


STATE TIMES

SUNDAY

Your Companion for a Funday



11 bizarre Christmas traditions around the world, you don't know



Christmas is today and believers of Christianity are gearing up for one of the biggest annual events. Traditionally, Christmas is celebrated with carol singing, decorating trees, attending mass service and observing rituals associated with the event. However there are several places in the world where Christmas is observed in weird manners. Here is a list of all such bizarre Christmas traditions which you most probably might have not heart about:

1. Japan's KFC celebration is a usual way of celebrating Christmas. Did you know Japanese celebrate Christmas by going for a traditional dinner at the KFC. Yes you heard it right!
2. In Norway people hide their brooms before going to sleep on Christmas Eve. Norwegians believe that witches and evil spirits roam freely during Christmas time and also believe that these negative elements love taking a joy ride on a broom. Therefore people in Norway keep their brooms safely on the nights of Christmas Eve.
3. In the Isle of Man, during Christmas a group of men and women come together and sing and bang sticks. This is a centuries old Celtic tradition of Hunt the Wren as per reports. Earlier birds were killed and sacrificed in the local church to celebrate this occasion. However these days the celebration has reduced to a great extent.
4. In Catalonia, people set up a pooping man made of wood. The figurine is of a man with his trousers down taking a poop. The kids feed the figurine till Christmas Day. Upon beating it, it poops out presents, which are usually goodies.
5. In Greenland people celebrate Christmas by eating Kiviak and mouldy bird delicacy. This is basically a small bird preserved in the body of a seal and then eaten once it is decomposed. These people also eat whale skin and blubber in the raw form mostly.
6. In Venezuela, people roller skate to the Church on Christmas day. Kids are put to bed early the night before so that they have enough strength to attend the mass.
7. In Germany kids leave one of their shoes outside the house on Christmas eve and the next morning it is filled with sweets. This is just another way of celebrating the festival of joy.
8. In Mexico, people love to attend an annual event in Oaxaca, Mexico where oversized radishes are carved into interesting figurines. This annual competition draws a huge number of attention every year. The best carvings win prizes. These days a huge number of visitors also attend the festival.
9. In Spain there is an unusual tradition in association with Christmas. Though it is relevant to the New Year but people do start celebrating it from the Christmas time. In this tradition, Spanish wear red underwears on the night. It is believed that wearing red color underwears can bring good luck.
10. Another unusual Christmas tradition is followed in Germany! In this tradition people hide a pickle in the branches of the Christmas tree. It is believed that a child who finds it first gets a special gift from Santa and an adult who finds it first gets good luck for the coming year.
11. In South Africa, people snack on deep fried caterpillars on Christmas Day. It might sound bizarre to many, but deep fried insects are a part of the diet in several countries. Considered as a rich source of protein, insects are proudly included in several cultures.

**Wishing you all a merry Christmas.**

Christmas décor 2022: Here’s all you need to know!

With the end of the year approaching, we can't help but notice the festive spirit in the air. This has always been a great time for practically everyone. Most schools, companies, and public venues such as shops and restaurants are decorated in red, green, and white! The sight of a decked Christmas tree makes one's heart skip a beat for a split second. There are other alternatives to the traditional Christmas tree, which we shall discuss below.

You won't feel the coming of the Christmas spirit unless you start decorating. The little details in the decor make all of the difference. And don't worry, these decorations aren't pricey or limited to one-time usage. Have you ever thought about making white paper snowflake décor? We adore how distinct and unusual it seems! Most significantly, it is a cost-effective alternative. Try basic DIYs to make them if you want to make them more entertaining.

**Install Golden Tea Light Holders**

A gold tea light holder is another option we strongly suggest. Put it on the dining room table to add a festive flare to your Christmas Eve. What's more, you may use it for any additional festive event as well. Simply arrange these on a golden plate with some embellishments to add a touch of elegance to your eating experience.

**Decorate with Fairy Lights**

Fairy lights are the epitome of holiday décor. Get your hands on some white and multicoloured fairy lights to brighten up and glam up your home. To create a warm and welcoming ambience, adorn the Christmas tree with colourful ornaments and place strands of white fairy lights on the wall sconce.

**Make Use of Knitted Items**

Consider the variety of knitted décor items, from colourful spheres to socks and gorgeous macrame. Use them to decorate your Christmas tree, storage bookshelves, across your fireplace, door hangings, or a room accent wall. Knitted objects such as ornamental balls, socks, and Christmas ornaments provide the appropriate festive atmosphere.

**Have Some Pom-Pom Fun!**

Adding pom-poms to your decor quickly adds a playful element. To enhance the attractiveness of your room, make a garland out of wool pom-poms in white, red, and green and overlay it with a string of fairy lights. You may even put them on your Santa socks; whatever you do, it will look great. A vibrant wreath of wool pom-poms topped with fairy lights looks lovely.



**Glitz it up with Glass Balls**

An exceptional décor item that may be utilized for any occasion. Tiny glass balls for your Christmas tree, or large glass balls in a corner of your home. These balls will instantly improve the vibe of your place. This gleaming Christmas glass ball provides a festive touch to your home decor.

**Buy Candles**

Why use solely conventional candles when you're meant to be lighting up your house for Christmas Eve? During the Christmas season, you might see candles of many forms and sizes. So don't forget to employ them as well! Decorate them over your dining table or on ornamental bookshelves in your sitting room to add a touch of glitz to your house. The dining table, which has been decked with candles of all sizes and colors, is a great setting for Christmas supper.

**Create Sentimental Vibes with Christmas Decoration Idea**

Go through your old images and select the finest ones from previous festivities. Purchase some gold-painted photo frames and place them prominently. They will glam up and brighten up your home decor. The jewel photo frames with Christmas ornamental decorations all around create a great holiday décor accent.

**Have Some Balloon Fun!**

Get some balloons and distribute them equally in your room for that one Christmas meal or supper. To complement the rest of the decor, choose color combinations such as white, gold, and silver. You may also use them to adorn the walls with your Christmas tree and other decorations. The white, silver, and gold balloons are great for Christmas decorations.

**Use a Green Wreath**

A wreath is essential for every Christmas décor. Put several tiny ones in the tree, on a wall, or put a large one right at the doorway - the option is yours! Place some fresh plants and lively ornamental items to enhance its charm. This relaxing green wreath, combined with a plant and some plants, adds an inviting touch to your front door.

**Make a Nativity Scene**

It should be noted that Christmas is a religious celebration. If you are devout and wish to keep the true spirit of Christmas alive in your house, a crucifix is a must. There are little to large ones available on the market; choose the one that best matches your demands.

Easy Christmas tree decoration ideas



Christmas season is driving or walking through neighborhoods and catching glimpses of festive Christmas trees in living room windows, decked out in lights, garlands, and ornaments. Decorating a Christmas tree is a time-honored tradition in many households. We have plenty of Christmas tree theme ideas, along with handmade ornament ideas that let you put a personal touch on your holiday decor. Once you've found your inspiration, follow our three easy steps for decorating a Christmas tree like a pro.

Getting a dazzling holiday tree doesn't have to be hard work. All it takes is an understanding of how the elements work together and a few easy-to-follow tips from our tree-decorating pros. We'll show you how to decorate a Christmas tree professionally. Remember: It's more important for the family to decorate together than to strive for perfect placement. But these three steps will ensure that your tree is both beloved and beautiful.

**Hang Your Christmas Tree Lights**

The first step in how to decorate a Christmas tree is adding the lights. Tree lights typically come on green or white wire strands, though you can also find black variations now, which are perfect if you happen to have a black Christmas tree. Choose the strand color that matches your tree so the wire will be hidden. Illuminating your Christmas tree from the inside out will give it the most dynamic look. Start at the base of the trunk and work your way up, wrapping lights

around every major branch, moving from the trunk to the tip and back. Fluff the branches as you work your way around the tree.

Experiment with different lighting schemes until you find one you like; it's OK to mix and match lights. For example, a background of white or clear lights can be highlighted with strands of colored lights that wrap the outer areas of the tree.

**Traditional Incandescent Lights**

These Christmas tree lights, which come in a variety of sizes and colors, are the most popular type of tree lights. They can also be used outdoors. They warm up the branches of a real tree, which will release the scent of pine into the room.

**LED Lights**

These Christmas tree lights are newer than the traditional incandescent lights and don't produce heat. They're typically more expensive, but they are flameproof, fireproof, and completely safe to decorate a Christmas tree with.

**Globe Lights**

These Christmas tree lights are round and come in many sizes. They look like balls of color on the tree, and while they have a softer glow than mini lights, the light they produce covers a larger area on the tree.

**Bubble Lights**

These retro lights stand straight up on the limbs of your

Christmas tree. When the liquid tube on top of the light warms up, bubbles float up and down inside the tube, resembling lava lamps.

**Add Christmas Tree Garland**

There are no firm rules for decorating a Christmas tree when it comes to draping garland. To avoid branches bulging between tightly cinched garland strands, start at the top of the tree, and slowly increase the amount of garland between each wave as you work your way down the branches. Plan to use about two strands of garland for every vertical foot of tree.

To avoid a busy look on your tree, decorate your Christmas tree with a variety of garlands from plain to fancy. Thin, beaded garlands look best hung from branch to branch; thicker paper, ribbon, or foil garlands look best wrapped loosely around the entire tree. Or match your flocked Christmas tree with a pretty flocked garland.

Decorating a Christmas tree with ribbon is a popular alternative to a garland. Loosely wrap wide, patterned ribbon around the entire tree in horizontal bands. To add interest, try making big bows from a similar ribbon and using them to decorate the tree branches. Once you know how to decorate a tree with ribbon, try and amp it up by using ribbon vertically on the tree, creating cascading streams of ribbon from the top of your tree to the base, tucking the ends under your tree topper; and securing around the trunk at the base.

