

Enjoying The Holidays On A Budget

(NAPSA)—Nearly everyone has been guilty of it at one time or another—spending too much money around the holidays. Even worse, oftentimes it's done without adequate financial backing. Taking the time to plan ahead will keep the season from being a complete budget breaker. While gifts are a major expense during the holidays, they are not the only one. Holiday decorating, entertaining, food, gift-wrapping and holiday cards are other items that can quickly add up!

Hints and Tips to Save Money During the Holidays:

Make Homemade Gifts—

Nothing says love like a handmade, personalized gift. An ordinary picture frame can be embellished using mosaic tiles, beads, baubles and other decorative items. Use an easy-to-work-with permanent adhesive like goof-proof Loctite® Super Glue Liquid (www.loctiteproducts.com) to adhere decorations to the picture frame. Loctite Super Glue Liquid uses a new formulation that gives users increased working time, eliminating the need to rush and reducing the risk of making mistakes when gluing. This allows for repositioning and precision alignment, so you can make sure the final piece is perfect. Don't forget to put a photo of you and the gift recipient in the frame.

Repair Broken Ornaments—

Even though your favorite holiday ornament or figurine is missing its corncob pipe, you may not have to buy a replacement. Simply fix broken or damaged decorations with no-mess Loctite® Super Glue Gel (www.loctiteproducts.com), to give them a few more years of life in your home. This glue eliminates the oozing and dripping associated with traditional tube super glues, and is also ideal for use on porous surfaces and vertical applications.



Plan Ahead for Holiday Grocery Shopping—

Instead of making multiple trips to the grocery store during the holiday season, make a detailed list of what you need to prepare cookies, candies and meals. And before you go to the store, take inventory of your existing cooking and baking items. After all, you probably don't need three packages of baking soda; one should suffice for the entire holiday season.

Design One-of-a-Kind Wrapping Paper—

Holiday wrapping paper can be an expensive holiday item. Instead of purchasing three square feet of silver and gold foil paper, design your own wrapping paper using kraft paper decorated with stamps, freehand designs or other patterns. Secure the paper with a quality tape, such as Duck® brand Invisible Tape (www.duckproducts.com), to ensure a great-looking and long-lasting wrapping job.

Take Inventory of Holiday Cards—

It's usually a safe assumption that somewhere in your holiday boxes you have a large quantity of leftover cards from past years. Send these to relatives and friends before buying new cards. Or, cut down costs on holiday cards and postage by sending free e-mail greeting cards.

These simple ideas will help you stay within your budget around the holidays, and allow you to start the New Year free of financial burdens.