

Southern Living®

DECEMBER 2009

COMPLETE
2009
RECIPE
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101 Recipes for a Special Southern Christmas

{ PLUS }

**OUR PRETTIEST
HOLIDAY IDEAS**

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CHOCOLATE
CITRUS CAKE
WITH CANDIED
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Need a gift?
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ELIZABETH MAYHEW is the author of *Flip! For Decorating*.



Decorating Step-by-Step A Holiday Mantel

Create a fragrant and festive mantel with simple greenery and affordable flowers. Contributing decorating expert Elizabeth Mayhew shows you how.

1

Start BY CLEARING YOUR MANTEL.

Stow your year-round decor. Use a simply framed mirror, instead of busy artwork, as the foundation to avoid detracting from your display.



2

Add YOUR FAVORITE GREENERY.

Choose a long-lasting evergreen garland such as white pine to ensure that your mantel will remain fresh-looking all season.



3

Layer WITH COLOR AND SPARKLE.

Tightly cluster multiple stems of red carnations in silver julep cups. Nestle the cups and glass candlesticks in the garland.

4

Make IT PERSONAL.

Use your arrangement as a backdrop for cards you receive during the season. It's fun to be reminded of family and friends each time you see your mantel.



PHOTOGRAPHS: ANNE SCHLEICHER, PRODUCER: ELIZABETH MAYHEW



ADD HOLIDAY SPARKLE TO YOUR MANTEL WITH MORE TIPS AND IDEAS FROM THIS MONTH'S STYLE GUIDE: southernliving.com/style-guide