



Christmas with family & friends

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Over 200 mouthwatering recipes for the holiday season. Chapters include Homemade Memories, Breakfast & Brunch with Friends, Home for Christmas Dinner, Festive Family Desserts & more. Hardcover, 224 pages.

Christmas with family & friends Details

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From Reader Review Christmas with family & friends for online ebook

L.A. says

Recipes for a cozy, country Christmas.

America likes to pretend it doesn't have a class system, but really, it does. If, for example, you have never seen a Gooseberry Patch cookbook in your life, you just might be middle-class. A staple of blue collar kitchens everywhere, the Gooseberry Patch franchise pumps out streams of these books on a regular basis, and they get passed down through families as treasured heirlooms (people have been known to fight for grandma's copies, especially if she was fond of writing in them, like you do).

The fact that they're spiral-bound, however, is usually what prevents libraries from putting them on the shelves. Spiral-bound things, as many of us know to our peril, are far more likely to have the bindings mangled and the pages ripped out than the average cookbook. Luckily, this title and others of its ilk are available from Overdrive Marketplace, so you can pop them into your digital collection easily for the twenty-first century cook who wants a little bit of nostalgia for a simpler time.

This particular entry is, much like the others, designed to help the reader create meals that are folksy, down-home, and other fuzzy adjectives that imply a certain rustic simplicity. Cracker crumbs are scattered on top of casseroles (see also potato chips). Canned cream of chicken and mushroom soups show up a lot in the ingredients lists. With the possible exception of one persimmon, you don't have to go anywhere near Whole Paycheck or TJs to make these things. In fact, the only real danger here is that you need to know your patrons' tastes very well, as these are the kinds of recipes that get made fun of on the regular by people with more sophisticated palates. If, however, there's even a ghost of a chance your audience grew up with these recipes, even if they've managed to vault themselves up a run on the class ladder, you'll definitely want them for the nostalgia value.

The recipes, which include the name and city of the contributor, are interconnected with cute little holiday stories and tips for decorating, celebrating, etc. The line drawing illustrations are also charming, and the book as a whole evokes wholesome family-friendly fun. Recommended for suburban and rural libraries, as well as digital collections. An optional purchase for larger/urban collections.

Teresa Mitchell says

It is a recipe book that has great family stories of Christmas traditions. It has gift ideas, personal family Christmas recipes, and some decorating ideas. I really want to try some of the breakfast recipes! Makes me want to start cooking.

Ken Weinert says

False

