

Seasons Greetings

Dressed for the Holidays

Maybe this is the week to shake things up for company holiday dinner. Throw out the traditional centerpiece ideas and look up instead.

Paper lanterns come in a variety of colors and with a string of lights. I hung three from Sherry's chandelier with lengths of matching ribbon. This simple idea equals a big WOW factor. This also would be a festive idea for a New Years Eve dinner using silver or gold lanterns. Even black would make a big statement.



You want to make sure the lanterns don't obstruct the sight line across the table. Your guests need to see each other, so don't hang them too low.



I decided to keep the red theme going and found poinsettia dinner plates, soup bowls and even matching stemware in two sizes. A white table cloth makes the setting more elegant.



If you don't have time to make your own place card holders, there are all kinds of ready-made sets. These little ornament stands were only \$3.00 for six at Goodwill.



Green cotton napkins lend some contrast to the table. Instead of folding them at the side, I tied one around the taller wine glass and added a sprig of red berries and leaves. You could use silk poinsettias to match or whatever piece of Christmas green you have on hand.



I already had a table cloth and the red berries. Everything else cost less than \$25.00!

Have fun with your table when entertaining. If you don't have just the right dish or decoration, check out Goodwill for a unique addition at a bargain price.

