

**birch
acres**  **mall**



GET TO KNOW



Welcome To Your Community Hub: Birch Acres Mall

Established in 2010, Birch Acres Mall has a staple in the Tembisa community for 15 years. With over 50 stores and services, we are proud to offer a convenient and enjoyable shopping experience for our lovely shoppers.

As we launch our very first mall magazine, we are excited to share our story and connect with you.

Stay tuned for more!



THE WINTER ISSUE



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BIRCH ACRES



Shopping GUIDE



10 PRACTICAL TIPS FOR SMART SHOPPING

1. Create a Shopping List:
Avoid forgetting, impulse buys and overspending by writing down a list of items you need before heading to the mall. Be sure to stick to your list for a stress-free shopping experience.

2. Take Advantage of Sales and Discounts:
Keep an eye on seasonal sales, clearance sales, and store promotions. Consider signing up for tenant newsletters to stay updated on the best deals.

3. Visit During Off-Peak Hours:
If you can, save time by shopping early in the morning or during weekdays to avoid large crowds, which makes it easier to browse and move around.

4. Know the Mall Layout:
Familiarise yourself with the mall's layout using the mall directory or map. This will save you time and ensures you don't miss out on hidden gems.

5. Support Local Stores:
Support community businesses by exploring the mall's local and specialty stores. These often offer unique products you won't find elsewhere.

6. Dress Comfortably for Long Shopping Sprees:

Wear comfortable shoes and clothing, especially if you plan to spend the entire day shopping. A reusable shopping bag also comes in handy.

7. Plan for Breaks:
Incorporate breaks to enjoy the mall's eateries or coffee shops. Stay hydrated and energised to make your shopping day more enjoyable.

8. Compare Prices Before Buying:
If you're unsure about a purchase, check prices at different stores in the mall or ask for promotions to ensure you're getting the best deal.

9. Consider Gift Ideas:
Use your visit to look for upcoming birthday, anniversary, or holiday gifts. Having thoughtful presents ready saves you from stressing and impulse buys.

10. Engage With Store Staff:
Don't hesitate to ask store staff for help—they can share product recommendations, upcoming deals, or even style advice.







Shopper's Corner

YOUR ULTIMATE BIRCH ACRES MALL SHOPPING CHECKLIST



Stay on track and make the most of your trip to the mall with our handy guide!

-  **Reusable shopping bag:** Keep it eco-friendly and stylish.
-  **Shopping List:** Jot down what you need - No forgotten items.
-  **Budget Check:** Plan ahead for happy spending.
-  **Charged Phone:** For navigation, payments, or a quick photo-op!





FOODIES



WELCOME TO FOODIES - TASTES OF THE SEASONS!

Every season brings new cravings, fresh flavours, and exciting food trends—and we're here for it all! “*Tastes of The Season* is your go-to guide for delicious discoveries, whether you're indulging in comfort food for Winter, cooling off with Summer treats, or exploring festive goodies during the holidays.

In this issue, we're craving the flavours of the Winter season— comfort meals that soothe the soul and decadent desserts that make the cold a little sweeter.

Get ready to dive into handpicked winter specials, a cosy meal recipe you can recreate at home, and the ultimate dessert to round it all off.

Bon Appétit!

THE

Winter

TABLE

Winter is officially here, and that means one thing—it's time to wrap up in cosy blankets, sip on s, and indulge in dishes that feel like a hug from the inside. Whether you're braving the crisp morning air for a coffee fix or hunting down the perfect comfort meal, Birch Acres Mall has everything you need to satisfy those chilly-day cravings.



BUTTERNUT & SWEET POTATO SOUP



Nothing beats a bowl of creamy, comforting soup when the cold sets in.

This Butternut and Sweet Potato Soup blends rich, natural sweetness with a velvety texture, making it an irresistible winter dish. It's easy to make, wallet-friendly, and sure to bring warmth to every spoonful.

HERE IS A DELICIOUS BUTTERNUT AND SWEET POTATO SOUP RECIPE INSPIRED BY SOUTH AFRICAN FLAVOURS.

INGREDIENTS (SERVINGS 4-6)

- 1 medium butternut squash, peeled and cubed
- 2 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 cups vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 cup full-cream milk or coconut milk (for extra creaminess)
- 1 teaspoon mild curry powder (optional, for a bit of warmth)
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons olive oil or butter
- Fresh cream and toasted bread for serving (optional).



METHOD



- Heat the olive oil or butter in a large pot over medium heat. Add the chopped onion and garlic, and sauté until fragrant and soft.
- Stir in the butternut cubes and sweet potatoes, allowing them to absorb the flavours for a few minutes.
- Sprinkle in the curry powder (if using) and cinnamon, mixing well. Season with salt and black pepper to taste.
- Pour in the stock and bring to a gentle boil. Reduce heat and let the soup simmer for 25-30 minutes, until the butternut and sweet potatoes are completely tender.
- Once cooked, blend the soup using a handheld blender or transfer to a blender until smooth and creamy.
- Return the soup to the pot and stir in the milk or coconut milk. Let it simmer for another 5 minutes, adjusting seasoning if needed.
- Serve warm, topped with a swirl of fresh cream and a side of toasted bread or vetkoek for dipping.

VISIT BIRCH ACRES MALL TO GET ALL YOUR FRESH INGREDIENTS



A SWEET HUG FOR WINTER



A dessert to round off a cosy winter meal? Yes, please!

A South African classic, Malva Pudding is the ultimate winter indulgence. With its soft, caramelised sponge and rich, buttery sauce, every bite is a sweet hug from Winter.

Served warm with custard, it's the perfect way to sweeten up the cold season.



Here's a delicious South African Malva Pudding recipe, perfect for a Winter treat

Ingredients

For the pudding:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon apricot jam
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- 1 egg
- ½ cup milk
- 2 tablespoons melted butter

Ingredients

For the sauce:

- ½ cup cream
- ½ cup milk
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence



Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 180°C and grease a baking dish.
2. Mix wet ingredients: In a bowl, whisk together the egg, apricot jam, vinegar, melted butter, and milk.
3. Combine dry ingredients: In another bowl, mix flour, sugar, and baking soda. Gradually add to the wet mixture, stirring until smooth.
4. Bake: Pour batter into the dish and bake for 30–40 minutes, until golden brown.
5. Prepare the sauce: Heat cream, milk, sugar, butter, and vanilla in a saucepan until the butter melts and sugar dissolves.
6. Soak the pudding: Once baked, poke holes in the pudding and pour the warm sauce over it. Let it absorb for 15–20 minutes.
7. Serve: Enjoy warm with custard or ice cream!

A homemade custard is the perfect companion for malva pudding—rich, creamy, and comforting.

Homemade Custard for Malva Pudding

Ingredients

- 2 cups milk
- 2 tablespoons corn-starch (or custard powder)
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence
- A pinch of salt



Method

1. In a saucepan, heat 1½ cups of milk over medium heat until warm but not boiling.
2. In a separate bowl, mix corn-starch, sugar, salt, and egg yolks with the remaining ½ cup of milk until smooth.
3. Slowly pour the egg mixture into the warm milk, whisking continuously to prevent lumps.
4. Stir constantly over low heat until the custard thickens (about 5–7 minutes).
5. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla essence.
6. Serve warm over freshly baked malva pudding.

This custard is simple, budget-friendly, and deliciously creamy—perfect for soaking into that warm, syrupy malva pudding!

VISIT BIRCH ACRES MALL TO GET YOUR INGREDIENTS FOR THIS WINTER WONDERLAND DESSERT





WINTER WELLNESS & SELF-CARE: EMBRACING THE SEASON WITH COMFORT & CARE

Chilly temperatures and layers of cosiness become a necessity, Winter is the perfect season to slow down and indulge in self-care rituals.

From keeping your skin nourished and moisturised against the crisp air to layering yourself in warm fashion finds, or creating a calming space at home, embracing winter wellness should not have to be expensive.

Trust Birch Acres Mall as your go-to for budget-friendly skincare essentials to stylish winter outfits and accessories and must-have home décor that make the chilly days feel warm and inviting.

In this edition, we bring you easy, practical tips to help you stay cosy, feel refreshed, and enjoy the season in comfort, without breaking the bank.



Cold weather brings lower humidity, leaving skin feeling dry, dull, and sometimes irritated.

But achieving soft, glowing skin this winter doesn't have to cost a fortune—a few simple swaps and budget-friendly finds from Birch Acres Mall can keep your skin hydrated and healthy.

WINTER SKINCARE ESSENTIALS: HYDRATE, NOURISH & GLOW ALL SEASON

1. Lock in Moisture Like a Pro

💧 Switch to Hydrating Formulas: Lightweight lotions won't cut it—look for richer creams that deeply nourish the skin.

💧 Affordable Hydration Heroes: Brands like Nivea, Garnier, and Johnson's have budget-friendly moisturizers packed with shea butter, glycerine, and aloe—perfect for winter!

💧 Quick Tip: Apply lotion/cream right after showering to seal in hydration.

3. Lips & Hands Need Extra Love

💋 Winter Lip Fix: Dry, chapped lips?

Try Vaseline or Nivea lip balm—affordable and effective.

👐 Hand Care Magic: Hand creams with coconut oil or Vitamin E prevent roughness and cracking.

💡 Budget-Friendly Find: Clicks carries great hand-care essentials—be sure to check out their latest catalogue

2. Gentle Cleansing = Happy Skin

💧 Ditch Harsh Face Washes: Foaming cleansers can strip moisture—opt for cream or oil-based cleansers instead.

💧 DIY Honey & Yogurt Mask: Mix honey and yogurt for a soothing mask that hydrates and nourishes.

💧 Shop Smart: Visit Clicks at Birch Acres Mall for gentle skincare finds at great prices.

4. Bonus: Quick DIY Hydration Hacks

- Drink more water: Hydration starts from within—carry a water bottle and sip throughout the day.
- Make a hydrating face mist: Mix rose water and aloe vera for an instant refreshing spritz.
- Use a humidifier: Adding moisture to your home keeps skin from drying out. Consider investing in one this Winter.



WINTER SKIN CARE IS ALL ABOUT HYDRATION, PROTECTION, AND A FEW SMART SWAPS. STOCK UP ON ESSENTIALS AT BIRCH ACRES MALL AND KEEP YOUR GLOW ALL SEASON LONG!

Winter is the season of embracing warmth, joy, and cosy living.

Whether it's moving your body, creating a cosy space, or enjoying feel-good moments, these small shifts can make a big difference in beating the winter blues.

Step into the season feeling refreshed, and discover all things cosy at Birch Acres Mall!

THE CLOSET WINTER

Chilly temperatures and cosy ambience are in full swing, now is the perfect time to embrace the season in style—without having to spend too much!

Our Lifestyle segment is here to help inspire you with fresh, fun, and practical ideas tailored just for you to ensure you live your best life everyday.

WINTER FASHION ESSENTIALS

Stay warm, look stylish!

Your go-to guide for everything you need for the perfect winter outfit.


Layer Like a Pro

✓ Must-have basics: Neutral-coloured turtlenecks, cardigans & puffer jackets.


✓ Mix & match colours for effortless styling.

✓ Statement Accessories to Elevate Your Look

 Cosy scarves in bold prints or classic neutrals

 Trendy beanies & gloves—because warmth should be stylish and chic!

 Long boots, ankle boots & chunky sneakers that go the distance

 **Insider Tip:** Invest in quality staple pieces that can be worn across multiple seasons.

Find Your Winter Essentials at Birch Acres Mall!

Discover budget-friendly fashion, exclusive deals, and everything you need for a cosy, stylish winter!

This Winter issue, we've got everything from fashion must-haves to creating a warm and inviting home without overspending, plus entertainment ideas that make staying in or going out more exciting!

Whether you're looking for the perfect winter outfit, easy home décor, or creative ways to enjoy the Winter season, we've got you covered.





TURN YOUR HOME INTO A COZY HAVEN THIS WINTER

Simple, Affordable Ways to Keep Your Space Warm & Cosy This Winter

The cold season is officially here, and there's nothing like coming home to a warm, inviting space that shields you from the chilly air outside and we're here to tell you that turning your home into the ultimate Winter haven doesn't have to break the bank!

Whether you're working with items you already own or adding a few inexpensive touches, here are some practical ways to transform your space into a snug Winter oasis.



Layer Up with Blankets & Throws

The easiest way to bring warmth into a room? Layering! Time to bring out those chunky knit throws, fleece blankets, and extra cushions to add softness and comfort to your living space. Drape blankets over couches and chairs for an effortless, cosy look.



Repurpose Old Sweaters into Décor

Don't throw out old sweaters! Cut and sew them into cushion covers or wrap them around vases to create rustic, winter-themed décor that's both stylish and sentimental.



Create a Hot Beverage Corner

Nothing feels better in winter than sipping a warm cup of hot chocolate or tea.

Dedicate a small space in your kitchen or living room for a hot drink station, complete with mugs, a selection of teas, and a jar of hot chocolate mix and sweet, fluffy marshmallows.



Bring Nature Indoors

Collect pinecones, dried orange slices, and cinnamon sticks to create beautiful winter centrepieces or potpourri that fill your home with an earthy, comforting scent.



Embrace Soft Textures Everywhere

Velvet, wool, fleece, and fake fur are your best friends when decorating for winter.

Use them in cushions, bedding, table runners, or even chair covers to create a luxurious yet affordable cosy vibe.



Feel-Good Activities for Cold Days

Winter Reading List: Curl up with a cosy novel or inspirational book.

Creative Winter Projects: Activities to try are journaling, painting, or even learning a new skill online.

Movie & Music Therapy: Winter is the perfect time to catch up on your favourite shows and movies. Watch uplifting films or listen to relaxing playlists for an instant mood boost.



Whether it's layering multiple textures, using soft lighting, or adding sentimental DIY elements, these affordable ideas can help you embrace the beauty of winter at home.

VISIT BIRCH ACRES MALL TO FIND BUDGET-FRIENDLY HOME ESSENTIALS, COSY FABRICS, AND WINTER ACCESSORIES TO ELEVATE YOUR SPACE!



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MAKING OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE

Caring For Our Future - Birch Acres's Mall Hygiene Drive

At Birch Acres Mall, we believe in the philosophy that even the smallest acts of kindest can make a big difference.

On Thursday, 22nd May 2025, we were honoured to put the practice of this belief at the centre of our community where we distributed essential hygiene packs to learners at local schools namely, Phomolong Secondary School and Charlotte Maxeke Secondary School in the Birch Acres area.



A child's self-esteem and general wellbeing are greatly impacted by having access to personal hygiene products. Our goal with this Corporate Social Investment (CSI) project was to give learners the resources they need so they may enter their classrooms feeling confident and taken care of.

This campaign was more than just a kind act of giving; it was a dedication to upholding dignity, health, and the common good of the community. We would like to take a moment to sincerely thank grateful everyone who contributed to this project and assisted us in making this initiative possible, demonstrating that we can create change when we work together.





Events & Updates

YOUTH DAY – A REFLECTION & A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT



Every year on June 16, South Africans pause to honour the courage and determination of young people who stood up for their rights during the historic Soweto Uprising of 1976.

Youth Day is not just a remembrance of the past—it's a reminder that young voices still shape the future.

Today's youth hold the power to create change, build dreams, and transform communities.

While challenges remain, so do endless possibilities.

The legacy of those who marched decades ago lives on in every young person daring to push forward.

Nearly 50 years ago, young students took to the streets, demanding better education and fighting against inequality. Their bravery changed the course of South African history, proving that the voices of young people matter.

Fast forward to today—new challenges have emerged, from unemployment to social pressures.

But just like in 1976, the youth of today possess remarkable resilience, creativity, and ambition. They are innovators, leaders, dreamers, and doers, shaping the future with their energy and passion.

Whether it's through entrepreneurship, activism, education, or community development, young people are the heartbeat of progress.

Each idea, each effort, each bold step forward adds to a legacy of perseverance.

Just as those students stood tall decades ago, today's youth have the same power to shape the nation.

"The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow." — Nelson Mandela

If you're a young person reading this, know that your dreams are valid, your voice is powerful, and your potential is limitless. The world may present obstacles, but you are built to overcome them.

Believe in your vision. Take action, even in small ways. Learn, grow, and contribute where you can.

Every great movement starts with a single step—yours could be the next to create change.

The spirit of Youth Day is one of hope, courage, and transformation.

Let this be a call to embrace opportunities, uplift one another, and keep striving for a future shaped by the boldness of young minds.

The journey ahead is yours—step forward with confidence!



YOUTH
DAY



Father's Day is a special time to appreciate the dads, grandfathers, and father figures who play a guiding role in our lives.

Whether through quiet strength, unwavering support, or shared laughter, fathers shape families in ways that leave lasting memories.

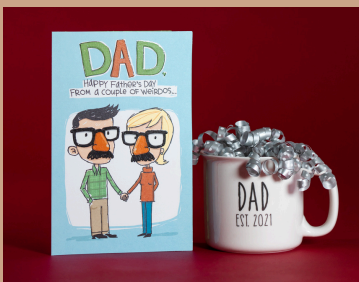
This year, as we celebrate on June 15, 2025, let's focus on gifts and gestures that come straight from the heart—showing appreciation without breaking the bank.

Father's Day Gift Guide

Finding the perfect gift doesn't have to be expensive.

Here are some affordable and meaningful ideas to make this Father's Day special:

- Handwritten Letter or DIY Card – Take the time to write a heartfelt message, expressing gratitude and love. Personal words mean more than any store-bought card.
- Photo Memories – Frame a cherished family photo or create a simple photo collage as a reminder of special moments together.
- Favourite Treats Basket – Gather his favourite snacks, chocolates, or coffee and present them in a creative DIY gift basket.
- Self-Care Essentials – A stylish grooming kit, affordable cologne, or cosy slippers—small but thoughtful.
- Books or Magazines – Pick out a book your dad would enjoy or a magazine on a topic he loves, whether it's sports, cars, or business.
- Quality Time Together – Cook him a homemade meal, take a walk, or spend time watching his favourite show together.
- Discounted Shopping at Birch Acres Mall – Highlight deals and promotions on items like clothing, electronics, or accessories that can make great gifts.



Father's Day isn't about big price tags—it's about showing love and appreciation in ways that matter. Whether through a simple gift or time spent together, the best present is the effort made to celebrate your dad.

MALL DIRECTORY

BANKS & FINANCE



GROCERIES



FAST FOOD



SERVICE STORES

DR. ML
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PERC DRY
CLEANERS



BET

BEAUTY



IREH HAIR



WOMEN'S FASHION

ACKERMANS

EXACT

IDENTITY

Jet

LA PARADISE

LEGiT

MAD PRICE FASHION



Rage

FIX

TRUWORTHS

MEN'S FASHION



EX-MEN & BOYS
OUTFITTERS

MARKHAM

MacGREGORS
SINCE 1968

RJ
RELAY
JEANS

RICKY ALAN
TRADING

Skipper Bar



sport'scene

TOTALSPORTS

WEBBERS
Worth the Money

ELECTRONICS & CELLULAR SERVICES

FBT
CELLTRONICS

NEW WORLD
CELLULAR &
ELECTRONICS

HOCO

PEP CELL



Telkom



HOME DECOR & FURNITURE

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Sleepmasters
the bed experts

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Furniture



THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT BIRCH ACRES MALL!