

THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS 2026

Holiday Planner

Gifts, budget, menus and the big-day timeline —
all in one place, so the season doesn't run you.

14 PRINTABLE PAGES · US LETTER

THIS PLANNER BELONGS TO

AND AFTER NEW YEAR'S?

The Ultimate Life Planner 2027 · 132 pages, every week already dated

tidynestprintables.com/ultimate-life-planner

Holiday Planner: how to use it

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 26. Christmas is Friday, December 25. Start now and both are calm.

1. **Print in US Letter** (8.5×11in), *Actual size* — not *Fit to page*.

2. **Set the budget first.** Every gift and every grocery run is easier once the total is decided.

3. **Fill the gift list next**, with a number next to each name. Ordering online? Log it on the order tracker.

4. **Plan the Thanksgiving menu two weeks out**, then build the grocery list from it — and the oven timeline from both.

5. **Use the December countdown** for one small task a day instead of one huge weekend.

WHEN TO DO WHAT		
WHEN	WHAT TO HAVE DONE	DONE
Mid-October	Holiday budget set · gift list started	
Late October	Big online orders placed · travel booked	
Two weeks before Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving menu & guest list final	
Thanksgiving week	Groceries bought · turkey thawing · oven timeline written	
Early December	Cards addressed · decorations up	
Mid-December	Last shipping dates checked · gifts wrapped	
Christmas week	Christmas menu shopped · house ready for guests	

Hosting for the first time? Write the oven timeline backwards from the time you want to eat. If two dishes need the oven at different temperatures at the same time, one of them moves to the stovetop or gets made the day before.

Holiday Season at a Glance

November and December 2026. Mark parties, school events, travel and shipping deadlines.

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS	26
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE		

DON'T-MISS DATES

Christmas & Holiday Budget

Total I'm willing to spend this season: \$_____ Decide it before the first purchase.

CATEGORY	PLANNED	SPENT	DIFFERENCE
Gifts			
Thanksgiving food			
Christmas food			
Decorations			
Cards & postage			
Wrapping & shipping			
Travel			
Parties & hosting			
Outfits			
Charity & giving			
Other			
Total			

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Holiday Gift List

One line per person, with a budget next to the name – before you open a single store.

Holiday Online Order Tracker

Everything you ordered, where it is, and whether it showed up before the 25th.

Thanksgiving Menu Planner

Guests: _____ Dinner time: _____ Allergies & diets: _____

APPETIZERS

SIDES

DRINKS

WHO BRINGS WHAT

GUEST	BRINGING	CONFIRMED

THE MAIN

DESSERTS

BREAD, SAUCES & EXTRAS

Thanksgiving Grocery List

Split in two trips: what keeps (buy early) and what has to be fresh (buy that week).

PRODUCE

MEAT & DAIRY

PANTRY & BAKING

FROZEN

DRINKS

TABLE & DISPOSABLES

Buying a frozen turkey? Thawing in the fridge takes about one day for every 4 to 5 pounds — a 20 lb bird needs to go in the fridge 4 to 5 days ahead. Write that day on the calendar now.

Thanksgiving Day Timeline

Work backwards from dinner time. One line per step, oven temperature included.

MAKE AHEAD (DAY BEFORE)

Christmas Menu Planner

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on one page, plus the dinner checklist.

CHRISTMAS EVE

CHRISTMAS MORNING BREAKFAST

CHRISTMAS DAY

DESSERTS & COOKIES

CHRISTMAS DINNER CHECKLIST

☐	Menu final and guest count confirmed
☐	Grocery list written from the menu
☐	Table, chairs and serving dishes counted
☐	Oven timeline written
☐	Make-ahead dishes done the day before
☐	Drinks chilled, ice bought

Christmas Countdown: December To-Do

One small task a day, December 1 to 24. Wrapping, cards, baking — spread out instead of piled up.

Dec 1 TUE ☐

Dec 2 WED ☐

Dec 3 THU ☐

Dec 4 FRI ☐

Dec 5 SAT ☐

Dec 6 SUN ☐

Dec 7 MON ☐

Dec 8 TUE ☐

Dec 9 WED ☐

Dec 10 THU ☐

Dec 11 FRI ☐

Dec 12 SAT ☐

Dec 13 SUN ☐

Dec 14 MON ☐

Dec 15 TUE ☐

Dec 16 WED ☐

Dec 17 THU ☐

Dec 18 FRI ☐

Dec 19 SAT ☐

Dec 20 SUN ☐

Dec 21 MON ☐

Dec 22 TUE ☐

Dec 23 WED ☐

Dec 24 THU ☐

Christmas Card List

Keep it from year to year — next December, the addresses are already here.

Holiday Cleaning & Decorating Checklist

Before the guests arrive. Not a deep clean — just the rooms people will actually see.

A WEEK BEFORE

- ☐ Clear the entryway and coat closet
- ☐ Wash the guest towels and sheets
- ☐ Clean out the fridge for the leftovers
- ☐ Wipe the oven and microwave
- ☐ Check serving dishes and tablecloth

THE DAY BEFORE

- ☐ Guest bathroom: clean, stock paper
- ☐ Vacuum and mop the main rooms
- ☐ Set the table
- ☐ Empty the dishwasher and trash

ONE HOUR BEFORE

- ☐ Quick wipe of the bathroom sink
- ☐ Candles, lights and music on
- ☐ Coats: decide where they go
- ☐ Trash bag in the kitchen, empty

DECORATIONS TO PUT UP

OVERNIGHT GUESTS

- ☐ Guest bed made, extra blanket out
- ☐ Towels, spare toothbrush and phone charger left out
- ☐ Wi-Fi password written down
- ☐ Breakfast for the first morning planned

Holiday Notes

THE HOLIDAYS END ON JANUARY 1ST

The Ultimate Life Planner 2027

This planner gets you through the season. The 2027 edition picks up the day after: **53 weeks already dated**, 12 monthly calendars, and the budget, home, meal, goal and habit pages in **one file** — so January starts planned instead of blank.

132 PAGES · US LETTER PDF · \$12 · ONE FILE, REPRINT FOREVER

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