

# Holiday Decorating Tips

## Have A Warm And Natural Holiday

(NAPSA)—This holiday season some of the most delightful ways to deck the halls include two traditional favorites: candles and flowers.

Here are a few hints from Jill Slater, head designer, flowerpossibilities.com. For fine floral design, there are five things to consider.

**1. Give it a Home.** Before designing, know where your creation will live—by the bedside, on a desk or window sill—wherever. Then choose a container that best suits the situation, for example, a recycled blue water bottle might match your bath towels.

**2. Simple Color Combos.** Stick to a simple color theme, three colors max; two are better and hues of one color may be best.

**3. Select Multiple Shapes.** Use a variety of flower shapes: round, face flowers such as daisies or chrysanthemums and cone-shaped roses or bell fringed freesia.

**4. Conditioning Counts.** When you get your flowers home always re-cut the stems and set them in water treated with floral preservative.

**5. Handy Tools.** Sharp floral clippers make for a clean and precision cut that lets flowers drink more easily. Watertubes are good for simple centerpieces. A bowl of fresh fruit can become the center of attention when water-tubed flowers are inserted into the gaps of a bowl of apples.

Few things set flowers off so



**Give your holiday table a special glow with a centerpiece created of candles and flowers.**

well as candlelight. To make the most of the combination, consider these tips:

- Pillar candles look great with fresh flowers inserted around them.

- Float flowers and floating candles together in a bowl.

- Small votive cups filled with one or several flowers are simple and easy to create. You can alternate them with votive candles down the table or on the window sill.

- Fill miniature gourds with either flowers or tea-lights. Then line 'em up.

- Tall narrow candles (tapers) are lovely in long and low arrangements. Insert two tall tapers into a bread pan that has been filled with floral foam. Intersperse flowers and foliage into the foam.

- Remember, never leave a burning candle unattended.

You can find more great decorating ideas at the flower grower's Web site, [www.flowerpossibilities.com](http://www.flowerpossibilities.com).