



deck the Halls

top designers share fave themes and tips

story Laurie Wallace-Lynch

Open *Pinterest* and you will be amazed by the plethora of holiday decor styles. You will discover themes like White Christmas, Country Christmas, Canadiana Christmas, Rustic, Homemade, Nautical, Modern and many more theme ideas for Christmas.

We decided to ask some of Canada's top designers how they decorate for the holidays. From a Shades of Gray Christmas to a Colourful Christmas to a Cottage in a Snow Globe Christmas, these ideas are sure to delight one and all!

this page Jackie Glass Modern Home Living room, Photo Karen Kirk, **p66 above** Jackie Glass Heritage Home, Photo Paul Chmielowiec, **p66 below** Jane Lockhart's little helper Baxter, Photo Gillian Jackson, **p67 above** Colin & Justin's Cottage Christmas look, **p67 below** Ornaments from the GlucksteinHome holiday collection



**Jackie
Glass**

Jackie Glass, owner of *Jackie Glass Inc.* design firm in Mississauga, design expert on *Cityline*, and design influencer shares her decor style at her former Oakville home and her home in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"It's just hitting the market now, but the Nordic, natural Swedish look is on trend. It's that pared down, sophisticated, yet home-spun look. Organics can be used to create drama with natural elements, such as setting your table with black dishware and adding organic pinecones and tree branches swirled on the table in a natural way, along with tapered candlesticks. You can use silver, pewter, gold, and shades of blue, blush or grey or traditional red and green."

"Moderation is key. Start with the front door and outside planters. My bungalow has linear lines so I use square planters instead of round; add some wrapped presents and snowshoes. I am a big fan of using spotlights in colours like blue, red or green to light up the house. Also rethink the front door wreath. A plain, organic wreath gives a nod to the environment. A basket filled with big pine cones adds interest. I love setting vignettes both outdoors and in."



**Jane
Lockhart**

66 Jane Lockhart, owner of the award-winning *Jane Lockhart Interior Design* firm in the International Centre, Mississauga, creator of the *Jane Lockhart Platinum Series* and *Jane by Jane Lockhart* furniture collections. Jane is recognized as the host of *Colour Confidential* and her guest designer work on *The Marilyn Denis Show* and *Cityline*.

"The holidays are a chance to try something new and different. That handmade look is also popular with big stitching and quilting. Canadiana Christmas is also pretty popular right now—that Hudson's Bay look with buffalo checks, plaid, snowshoes, skis, moose or cute animal decorations. I would go for a hoser tree and top it off with a toque instead of a star and fill the tree with I Am Canadian beer cans! There should be something whimsical and fun on a tree that reflects who we are."

A tree is a family symbol and it should be authentic to the things that have meaning to you. I really like Elvis so I have an Elvis ornament. My beagle is named Baxter so friends have given me beagle ornaments that look like little miniature Baxters.





Colin & Justin

Interior designers, style commentators, Hollywood celebrity interviewers and TV hosts, Colin McAllister and Justin Ryan have a new TV documentary series called *Great Canadian Cottages* which airs Thursdays at 10 pm on the *Cottage Life* channel. They are also hosts of *Cabin Pressure*, *Game of Homes* and creators of the *Colin & Justin Home Collection*.

"Christmas is not an excuse for bad taste! The idea is to enhance your existing decor, not compete with it. If your room is cold and bland, add some richness to it with reds, golds and choose a focal point such as the fireplace. There's no need for acres and acres of garland. Dial it back!" says Justin.

"For a cottage, vacation home or lakefront condo or home there are so many great things you can use to create a nautical look where you literally use real things in your decor like life preservers, rope, lanterns, shells or pearls and incorporate a blue and white or sea/sand/sky theme that just feels like freedom," says Justin. "In L.A. one year we bought these mermaid-shaped ornaments that were four or five inches tall and just quirky and unexpected."



Brian Gluckstein

Acclaimed designer and owner of *Gluckstein Design Planning*, *GlucksteinHome* home furnishings, housewares and Christmas collectibles, fine china designer for *Lenox*, celebrity designer on *Cityline*, and author of *Brian Gluckstein: The Art of Home*.

"Flocked Christmas trees are one of the big trends today. It's that retro look that we are seeing more and more and it works with traditional or modern decor. You could use red and green and white ornaments which look pretty for a traditional look or go with really soft, muted tones. My advice is to buy a professionally-done flocked tree. DO NOT do the DIY thing and try to spray on flocking yourself or you will still be vacuuming up flocking in July!"

I love to give ornaments as gifts (from the *GlucksteinHome* holiday collection available at *Hudsons Bay*). I set the table for Christmas with flowers and whites and greens (garland) placed down the table with tall candles. I use card holders and tie ornaments to the napkins so guests can take the ornament home with them. ❶