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LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (KTHV) - As 2014 comes to a close, it is time to prepare for the New Year and the New Year's Eve parties. Here are a few tips and tricks that will make your party planning much easier:

HOME DECOR

Christmas Tree = New Year's Tree

- Streamers
- Tinsel
- New Year's Hats and Noise Makers
- Balloons
- Sharpie

After the Christmas holidays, it is always tough to take down the Christmas tree and make the transition between holidays to prepare for the New Year. One simple way to create a new look is transforming the tree into a New Year's tree!

Begin by adding festive items such as streamers or tinsel to create a dramatic statement with color and sparkle. You can also add in New Year's hats, noise makers or even balloons that can be added with confetti and popped for each hour until the ball drops!

Table Setting

This is a simple idea that can change up the look of your dining table!

Along with your usual confetti, noisemakers and festive napkins, try printing off a picture of a clock and cut into a circle (the size of your plates). Place on top of the plate and forget about buying extra paper goods to add to the festive table. Save some money by using what you have at home and do something different than what is usually done!

Mantle Décor

This trick is easy and adds to the rest of your living room decor. To add a simple touch of New Year's bliss to your home, gather clocks around the house whether hung or free standing. Place them on top of the mantle by overlapping them or spreading them out from one end to another. Make sure they are all set to the correct time, and you're set to begin the count down!



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LAST MINUTE IDEAS

Champagne Ice Cubes

- Ice Tray
- Champagne

This is a quick solution to something different needed for your party. Freeze cubes of champagne and place in punch or other drink for toasting during the night! This adds a different touch of bubbly for those who want something other than the usual glass of champagne.

Homemade Noise Makers

- Large Craft Sticks
- Jingle Bells (Christmas leftovers)
- Ribbon
- Gold Paint (optional)

Cover your craft sticks on all sides with a coat of gold paint (or the color of your choice). Tie one end of your ribbon to the stick about two-thirds of the way down. String the bells on the ribbon, tightly wrap it around the stick and then tie off the ribbon securely and begin ringing in the New Year!!

Wine Bottles

- Empty wine bottles
- Christmas Lights

Find some empty wine bottles and peel off the labels (Goo be Gone works great!). Line them up or cluster together in the area wanted. Find left over Christmas lights and shove them in and out of the bottles to help create a glow for the New Year's festivities!