

# *10 Ways to Have an Inexpensive & Fun-Filled Christmas*



Have you noticed that Christmas in this country has become so materialistic over the past few years? With so many people in our country being out of work and families in hard times financially; I've found ten things you can do this holiday season that cost little or no money at all. You can still have lots of fun without spending a lot of money.

1. Drive around and look at Christmas lights and decorations on your neighbors homes. Want to spend even, less walk around with a cup of hot chocolate to keep your hands warm.

2. Watch the Christmas shows on television.

[ABCFamily.com/25days](http://ABCFamily.com/25days) has different shows schedule for each day until Christmas. You can print out the schedule and plan which ones you want to watch. My favorite is "A Year Without A Santa Claus".



3. Buy and Set up a Christmas tree as a family. It is cheaper in the long run to buy artificial, you can keep it up longer, and not nearly as much of a fire hazard. You can always get pine scent. Make your own decorations out of paper, photos, popcorn, or decorate your tree with Christmas cards you receive in the mail from friends and family.

4. Go caroling around your neighborhood.

5. Bake cookies from scratch (or from store bought dough). Break out the cookie cutters and sprinkles. Go online and find tried and true recipes.



6. Decorate your home. Make your own decorations or visit your local dollar store for a nice variety of decorations.

7. Read "A Christmas Carol" or "Night Before Christmas" as a family.

8. Visit your local church, school, community center to watch their performances, plays and pageants.

9. Let the kids make or shop for each other's presents and let them help wrap them.



10. Visit Santa at the mall. Ask if you have to buy pictures just to let your kids see Santa. Most of the time you don't have to buy pictures.

11. Get together with family and friends for snacks and games. We get a new game each year and play it as a family.

Well that was actually 11 ideas. Use your imagination and I'm sure you could come up with a lot more. They cost very little money, but could become traditions your family could do each holiday season. Start making memories. Happy Holiday!

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Kimberly Shavatt is the owner of [HelpingMomsAtHome.com](http://HelpingMomsAtHome.com). She offers lots of hints, tips, time saving, and money saving ideas and resources for moms.