

Welcome to our final issue of 2022! Our goal each month is to provide some design and lifestyle inspiration as well as recommendations, stories, and a peek into the lives of our amazing community. This month we have a special tablescape feature for Thanksgiving!



New Year's Eve Entertaining

For many adults, we no longer make it to midnight to ring in the new year. Staying up is asking a lot when my normal bedtime is 10PM. The excitement wanes as we get older. However, if you decide to have a celebration, big or small, early or late, here are some fun ideas to make the night festive (even if you watch the ball drop in a different time zone so you can retire early).

Adult ideas

1. Plan a progressive dinner.
2. Host a euchre tournament.
3. Celebrate at noon instead! Takes off the pressure.
4. Celebrate with each other your accomplishments and joys from the past year.
5. Spend the day in bed watching movies, eating popcorn, and enjoying the last day of the year.

Family ideas

1. Make a time capsule to open next New Year.
2. Watch the ball drop across the world on the internet
3. Look at picture of the past year.
4. Pop a balloon every hour and hide activities inside the balloon
5. Cook a meal together or bake a favorite dessert.



Holiday drinks

Some people love to celebrate the holidays with a festive drink, others feel like they need them to survive the holiday. Whichever camp you fall into, here is a fall drink to add to your repertoire.

Adult champagne cocktails

New Year's Eve is known for champagne. Here are some options for a create your own champagne cocktails.

Provide laminated cards with ingredients.



Lemon

- 1 tsp simple syrup
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- add twist of lemon peel

Raspberry

- 1 shot Chambord
- 3 fresh raspberries

Peach

- 1 shot peach Schnapps
- 2 slices fresh or frozen peaches

Lime

- 1 tsp simple syrup
- 1 tsp Lime Juice
- add twist of lime peel

Blackberry

- 1 tsp simple syrup
- 3 fresh blackberries
- Muddle 2 more blackberries

Cucumber Mint

- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 2 tsp grated cucumber
- mint leaf muddled with cucumber
- mint leaf and cucumber garnish

Kids version

- 2 liters Ginger Ale (chilled)
- ½ can White Grape Juice Concentrate (frozen, thawed)
- 1 basket raspberries (rinsed and drained)



Favorite traditions at the holidays

Ruth

Ingredients:

2 T butter
1 T minced scallions
1 16 oz. can of pumpkin
1 cup water
2 tsp brown sugar
½ tsp salt
1/8 tsp white pepper
1/8 tsp ground cinnamon
2 chicken bouillon cubes
2 cups half and half
Lemon slices

30 years ago my Mom and Dad started serving this Pumpkin soup recipe and never stopped-it's that good! It's been our family Go-To recipe and we can't have Christmas without it. While my Mom is busy making dinner dishes and her 20 different types of cookies, this soup has become my Dad's tradition to prepare every Christmas morning-no matter who is hosting Christmas dinner- Richard brings a pot of this soup to the house for us all to enjoy.

Bon Appetite.

In 2 Quart saucepan over medium heat in hot butter cook green onions until tender. Stir in pumpkin, water, brown sugar, salt, pepper, and bouillon cubes until blended and mixture begins to boil. Cook 5 minutes to blend in half and half. Heat through. Pour into bowl and place a lemon slice on top. As you eat the soup press down on lemon to release juices. Enjoy!



Aimee

One of our Christmas traditions is on Christmas Eve, we always drive to see Christmas light displays. We make a travel mug of hot cocoa, grab cozy blankets and head out to see if we can find the best holiday light displays while listening to Christmas music. When the girls were little they would always wear their new Christmas PJs that our Elf, Buttons, magically delivered to them. (Buttons still gets the girls festive holiday PJs). David always grills a tenderloin roast (or a Prime Rib Roast) for Christmas dinner. We love to start our morning with Mimosa's and breakfast casserole that I make the night before and simply pop into the oven to bake while we open presents.

Patty

My husband and I recently started to use January to set to look at our goals for the year personally, professionally, monetarily, and as a couple and family. We have found that sharing our goals together lets us support each other in our individual goals and understand what was important to each of us in the year to come. It also forces us to articulate what we'd really like to accomplish in the year. We also reflect on what we had set the year before and celebrate the things we did and/or want to continue. I never realized how valuable it was to let my husband know what I wanted to accomplish and that by discussing our monetary goals really helped us reach them more quickly. Listening to episode 48 of *Couple Things* podcast really helps look at categories to think about incorporating.

Goals reached in 2022

just breathe *retirement*



ON THE JOB SITE

Staging your home for everyday or when you want to show off a space can feel overwhelming. Here is a beautiful kitchen staged by Ruth Casper Design.



Photography by Beth Singer Photographers
Stone from Hard Rock Stone Works
Cabinets Hollywood Cabinets
Area Rug McLoed's Carpet One



For design inspiration, follow us on Instagram @ruthcasperdesign



GET ORGANIZED

EACH MONTH: STEP CLOSER TO LESS CLUTTER



Organization is often a goal in homes, but it can be overwhelming! Each month we will suggest one item to go through and toss in your home. Hopefully by working in small categories, it will help you on your journey to a less clutter. It shouldn't take long, and if you are inspired to do more, let us know. We can help with a more advanced plan for organizing any space in your home.

THIS MONTH: Paperwork



Unfortunately, this may not be quick. As we flip the calendar to a new year, there is paperwork that we archive and honestly, a lot of paper we don't need to hang onto.

Pantone color of the year



Viva

Magenta

Wallpaper feature

Ricci Studio is a women owned and designed wallpaper studio in North Carolina. The wallcoverings are bold and art-driven with rich soothing colors and oversized motifs. Each design is rooted in the fundamentals of fine art, exploring rhythm, line, texture, and scale, and are filled with a sense of sophistication and whimsy. She offers hand painted and printed papers.

Through her work as a fine artist and textile designer, Liane Ricci was drawn to study traditional fresco painting in Vittorio Veneto, Italy in 2016. Moved by the experience, she was inspired to shift her gaze, translating her paintings into luxury wallcoverings and custom murals. This bathroom in Troy has one of our favorite Ricci offerings.



MAY WE
RECOMMEND



Couple Things with Andrew East and Shawn Johnson. While they may be significantly younger than most of us, they are so sweet and faithful in their conversations with each other and those they interview.



The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse by Charlie Mackesy is an absolutely beautiful drawn book for both adults and children to enjoy.

Visit our studio

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For questions, please email: Patty@ruthcasperdesign.com

Instagram

For design inspiration, follow us at [@ruthcasperdesign](https://www.instagram.com/ruthcasperdesign)

For daily inspiration for women 40+, follow us on Instagram

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