

DECEMBER 2005

# Good Housekeeping

## Holiday Magic

 **245** Inspiring  
Ideas

**Dazzling Decorating**  
From trees to trimmings

**Christmas Cookie  
Winners!** (and easy icing tips)

**fast &  
festive**

- \* simple party recipes
- \* cute crafts for kids
- \* special stockings,  
ornaments, wreaths

# Sweet Reese

On making marriage work,  
being an old-fashioned  
mom, and her surprising  
guilty pleasures

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# your Goodhouse

## Take a bough

A New Hampshire family celebrates the season with greenery galore and vintage ornaments



The spacious living area looks like a winter wonderland with white linen slipcovers and a forest of laurel and other evergreen trimmings.

"We're big fans of loading the tree," says Phillip; the eight-foot fir is jam-packed with vintage trinkets.



It's no surprise that the owners of a fine-jewelry and home-decor shop have show-stopping style at Christmas. "We plan all year for what we're going to do to our home," says Phillip Scoutsas, who lives in Nashua, New Hampshire, with his wife, Amalia. "Holiday decorating is a big part of our business, and we have a real love for it." Their enthusiasm is obvious the minute you walk through the door. The sofas and chairs are covered with a snowy layer of white linen (slipcovers from Rachel Ashwell's Shabby Chic collection). Rooms are generously garnished with ▶



A sweet scone, crystal drapery, and colorful glass balls make this mantel merry and bright.

A florist friend made this chandelier from wreaths. (Don't worry, there are fire extinguishers near!)



**Tiny bubbles:**  
Minuscule baubles  
and evergreen  
sprigs dress up  
Champagne flutes.



seasonal greenery, from leafy laurel wrapped around a column to ivy strung on a crystal chandelier to artificial treetops perched on planters. By mixing fresh and faux greens, the couple get a longer shelf life out of their “natural” accents.

But the most striking part of the Scotsas home has to be the huge collection of vintage ornaments. The Christmas tree—trimmed with shiny metallic balls, retro tinsel, and bright beads—looks like it was ripped out of a 1950s living room. “You should see our basement. It’s packed!” says Amalia. “We collect everything: Depression glass, Champagne flutes, paperweights, dishtowels...and a lot of dust!” With a house this sparkling, that’s hard to believe.



**On the tree, there's**  
a mix of mid-century  
ornaments and  
newer pieces from  
Christopher Radko.



For an extra touch,  
Amalia bedecked  
the dining-room  
chairs with twig-  
and-holly wreaths.

