



A TOUCH  
OF THE

# Season

AT THEIR HOME IN OREGON, ROBIN  
AND BOB ENDRES SHARE A HOLIDAY  
APPROACH THAT'S AS RELAXED AS  
THEIR WATERFRONT ENVIRONS

BY AMY FLURRY PHOTOGRAPHS BY JON JENSEN PRODUCED BY BARBARA MUNDALL

Christmas crackers, an English holiday tradition, wait for Robin and Bob Endres' guests to pull them open and spill forth the goodies hidden inside.





Nestled among the evergreens on the banks of Oregon's Lake Oswego, Bob and Robin Endres' home has become the gathering place where loved ones are most relaxed. This mood is especially evident at Christmastime, when family and friends flock to their lakeside home to visit and share traditions.

An avid gardener who once owned a flower shop, Robin delights in using unexpected seasonal materials to set a festive tone for guests. Although her resourcefulness and imagination are on view year-round, Christmas is the time of year when the creative talent that informs her decorating shines. "From the home office to the toile guest quarters, every room is touched by this holiday," she says.

Her special blend of holiday magic is rooted in elements that elicit happy memories and connect her family. Yet her approach to decorating remains simple. "Less is definitely more," she says. "One blooming amaryllis in a terra-cotta pot and a basket of pinecones are more impressive than a lot of fussy knickknacks."

Robin personalizes little trees for her two sons, now in college, with favorite ornaments from their childhood. Rather than using new planters or containers, she turns to her collection of brown-and-white

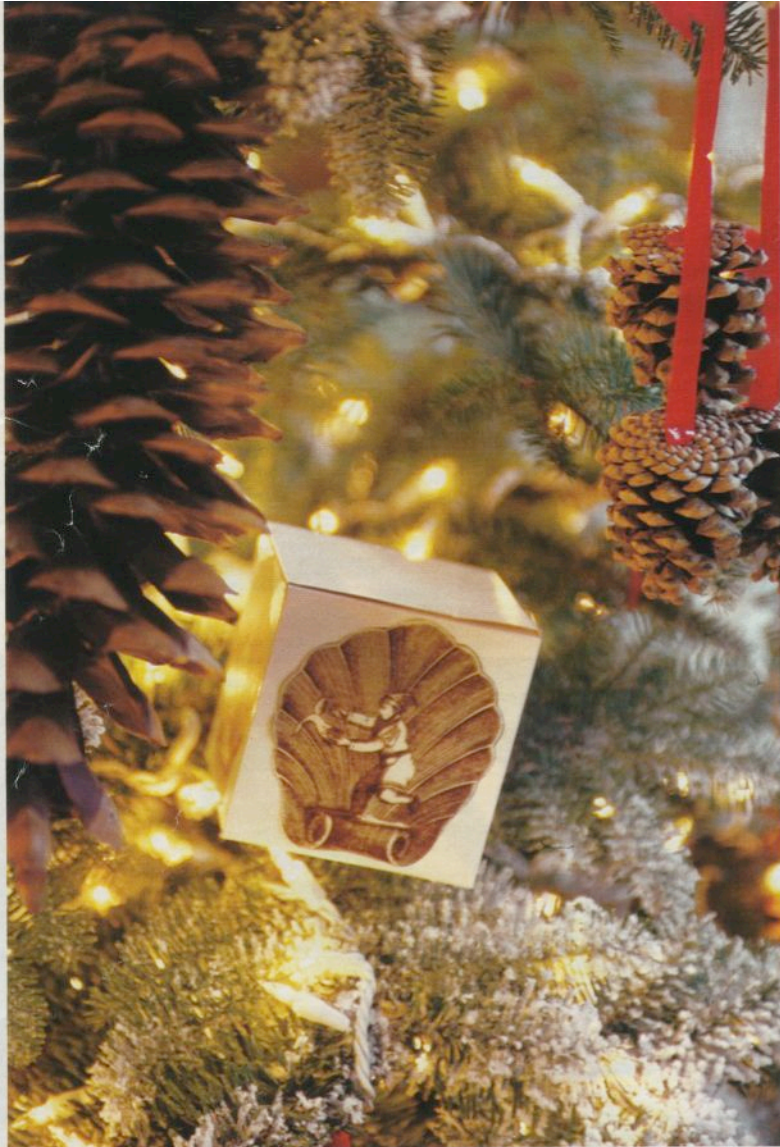
In the Endres' light-filled dining room (right), rich chocolate-brown walls are set off by crisp white trim. Seasonal decorations follow this fresh, sophisticated lead: A linen tablecloth is offset by classic slipcovered chairs; amaryllis blooms, white tulips, and carnations pop against the subdued backdrop. Toile napkins accentuate Robin's extensive collection of brown-and-white transferware (left). Tendrils of greenery cascade along the stairwell (top left); red dogwood adds subtle color and prevents the paperwhite blooms lining the balustrade from drooping.











Brown velvet curtains, framing the Christmas tree and the lake view beyond, add a warm element to the living room (right). Robin and Bob trimmed the tree with red velvet ribbon bows, pinecones, and boxes wrapped in glossy seashell-motif paper (above).

transferware and white pottery to inspire tablescapes and vignettes. Candles in the windowsills appear warm and cozy inside and out. Glass bowls brimming with vintage ornaments adorn bedroom nightstands with sheer shimmer.

Underscoring the easy elegance and quiet utility by which she decorates, Robin has only to step into her backyard for materials to add texture and interest to her compositions. "Bringing the outside into my winter world gets me through the few cold months until I'm back in the garden," she says.

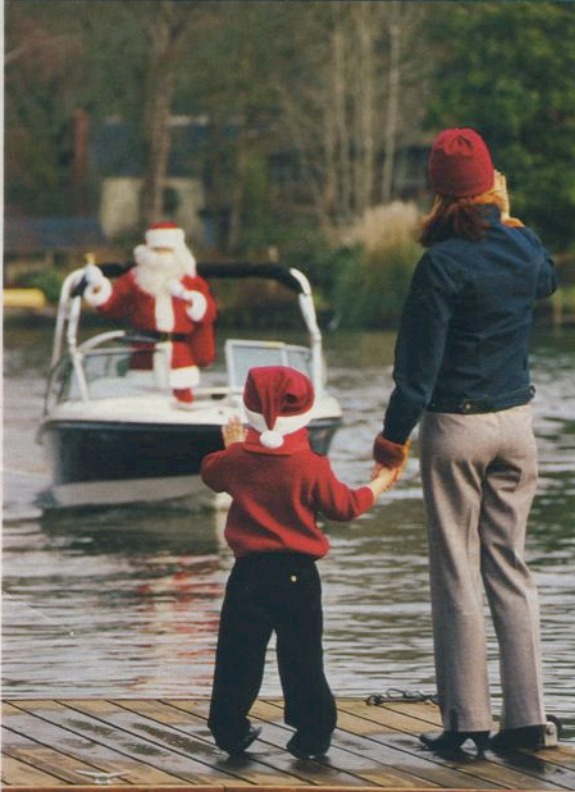
Sprays of incense cedar, sprigs of berried ilex, and clusters of pinecones, which Robin gathers and weaves into her holiday decor, frame the sweeping views of the lake and











her garden room into a wrapping center (off-limits until all gifts have been tucked under the tree).

"Some of my favorite time leading up to Christmas is spent in here, thinking about my family and listening to holiday CDs," Robin says. "This is my gift to my family, a place where they enjoy gathering, revisiting traditions, sharing good times, and creating new memories." 🎄

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Viewed from the lake, the rear facade of the Endres' home (top) hints at the welcoming, cozy atmosphere within. Bob carries on the family tradition of playing Santa (left) for the lakeside community, a role his father assumed for years in his North Dakota hometown. Robin and nephew Miles Malmquist welcome him.