

*Turning your
house into
your dream
home*

Vol. 2 #12



*Christmas is
candle-light
and cheer;*

*It's the spirit
of sweet
friendship*

*That bright-
ens all the
year;*

*It's thought-
fulness and
kindness,*

*It's hope re-
born again,*

*For peace,
for under-
standing*

*And for good-
will to men!*

DOING IT RIGHT

With help from D4 Construction

Are You Ready for Christmas?

Preparing for the season of joy and excitement

The Christmas countdown has begun... will you be ready on time?

Have you had time to begin planning this year's gifts and festivities? If not, here are some tips that might help:

Planning a Party or Family Dinner?

- Clean the house the week or even two weeks before—it will only take a few minutes to clean up any messy corners after that
- Consider setting your table the day before—this way you won't be rushed
- Start a new tradition with a table gift exchange—pick up several small gifts at your local Dollar Store, wrap them, attach a long ribbon to each one. Place them all in a basket in the middle of the table. Each person at the table can grab a ribbon and pull out a gift. It's a great conversation starter.
- Try making a special drink of the day
- Set up a special area for the children—where they can play without being underfoot

Some Items You Won't Want to Forget—

Christmas is filled with family, friends, unexpected guests and their families.

Be prepared for every possibility by making sure you have the following holiday staples on hand:

- Extra Snacks—stock your cupboard with some extra candy; a few packages of dry, sweet biscuits; a bag of chips or munchies and extra Christmas cake. Stock the fridge with a some extra dips as well.
 - Extra Batteries—it's a rare Christmas when someone doesn't receive a gift that needs batteries. Keep a selection of sizes close to hand and save yourself an extra trip to the store when you'd rather be sitting with your feet up.
 - Extra Gifts—it's always a good idea to have a few extra gifts, wrapped and ready, on hand for those unexpected guests. Consider buying a few extra bottles of wine, some chocolates, and Christmas crackers or small toys.
- Bought too much?
- Take any extra food to your local food-bank
 - Save any extra gifts for next year or give them away to a local charity.



**Be
Creative...**

**Get the
children
involved...**

**Let their
imagina-
tions loose...**



De-Stressing Christmas

Christmas seems to start earlier every year and with its approach comes an ever increasing stress on your finances. Consider the following tips to help minimize the financial drain:

- Create a gift budget and stick to it
- Start your shopping early—picking up those last minute gifts (usually at a higher price than you planned) can be a real budget buster
- Shop online—whatever you're looking for you can usually find it cheaper online
- Be creative with your decorations—if you have time collect some pine boughs and pine cones—spray paint the cones gold, add some fake snow, then add to the pine bough. Together they make a great centre piece
- Get the children involved—give them colored paper, tinsel, and fake snow and let their imaginations loose.

- Keep it simple—sometimes less is more

Above all else remember Christmas is meant to be a time of joy and celebration not high stress—both physically and financially.

Taking the time to carefully plan out your Christmas budget and fun is a great de-stressor! You'll be happy you did.



If you are interested in protecting the value of your home, turning your house into your dream home or simply have remodeling questions or needs - call Mike Spruyt at 572-4812

The D₄ Guarantee



D₁ – Your job will be done for the price specified—there are no surprises or hidden costs.

D₂ – Your job will be completed the way you want it done.

D₃ – If you aren't satisfied with the finished product we'll fix it for free.

D₄– All work comes with a 2-year guarantee on workmanship