, and flowers. Use flowers, greenery and candles – anything goes! Embellishments can include but are not limited to:

fresh or faux greenery • pine cones • berries • flowers • fruits (red or green apples, oranges, lemons, limes, persimmons, etc.) • ribbon • lights • ornaments • candles • pedestals and vases • twigs

PRO-TIP: Add extra touches and details. Include place cards or a special note to each place setting.

THANKSGIVING TABLESCAPE

Materials: eucalyptus garland (with berries and a touch of lavender), orange kalanchoe + rusty/ orange florist mum, modern white container, spider plant (filler,) ivy (spiller), off-white berry picks, mini orange pumpkins.

Options:

- Add some oranges for additional color and fragrance (or assorted gourds).
- Add some votives or candles for sadded sparkle.

PRO-TIP: Divide pick bunches into smaller pieces and tuck into garland.



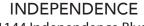
CHRISTMAS TABLESCAPE

- Re-use eucalyptus garland from Thanksgiving tablescape.
- Remove centerpiece with plants.
- Remove pumpkins.

Materials: eucalyptus garland, Simplux candles (in different sizes), small tray/plate for candles, paper silver dollar Invisilites, white berry picks (or red), frosted fern picks, pinecone picks, cluster pinecone and snowflake ornaments (both in white), frosted, white ribbon.

PRO-TIP: Add ribbon last. Cut ribbon into smaller pieces. Pinch the ends and work ribbon into your design (a piece at a time) instead of using one continuous piece of ribbon, which can be cumbersome to work with. This method works well in trees too.

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Options:

- Fill a glass fish bowl with lights and ornaments to create a unique centerpiece.
- Tuck in some sprigs of fresh or faux greens.
- Add bottle brush trees or votives.

