

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

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 CELEBRATING 18 YEARS

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WINTRY DECORATING TIPS

Expecting guests for the holidays or planning a party? Want to add some holiday and winter charm to your once beautiful container plantings at your entry? You probably already have the pots and they are welcoming when they are at their best. Keep that going through the winter with a little thought and minimal effort.

Set the tone of the get-together by beginning at the front door. Start by considering the style and colors of your home. Contemporary homes take a more limited color scheme for their sheer sophistication and plants reflect a more architectural form while traditional homes embrace the most colorful, eclectic, and abundant color schemes.



There are several ways to fill large front entry pots in the winter, depending on their location and the severity of the weather. If the front entry faces north, it will be exposed to cold north winds. If you don't want to plant a tree, a fresh wreath can be used as a pot topper, perhaps filling the center with pinecones and other seasonal elements.

Using artificial greenery along with fresh evergreens can help give a more abundant appearance and provide needed structure and color to the arrangement. There are many natural elements found in your garden or pantry that can enhance outdoor arrangements: rose hips, nandina berries, holly branches, juniper branches with silvery blue berries, apples, oranges, or pineapples.



Some professional designers remove about 4" of the soil to accommodate a 4" piece of styrofoam into which they press branches horizontally to approximate how real evergreens grow.

Then they zip tie stiff plant material and artificial plant material into a very attractive composition that will hold up to winter weather.



Add lights and any other embellishments to complete the holiday container.

Remember to provide supplemental water to real evergreens if it does not rain or snow. Remove the ornaments after Christmas and the greenery will stay fresh enough to last until spring!

GREAT GIFTS & GOOD CHEER!

From France, a new Private Collection of moisturizing, Shea butter enriched soap with unique blends of fragrances. Their beautiful packaging makes them a great small gift or stocking stuffer.



A perennial favorite, these 24" square cotton tea towels are gifts that are easy to give and a pleasure to receive. The images are original works of art with irresistible traditional designs.



Rugs and pillows add seasonal charm to your home's entry or patio! They are so appealing, they can be used indoors. Both are machine washable!



New: beautiful, safe, and convenient flameless candles! You have to see it to believe it. With a 360 degree realistic moving "flame", it has the appearance of a real candle from all sides. An optional remote control allows programming "burn times" of 2, 4, 6, or 8 hours.



Weather instruments make great gifts for men. With its generous size, the dual purpose Grande View rain and watering gauge is easy to read. It combines precision with style and durability; made of solid brass with a top filter screen to deflect debris, this is a quality piece. Be the weather expert of the neighborhood.

This cherub will watch over the garden for years. The artist who carved the original carefully gave its sweet face an expression of peace and happiness





Beautiful and durable, this is MELAMINE! New bread trays and cheese boards include a high quality French serrated knife. Appetizer plates, snack bowls, and biscuit trays make attractive hostess gifts or festive serving pieces for holiday parties.



Art coasters are a holiday necessity and everyone loves to receive them. Reusable many times over, each package contains 18 charming images by nationally known artists.



We love these! A French market basket is a fashionable carryall for delivering gifts, grocery shopping, and containing most everything you need to have at your fingertips. Once you own one, you will never want to be without it.

Outdoor rugs are admired by many customers. Made of recycled water bottles, the rugs are woven on looms and feature a wide variety of patterns from traditional Turkish to geometric designs. Durable and reversible, they last for years and years. Most popular sizes are 5'x8' and 6'x9'. Colors range from neutrals to vibrant color combinations.



One of the best ideas we've ever seen, the combination thermometer and birdfeeder with four ports and perches, is a great gift for just about anyone. The thermometer is large enough to read at quite a distance and the birds are fun to watch at any age.

As seen on Martha Stewart's blog, these faux bois planters molded from real trees make clever moss gardens; you can even plant in the knotholes!





Solar lanterns are enchanting in the garden and carefree to use. Just turn them on, hang them and wait for sundown. They flicker on and then glow all night long. Everyone loves these; customers have even used them indoors. They are available in white (shown), white with polka dots, blue/white rhombus, cylinder, and a bronze square.

Possibly the most popular religious figure, St. Francis, has earned his place in so many gardens. He is most admired for his decision to rebuild the church while living in extreme poverty and to help those less fortunate; it is said he even preached to animals. The presence of his image is a reminder to live simply and kindly.



Birdbaths continue to be very popular gifts and every garden needs at least one to accommodate thirsty birds year round. Make your garden gift selection from our many sizes and styles, such as this Juliet birdbath complete with birds.

DECEMBER TO DO LIST

- Order annual seeds or organize the ones you have.
- Plant fruit trees, roses, and other trees.
- Mulch herbs if the weather gets cold.
- Plant daffodil and tulip bulbs.
- Cut back on watering and fertilizing house-plants. Water, when dry to the touch, fertilize in March.
- Use citrus fruits and garden findings such as rose hips and pine cones to decorate your home.
- Lightly trim magnolias, hollies, and other evergreens for indoor decorating.
- Look forward to December 21, the winter solstice.
- Make your list and check it twice.
- **Shop local, shop small**



GIVE THE GIFT OF EXTERIOR DECORATING

Are you in need of some inspiration for your entryway or patio? Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating and small space design consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit and follow-up report to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful.

Call the store at 405-879-1121 to make arrangements or to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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