

# Home for Sale for the Holidays? Use it to Your Advantage!

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Just because your house is on the market doesn't mean you have to be Scrooge this holiday season. Sharing your holiday cheer can actually be advantageous this time of the year. Check out these DO's and DON'Ts for holiday home staging.

## DO's:

- White holiday lights are always in style. Accent your home's positives with minimal string lighting along the lines of your home. And stick with white lights, yes it may be simple, but it is classy. Candle light accents in the windows also add to the design. Families driving around during the holidays will notice your home over others and may even grab a brochure when they realize it's for sale!



- Share your cheer and don't be afraid to celebrate. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa or another holiday, it is ok to show your cheer. Put up your tree, it may accentuate the high ceilings, display your Menorah in a big window to add ambiance, and light the Kinara candles and celebrate. A home is a place where families gather and celebrate many occasions. This is no exception, don't put your beliefs and celebration on hold for the sale!



- Decorate with colors that compliment. Holiday colors can clash, so be aware of color schemes that fit well together. If your house has earth tones you're color options are pretty open from red and green to silver and gold. But if you can a cool color pallette in your home, try sticking with complimentary accents like white and gold or silver.
- Think Martha Stewart! Holiday decorating can be a great and inexpensive way to spruce



up your living space without too much trouble or cost. Check out some great ideas on [marthastewart.com](http://marthastewart.com), [BetterHomesandGardens.com](http://BetterHomesandGardens.com), and [hgtv.com](http://hgtv.com). Setting out a bowl of pine cones sprinkled with glitter, a homemade ornament wreath, or a simple garland can all add a simple wow factor!

- And definitely add to the ambiance of the holiday's with scented candles,



oils, potpourri, freshly baked cookies and more! This time of the year has so many yummy smells from pumpkin pie (and bread) to cinnamon and cranberry, not to mention holiday cookies. Who wouldn't want to come in from the cold to the scent

of warm cookies or hot coco?!

## DON'Ts

- Inflatable Explosions are BAD. Yes they may be appealing to the kids, but they are truly eye sores and not something that will prove



positive to prospective buyers. They are even worse when not inflated, and generally during daylight hours they are not... it actually looks like they died all over your lawn! "I'm melting I'm melting... ahhhhh"

- Don't hide your home. Too many decorations can lead buyers astray. Cluttered rooms full of decorations can hide the positive elements of your house. Decorate the mantel with simple garland and avoid



personalized stockings. Make sure the tree isn't too big for the space, and avoid doing multiple trees!

- Don't over-emphasize your religion. While it's important you are comfortable and able to enjoy the season, you don't want to offend anyone. Avoid showcasing oversized nativity scenes or other religious symbols.