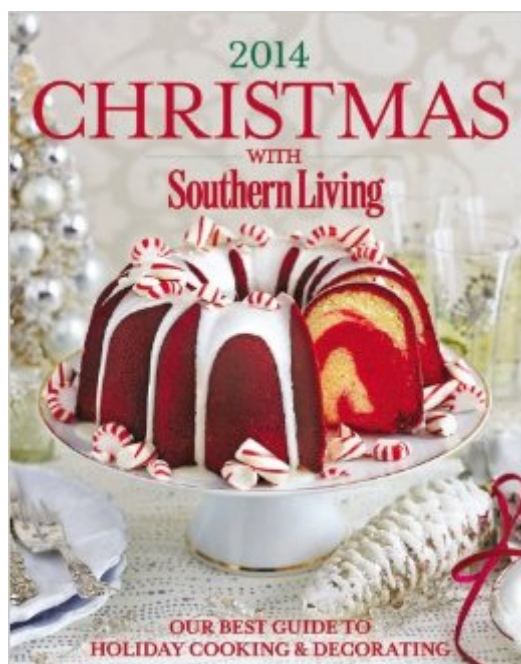


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# Christmas With Southern Living 2014: Our Best Guide To Holiday & Decorating



## Synopsis

Christmas with Southern Living is ALL NEW for 2014. Included are special holiday menus and over 100 recipes especially designed for holiday cooking, baking, entertaining, and gift-giving. Dozens of photos, kitchen tips, and entertaining ideas add extra value to the recipe pages, which make up more than half of the book. The balance of the book shows big, beautiful, idea-packed photos of homes that are decorated for the season in styles that are creative, not costly; also included are lots of simple decorations and gifts to make. Holiday table setting and centerpiece ideas, mantels, wreaths, and natural decorations are prominently featured. Over 200 full-color photos delight and inspire.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I purchase a Southern Living Christmas book each year, usually as soon as they are available. I like to plan for the holidays early because it is less stressful and easier to accomplish what I am after. This year's edition is stuffed full of recipes which is nice; however the decorating section was very light weight which was disappointing to me. Holiday meals are wonderful, but usually occur mostly on the DAY of the holiday. Decorations go up and stay up for five or six weeks, so inspiration for decorating is something I look forward to especially. Presentation on the holiday theme takes some planning and frankly, takes some work to get the house ready for guests and family; so inspiration in that area is important to me. This year's book was not so good in that respect, in my opinion. Also,

about recipes, I have noticed that there are a great many recipes that contain alcohol. When I am cooking for the holidays, I consider it a family affair, children included, which automatically excludes that class of recipes.

I have every edition since 1981, and I've always enjoyed the mix of holiday decorations, traditions, crafts, and recipes. Though this was a lovely book (as always), little attention was given to decorations and almost none offered to traditions and crafts. It seems this is now trying to be a recipe book rather than the full holiday season experience it used to be. I would love it if the editors could cut the recipes by about a third and include more of what the book used to be. With the addition of the Southern Traditions book, however, maybe Southern Living's focus went elsewhere this year. On a positive note, the kitchen tips seem helpful, and the recipes are varied as far as skill level.

This issue is pretty different from past issues from Southern Living. There isn't a lot of craft ideas, or tablescapes, or decked out Christmas homees. And, there are not a bunch of the same old recipes. But, what you will find in this year's Christmas with Southern Living 2014 issue is a little bit of everything as far as recipes go. Some of the recipes that stood out to me include the: Decadent Chocolate Bourbon Pecan Pie, Spiced Eggnog Bread Pudding, Honey Bourbon Sweet Tea, Merry Berry Christmas Sugar (a drink), Bourbon Apple Sticky Toffee Pudding, Cornbread Sausage Dressing, Mushroom and Parmesan Bread Pudding, Cranberry Mojito, Pear-Basil Sipper (a drink), Red Velvet Raspberry Tiramisu Trifle (made with raspberry liqueur - this recipe looks REALLY, REALLY GOOD), Cinnamon Pecan Fan Bread, Pear Walnut Pull-Apart Loaf, Cranberry Apple Strudel, Spiced Hot Chocolate, Spiced Rum Mulled Cider, Peppermint Marshmallow Brownie, Salted English Toffee Brownie, Peanut Butter Brownie, Bourbon Pecan Blondies (a brownie), Honey Rosemary Cashews, and Spicy Barbecue Snack Mix. Overall the great majority of these recipes are for deserts, appetizers, and different types of drinks. And, Southern Living has a lot more recipes for drinks than they usually do. I'm actually pleased with the wide variety of drink recipes. A lot of them look really yummy. And, yes, if you've noticed some of the recipes do include some kind of alcohol, but I am completely fine with that and I think that the alcohol gives pizzazz to the recipes. Also, the alcohol is basically in the drinks and in some of the desserts. These are meant to be enjoyed by adults. This book should be purchased by those who LOVE SOUTHERN LIVING AND LOVE UNIQUE RECIPES BY THEM THAT YOU CAN NOT FIND ANYWHERE ELSE. Also, the recipes in this edition definitely get you into the holiday, Christmas season. And, there are plenty of beautiful

photos of many of the recipes in this book. All in all it's a nice edition. I also suggest checking out Southern Living's other Christmas book that they came out with this year. It's called "Southern Living Christmas All Through The South: Joyful Memories, Timeless Moments, Enduring Traditions." You can get it here on at [http://www..com/Southern-Living-Christmas-Through-South/dp/0848742567/ref=pd\\_sim\\_b\\_1?ie=UTF8&refRID=09E9XYB0DX2J29YEXF7X](http://www..com/Southern-Living-Christmas-Through-South/dp/0848742567/ref=pd_sim_b_1?ie=UTF8&refRID=09E9XYB0DX2J29YEXF7X) . This other book by Southern Living is all about Christmas and has lovely menus with actual recipes. Check out this other book as well.

This is the best edition in several years. The pictures are dreamy gorgeous as always and many of the recipes look both tasty and like you could actually make them in your kitchen. Several recipes stood out immediately: the sorghum-apple stack cake, the turkey potato soup with coriander, sweet onions and Northern beans, the smoked chicken buttermilk biscuit sliders, and the shaved Brussels sprouts salad. All of them looked easy enough to make or to adapt. These I listed are just a few of the many that looked satisfying. This edition also features some yummy-looking drinks like the pear-basil sipper and pecan milk punch. Finally, there is a section called Bars and Brownies. This is a small four page section with side by side brownie recipes, each recipe headed by a picture. There are peppermint-marshmallow, salted English toffee, peanut butter, triple chocolate, bourbon-pecan, caramel-mocha-almond, tiramisu and macadamia turtle bars. I haven't tried any of the recipes, I buy these books for entertainment. However I really think I'm going to attempt the shaved Brussels sprouts salad. The Brussels sprouts are complimented by pear, walnuts and Parmesan cheese. Delicious!

The last two years of the Southern Living Christmas Book has not near the decorations, etc. that it once did. This book is mostly recipes. I will not be buying any future copies unless it changes back to old format.

I bought this for my daughter and was dissapointed ..it is a half recipes and decorating book. The recipes were not any types that we would make. I will stick to clipping the recipes out of her SL magazine and pinning Christmas holiday decorating ideas. One reviewer said that she buys one of these editions every year....one year is enough for me!! am very dissapointed with Southern Living which is one of my favorite magazines for homeowners.

Very disappointed. Wish I had my money back. Just the most useless edition I have bought. Just

pretty pictures of extravagant roses that ordinary people couldn't buy at Christmas. No ideas, food was so disappointing. Will NOT do this again Save your money

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