

INSPIRED
IDEAS FROM
HOMES
& GARDENS

HOME & LIFESTYLE
COLLECTION

Dream CHRISTMAS

ENTERTAINING MADE SIMPLE

70 pages of mouthwatering recipes

**FESTIVE DECORATING
FOR EVERY ROOM**

Stylish shopping
**PLATES, GLASSES
& ACCESSORIES**

At home with...

- TRICIA GUILD
- CHRISTINA STRUTT
- WILLIAM YEOWARD
- JASPER CONRAN

Decorating



Recipes



Decorators



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ASK THE EXPERT

Florist to the stars Nikki Tibbles shares the secrets of the welcoming, well-dressed hallway



DESIGNER PROFILE

Nikki Tibbles is the founder of florist Wild At Heart.

020 7229 1174, wildatheart.com, which has three London stores.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR COLOUR PALETTE?

There will be plenty of greenery, because it not only imbues a space with a distinctive look and feel but it also has a wonderful aroma.

This Christmas, I will be using lots of foliage that has a naturalistic feel, such as grey eucalyptus branches and buds, hung with silver and grey baubles, as well as lichen branches and wide grey grosgrain ribbon. On special occasions, I will add white roses, which will look amazing set against this cool, muted backdrop of colours.

Once I have decided on my colour scheme for the hall, I then use similar shades for flowers throughout the house. So if I look from the hallway up the stairs or into adjoining rooms, everything will be in the same soft tones and look perfectly coordinated.

For instance, I often include a few pretty pots containing bulbs grown to bloom at Christmas, such as fragrant white hyacinths, 'Paper White' daffodils and dramatic amaryllis. Alternatively, I may have a vase or two of gorgeous white winter-flowering camellias.



WHICH ACCESSORIES WILL YOU USE FOR YOUR HALL AT CHRISTMAS?

As someone who works with flowers almost 365 days a year, inevitably my favourite accessories in any festive hallway are gorgeous bouquets. For me, much of the pleasure in creating them lies in the fact that they allow me to indulge myself with my favourite seasonal flowers, particularly Christmas roses and other hellebores. As part of a bigger scheme that includes candles, wreaths and garlands, they offer such a brilliant way to create an inviting mood.

3 OF THE BEST places to buy...

■ GARLANDS

An early morning trip to New Covent Garden Market, newcoventgardenmarket.com, offers ready-made wreaths, and festive flowers and foliage such as amaryllis and hellebores.

■ SCENTED CANDLES

Bring the garden into your home with candles by True Grace, [01985 210893, truegrace.co.uk](http://01985210893.truegrace.co.uk).

■ LANTERNS

For a variety of designs, including innovative ways to display tea lights, visit Culinary Concepts, [01252 852305, culinaryconcepts.co.uk](http://01252852305.culinaryconcepts.co.uk).

HOW WILL YOU LIGHT THE SPACE?

To illuminate my floral bouquets and garlands, I will have plenty of candles – preferably in holders finished with either gold or platinum – as well as lots of tea lights. I'll also indulge myself with a few scented candles. I developed the Wild at Heart range myself and I particularly love our Ambre scented candle, £38.

Other beautifully scented candles that I like are the Diptyque Figuier, from £20, 0800 840 0010, diptyqueparis.co.uk, as well as the superb collection created by the French model Inès de la Fressange. I adore Un Weekend à Notting Hill, £31.90, which is her new candle in my favourite scent, Notting Hill. Some of the items from her collection are available at frenchologie.com.

Seasonal flowers

such as Christmas roses and other hellebores allow me to indulge myself. As part of a festive scheme, they offer a brilliant way to create an inviting mood

OUR DREAM TEAM

The designers and experts who have contributed to this magazine



JASPER CONRAN

The fashion designer and creative force behind The Conran Shop creates a chic contemporary dining room on page 84.



TRICIA GUILD

Who better to dream up ideas for a colourful Christmas table than the founder of Designers Guild? See page 60.



CHRISTINA STRUTT

The founder of fashion and interiors brand Cabbages & Roses sets a beautiful festive table on page 106.



WILLIAM YEOWARD

The designer who made his name with his stunning collections of crystal unveils his breathtaking table setting on page 38.



NIKKI TIBBLES

On page 21, the inspired London florist reveals how to give your hall a smart but simple makeover.



POLLY DICKENS

Habitat's design guru comes up with inventive tips for transforming a living room on page 27.



JOHN CARTER

Stuck for fresh ideas for a well-dressed front door? The florist to the stars shares his secrets on page 17.



NINA CAMPBELL

On page 33, the renowned designer gives expert advice on devising the perfect table for a celebration.



CHARLES METCALFE

The wine expert suggests reds, whites and fizzes for seasonal lunches, suppers and parties on page 134.