

Putting Up Christmas

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I love Christmas decor, and over the past few years especially, I have amassed quite a bit of it. It takes me just over two weeks to put it all up, but when it's done the place is quite festive.



A partial view of the living room. The tree has lots of gifts beneath, and the stockings – all 20 of them – are hung with care, all awaiting the arrival of Santa. You can just see DH's large manger scene on top of the cabinet at right of the picture above. This jingle bell wreath hangs on the exterior door.



My "Possible Dreams" Santas, and the knock-off Kirkland versions, have their own spot in the living room. As I look at the photo, I see that Scampers has knocked one of them over.



Smaller Santa ornaments have their own spot in the dining room. There's a mix of purchased and handmade ornaments here, and some lovely vintage ones as well.





Charlie Brown and the gang have their own spot. Some of the figures come from McDonald's, but there are also a few Hallmark ones, including the set from 2015, the 50th anniversary of the *Charlie Brown's Christmas* special. Everything in this display was thrifted, including the tree.

The pretty wreath hangs on the living room door. The lights can be set to blink on and off if you prefer.



DH loves the warm look of the fibre-optic buildings, along with the bubble light lanterns, all lit up in the darkened dining room. So do I.

A highlight of the season is the upside-down tree in the living room. DH was taken with the idea after seeing one displayed in a Christmas store. Since there were already ceiling hooks in our living room, it was relatively simple to hang this four-foot version there. We've had it for about 7 years now without a mishap, but just to be on the safe side, the ornaments are all unbreakables.



This Mr. Christmas music box plays Christmas and vintage melodies, 50 tunes in all. The bells on top can be engaged or not as you wish, and the little train in the diorama runs around the tree. The whole thing is very cute when switched on.

Christmas wouldn't be complete without the Looney Tunes tree in the family room/office. When we set it up in 2015, we already had a small collection of LT ornaments, but not enough to fill an entire tree. I bought several additional ones, and hand-crafted many more – somewhere around 150-175 of them, including a half-dozen new ones – like this Rocky & Mugsy – added this year.

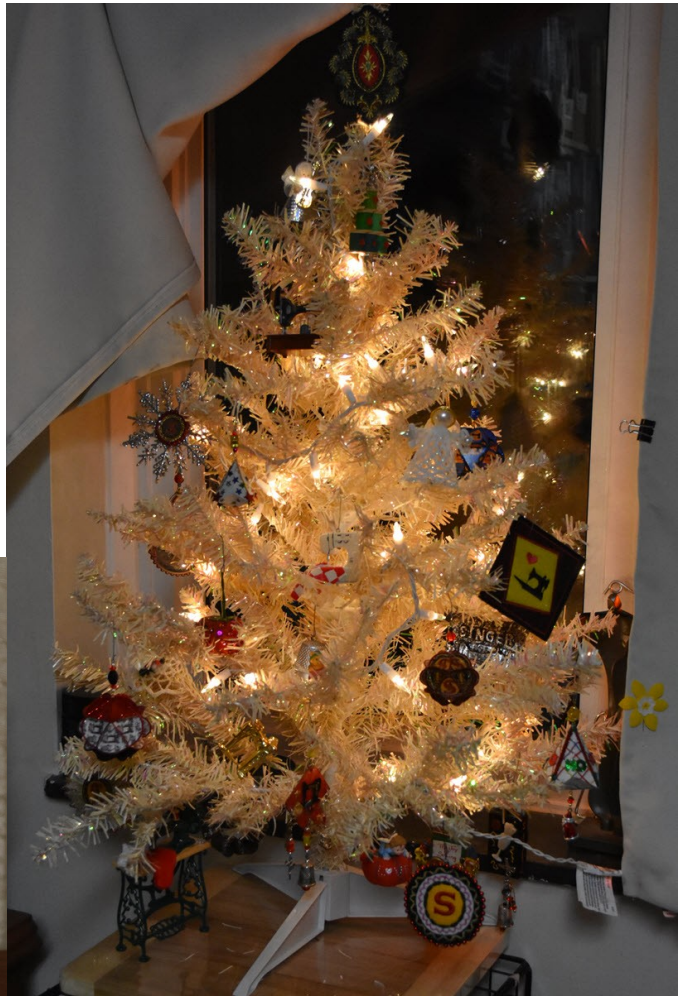


I love this Wile E. Coyote ornament, another of this year's additions to the LT tree.

Giving the family room tree a theme has made it easier to manage the task of decorating. We're big fans of classic Looney Tunes, so it's also a lot of fun.



As a rule I'm not too fussed on a white tree, but this little one with its sewing-themed ornaments goes perfectly in the crafting loft. And I will admit that the white lights on the white tree really do showcase the ornaments nicely.



<=== I really like these woodland Santa figurines with the animals gathered around; I have three variations of these and love them all.



Tomorrow is Christmas Eve. The gifts are under the tree, the stockings are hung, and even Scampers is ready and waiting.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2023.

