



*Christmas Eve
Preparation
Checklist*




Setting the Scene for Christmas Eve

Create a warm, cozy, and festive atmosphere for the night before Christmas.

- Light Candles or Start the Fireplace:**
Set the mood with soft lighting. Light scented candles, or if you have a fireplace, get it going for a cozy evening.
Tip: Use Christmas-scented candles like cinnamon, pine, or vanilla to add to the festive feel.
- Play Christmas Music or Movies:**
Put on a holiday playlist or gather the family for a favorite Christmas movie. It's the perfect way to relax and get into the holiday spirit.
- Set Up Christmas Eve Pajamas:**
Make Christmas Eve extra special by laying out matching pajamas for everyone to wear after dinner.
Tip: You can include the pajamas in a Christmas Eve box with other treats for a cozy night in.

Christmas Eve Dinner and Treats

Plan and prepare a festive Christmas Eve meal and dessert to enjoy with loved ones.

- Prepare Christmas Eve Dinner:**
Make the evening special by cooking a festive meal. Whether it's a traditional family recipe or something new, plan a dinner that everyone can enjoy together in a warm and inviting setting.
 - Set Up a Hot Chocolate or Treat Station:**
Create a fun hot cocoa station with marshmallows, whipped cream, candy canes, and sprinkles. Add cookies, gingerbread men, or Christmas candies for a sweet treat.
 - Bake Cookies for Santa:**
Let the kids help bake and decorate cookies for Santa, and don't forget to leave a glass of milk alongside them before heading to bed.
- 




Evening Activities and Wind-Down

End Christmas Eve with some memorable traditions and a peaceful night before the excitement of Christmas Day.

- Read a Christmas Story:**
Gather the family and read a classic Christmas story, like *The Night Before Christmas*, before bed.
- Track Santa:**
Use a fun Santa tracker app with the kids to follow Santa's journey around the world on Christmas Eve.
- Prepare Santa's Snacks:**
Before heading to bed, set out milk, cookies, and even a few carrots for Santa's reindeer.
- Tidy Up the Living Room:**
Before heading to bed, make sure the living room is tidy and ready for Christmas morning. Arrange blankets, fluff pillows, and clear away any clutter.

Christmas Morning Preparation

Ensure you're ready for the big day by preparing everything needed for Christmas morning ahead of time.

- Prepare a Christmas Morning Breakfast:**
Set up an easy breakfast to enjoy on Christmas morning, such as overnight French toast, a breakfast casserole, or cinnamon rolls.
Tip: Prep as much as you can the night before, so it's ready to bake in the morning with minimal effort.
 - Set the Table for Christmas Breakfast:**
Lay out festive table settings and breakfast essentials the night before. Use Christmas-themed plates, mugs, and napkins to make it extra special.
 - Charge the Camera or Phone:**
Make sure your camera or phone is charged so you can capture those magical Christmas morning moments.
- 



Christmas Eve Bedtime Routine

Help everyone wind down after an exciting day so they're ready for Christmas morning.

- Lay Out Christmas Morning Outfits:**
Have everyone lay out their outfits or Christmas pajamas for Christmas morning photos and celebrations.
- Set Out Stockings for Santa:**
Place empty stockings where Santa can fill them while everyone sleeps.
- Get to Bed Early:**
Encourage everyone to get to bed a little earlier to be well-rested and ready for the excitement of Christmas Day.

Final Christmas Gift Preparations

Ensure all presents are wrapped and ready for Christmas morning.

- Wrap Any Last-Minute Gifts:**
If there are any gifts left unwrapped, finish them up and label each one to avoid confusion.
Tip: Keep a gift-wrapping station organized with scissors, tape, and extra gift tags for last-minute needs.
 - Place Presents Under the Tree:**
Arrange all the gifts under the tree, creating a magical scene for Christmas morning.
Tip: If you have kids, wait until they're asleep to put out any special "Santa" gifts.
 - Fill the Stockings:**
Make sure to fill each stocking with small gifts and treats. Hang them by the fireplace or another special spot.
Tip: Include small items like candy, socks, and tiny toys.
- 