

## HOUSE DECORATIONS AT CHRISTMAS

### INTRODUCTION

In our country we usually decorate our houses in different ways. We have some things to decorate the houses that the other countries have too but some other things are different. We will explain you these different things about decoration that are different from your traditional habits, and we will show you how they are, putting some photos of these things.

### CHRISTMAS TREE

A lot of legends say that the tradition of the Christmas tree is too old, but we haven't got information about it and their decoration of nowadays is a century. A long time ago in the villages the people introduced the flowers and leaves of the plants and trees in their house, in a magic or religious sense. It has evolved and it has become more modern.

Today's tradition of christmas tree is: first we buy the tree then we put it in our houses then we decorate the tree with christmas balls, little stars and one big star on top, round of the tree we put lights and the tinsel, under the tree we put the presents.



### CHRISTMAS SOCKS

It is an empty sock that inside, we put candy and little presents. They are normally made of wool, and it has drawings of Christmas traditional decoration.



### BETHLEHEM

Bethlehem in its origin was a village where the 3 kings appeared to see Jesus. The 3 kings knew



the road to Bethlehem because a star appeared in the dark night and showed them the road. The 3 kings were: the white king, that is Melchior, he gave gold to the baby. The brown king, that is Gaspar, gave him incense and the black king, that is Baltasar, gave him myrrh.



Every year we decorate the Bethlehem with the typical figure in Catalonia, that it is 'el caganer'.

## **GARLAND**

We put garland in our houses at Christmas time, hanging at the veranda, in the balcony, inside the house, in the tree... with some lights.



## **BAUBLES**



We decorate the Christmas tree with different types of baubles, of different colours, shapes, etc. Most of people here in Catalonia decorate their houses with Christmas trees and it is decorated with baubles. The Christmas tree with the baubles makes the house look more elegant, beautiful and with a Christmas soul.

## **WREATH**

We put a wreath in our houses at Christmas time, at the doors, to decorate the entrance, it can be made of flowers, pines, plastic, etc.



## **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Christmas lights are some little lights that are used to do the Christmas more welcoming and to get a Christmas soul.

## **ADVENT CALENDAR**

The advent calendar is a type of calendar with candies and chocolates. The calendar starts on the 1st of December and finishes on the 24th of December, every day we open a little window of the calendar; there is a little candy or chocolate inside. There is another type of calendar that is recyclable and inside instead of chocolate there is a little story of Christmas.



## **“TIÓ”**

The Tio is a trunk that we cut it and we draw in it a smiley face. The 24 th of December we hit the trunk to make it give us presents like biscuits and things like this, at the time that we hit it we sing traditional Christmas songs with all the family. The Christmas song that we sing when we hit it is:

“Caga tió,  
avellanes i torrons,  
no caguis arengades  
que són massa salades,  
caga torrons  
que són més bons!”





## **CHRISTMAS CANDLES**

We put candles in the house to be lucky and to decorate the house. The colors of the candles that we use to decorate our houses are red, white, green, gold, silver, etc.