



Winter Newsletter 2007 – Dec, Jan, Feb

Some of you may be thinking...Christmas already – the kids just started back to school. Surprisingly we get tied up with the day to day agenda's and the time passes us by.

We all have things that seem to overwhelm us over the Holiday Season.

**Let's see if we can help you through some of the most
common stresses over the holidays.**

Christmas cards: Do you need to send them every year? What about if you send them only to family and friends you don't see frequently throughout the year. Consider sending updates to everyone on your list in January when you're not are rushed. Or consider a one page newsletter – [We can help with this!](#)

- o Get the family involved and make it a tradition. The kids who have computer skills can make up mailing labels. Even the littlest family members can seal the envelope and apply the stamp.

Shopping; Take advantage of being ahead. Give some thought to the Holidays now so that when December comes, you'll be relaxed and ready to accept those dinner and open house invites without feeling overwhelmed. Start writing your shopping list now! During the year when someone mentions something they would like, start a list in your spiral notebook. This gives you time to watch for it to come on sale. Carry your spiral notebook in your purse or car, or keep it by the computer if you do online shopping. Quickly jot down the items you purchase so you know who they are for and who is left to buy for...no use buying more than you can give in one year.

- o Thinking ahead even more! Boxing Day and January sales are a wonderful time to get a huge jump on your shopping for next year. Places like Canadian Tire only have toys and games at Christmas, so their prices are generally cut in less than half – what a deal!!! If you have a gardener on your list, maybe you would shop in summer when the stores are getting into their fall and winter products. Shop for a winter lover in the spring.
- o Know of someone who needs and is open to our services; why not give them a gift certificate for our services. [We have those!](#)

Gift wrapping; Make it a girl's night in event. Play your favorite Christmas music and have a chance to visit during this busy season.

- o [We can help with this!](#) – We now offer a gift wrapping service if it's too much for you to handle.
- o [We can also help you](#) set up a gift storage area as well as a gift wrapping center within your home. Everything will be quickly within your reach whenever you need a quick gift.

Baking: If this is something of importance to you make it a baking event. Involve your family or friends. Make it a fun day and plan it early, everything will be ready for your own Open House or baking makes wonderful hostess or teacher gifts. Bake up a family favorite as well as a few new recipes that are quick and simple and that will freeze well. [See our easy recipes below!!](#)

- o If baking is still too much for you to handle, but you want it on hand don't be afraid to hire it out or buy it at a bake sale.

Haystacks or Beaver Houses

- 1 cup chow mien noodles
- 1 cup peanuts
- 1 cup mini marshmallows
- 1 cup chocolate chips
- 1 cup butterscotch chips

Melt chips in a double broiler. Remove from heat. Stir in other ingredients until coated with chocolate mixture. Scoop out by spoonful and place on lined cookie sheet to set. These store well in Ref or freezer also.

*can adjust the chips to your own taste; milk choc, white choc, semi sweet, peanut butter – just keep amount in total to 2 cups. Ritz Squares

- 1 box (250g) Ritz crackers – broken, not crushed
- 1 pkg Skor bits
- 1 can condensed milk

Mix ingredients in a bowl. Spread into a 9x9 greased pan.
Bake @ 350 F for 20-25 mins.

Cut into squares when cool. They freeze very well and tend to taste better slightly chilled.

Quick and simple, great for a baking exchange or to have on hand in the freezer for surprise visitors. Drop by teaspoon on cookie sheet covered in wax paper. Put in freezer until hard.

Whipped Shortbread

1 pound butter
1 cup icing sugar
1 cup cornstarch
2 cups flour
pinch of salt

Combine in order. Whip with beater until like shipped cream. Drop by spoon on to cookie sheet,

Bake at 325 deg. F. for 30 minutes

Peanut Clusters

Melt : 1 pkg of Chocolate chipits
1 pkg of butterscotch chipits

Add: 1 cup coconut
1 1/2 cup peanuts

Invites: If you're overwhelmed with invites, perhaps this is the year to host your own open house. Another thing to consider if you have a close knit group who all host parties; rotate the host each year. Everyone takes a turn hosting and gives the rest of the crew a chance to be the guest.

- o Sit down as a family or couple and decide before the holidays arrive as to how much you will commit to. Maybe it's limited to once a week or every other weekend. Don't be afraid to say 'no'. Just because we're invited to things does not mean that it's required to attend. Be upfront with the host and let them know your family plans, they are sure to understand.



Christmas Decorations & Decorating

Are you having a hard time locating that extension cord for the tree or the extra bulbs for your lights? Do you have another broken decoration each year you open the box. Maybe it's time you get your Decorations in order to ease the holiday decorating day! Don't put your Christmas Decorations away this year – get them organized.

[We can help with this!](#)

Are you wondering how to redesign your room to fit the Christmas tree in and still have the seating you require? Do you need the extra hands to assist in getting those out of reach spots AND you want the house done in a day instead of three weekends.

[We can help with this!](#)

Do you wonder what to do with all the pieces on your mantel and shelf when your Christmas Decorations come out? Are you unsure which pieces to put where and how to make your collections stand out more? [We can help with this!](#)



New Year

The thought of a new year get you wondering about your new years resolutions. Why not start the New Year out with new storage systems. If you're old ones are getting piled up let's work with you and get some new ones in place. Start your year with a new look and have us redesign your space, maybe you have received some new furniture or artwork that you need to fit in with your existing pieces. [We can help with this!](#)

We offer

- Professional Organizing; great for your storage spaces, office, kitchen, laundry/mud room, kids room, gift wrap center
- Redesign services; working with the furniture, accessories, and artwork that you have; come home to a brand new look.
- Colour Consultations; update or renew your colour selection throughout your home or one room at time
- Speaking engagements;
- NEW; Christmas Decorating & Gift wrap services.

"We can help with all of this!"

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