

Christmas Gold In Seconds... For Pennies



Table decorations, door wreaths, candles, even whole Christmas Trees go glamorous in seconds with the help of modern magic. Spray paints in holiday colors are now available for the budget-minded Midas who enjoys creating Christmas decorations at home. Gold, silver and white sprays, for example, have been packaged together by Krylon in a convenient holiday unit; other colors are available separately.

Easy to Use
Simplicity of handling is one of the outstanding features of the new Christmas sprays. Already familiar to home handymen, spray paints are famous for their quick, easy application. No brushes, no dribbling, no clutter, the fingertip spray applies an even coat on large or small sur-

faces... and dries in seconds. Perfect for gilding Christmas greens, tree ornaments, gift wrappings, the versatile sprays may be used to create panoramic Christmas scenes in picture windows. After a quick once over with a sparkling spray, an ordinary household object becomes a conversation piece; a wicker bread basket is transformed into a beautiful focal point at a holiday buffet complete with decorated candelabra and table ornaments.

After Holidays Over

You can still put your Christmas tree to use after it is taken down. For one thing, you can cut off the longer branches and "plant" them as windbreaks to protect outdoor plantings such as low-growing boxwood, aborvitae, azalea, yew, rhododendron and juniper. Little teepees can be built around exposed shrubs and tender plants. This will protect them from biting, drying winds and prevent snow and ice from accumulating and bending the plants out of shape.

Candles Surrounded By Various Legends

Candles have long had their place in legends and in the observance of the holiday of Christmas.

In Ireland on Christmas Eve a large candle was burned which could be snuffed out only by one named Mary. As the Iris put it: "Who knows, on some Christmas Eve, Jesus and Mary and Joseph may come again, not to Palestine, but to the Holy Isle on the farthest edge of Europe?"

The first use of candles for Christmas is not recorded in the annals of any nation but according to an old legend the "Christ Child Candle" is burned in the window to light His way if He makes an earthly visitation and in atonement for the night of His birth when there was no room for Him.

Children's Task

During the early days of our country, animal fats were relatively scarce. The branches of the bayberry shrub were covered with wax-giving berries and children were given the task of gathering the berries when candles had to be made so that the animal fats could be conserved.

According to tradition, one who burned a bayberry candle on Christmas Eve of Christmas Day would have long life and a happy one.

An old verse reads:
"To learn your luck for the year they say,
Burn a bayberry dip on Christmas Day.
If the flame burns bright and the light shines clear,

Christmas Belongs To All Ages, To All People Everywhere

Is it true, as they say, that Christmas belongs to the children? Christmas is indeed a time when hearts must be young but it is not only the child who can know and share the love and faith and hope that brightens the heart at Christmas time.

Christmas is a great spiritual occasion and the atmosphere of excitement and anticipation that permeates the world of the young has a deeper, more significant counterpart in the world of the older generation. The hard-bolled, the cynical and the disbelievers cannot enter into the spirit of Christmas. Their hearts are too heavy, too filled with guilt and inner fears, and they close their eyes to all but the material aspects of the holiday observance. But there are those at all ages whose heart becomes filled with the wondrous glory of the occasion, who see beyond the glitter and foil and tinsel and who enter with the faith of a little child into the realm of the spirit known as Christmas. For all these, there is joy and peace and happiness.

Belongs to All

Christmas belongs only to the children? Christmas belongs to us all. It is ours to share, to the fullest measure. And, if the truth be known, we elders have a much greater share in the holiday than our children. To them, Christmas is bright lights and Santa Claus and snow and tinsel on the tree, and toys and fruits and good things to eat, and the mere acts of giving and receiving. Have you ever considered the fact that we share in all these aspects of the holiday in addition to the deeper, truer meaning of Christmas, and the most important part, which the very young heart is yet unable to understand or comprehend?

Christmas belongs to the children? No, Christmas is ours. A part of the holiday, a bright and shiny part, belongs to the children. But they must grow in years and faith and wisdom before they can really share in the whole and complete spirit of Christmas.

Good luck will be yours throughout the year."



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Man, Time Cannot Change Idea Of Christmas In Hearts Of Young

What, indeed, is Christmas? Ask a child and he may tell you that it is a time of snow and bright lights, and Santa Claus and presents under the tree.

Ask a hundred grown-ups and you may get a hundred slightly related answers, for Christmas is many things to many people.

But, for all of us, the happiest memories of childhood are those associated with the celebration of this great holiday. How easy it is to vividly call upon scenes of long ago when a happy family gathered by the warm glow of an open fire-side; to close the eyes to see again the snow-covered fields and to hear again the crunching sound of heavy boots plodding through the snow and visualize the little white church on the hill. In the silence of a darkened room one can

so easily revisit that little church, breathe again the aroma of evergreens and burning candles and sense anew the presence that is so obvious in the quiet and solemn stillness.

These are the things about Christmas that have not changed and will not change with the modes and mannerisms of new generations. These are the things which reflect the spirit of Christmas. It is in the spirit of love and goodness, of close communion with God and with mankind and with it all is mixed a sense of awe at the wonderful miracle brought into being on that first Christmas night at Bethlehem so long ago.

This is the spirit of Christmas, and so it shall remain until the end of time.

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