MERRY & BRIGHT

# 100 THINGS TO DO BEFORE CHRISTMAS

*Do 5 a day, one from each bucket, & enjoy December*

### THE 5-A-DAY METHOD

Each day, pick one task from each of the 5 buckets below. Check it off when it's done. Five small things a day means everything's ready before December gets busy.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| For You | For Your Family | For Gift Giving | For Your Home | For Hosting |

## 1. For You

- [ ] Book a hair appointment
- [ ] Book your nails (or plan a DIY mani night)
- [ ] Plan your holiday party outfit
- [ ] Pick your Christmas Day outfit
- [ ] Pick your holiday earrings & accessories
- [ ] Set your holiday budget
- [ ] Do a 2-minute brain dump of your to-dos
- [ ] Make a holiday playlist you love
- [ ] Restock your favorite coffee or cocoa
- [ ] Clean out your purse & car console
- [ ] Schedule one night off just for you
- [ ] Book a girls' night or coffee date
- [ ] Plan a holiday date night
- [ ] Block 3 "no plans" nights on the calendar
- [ ] Pick one book or movie just for you
- [ ] Plan a self-tan or skincare night before events
- [ ] Write your own wish list (yes, you!)
- [ ] Get a cozy throw & slippers ready
- [ ] Pick one tradition to skip this year
- [ ] Schedule a workout or walk you'll keep

## 2. For Your Family

- [ ] Map out the December calendar
- [ ] Add school concerts, parties & pajama days
- [ ] Book your big holiday outing
- [ ] Order matching family PJs
- [ ] Book family photos
- [ ] Plan family photo outfits
- [ ] Try on dress clothes & shoes
- [ ] Get the kids' wish lists done
- [ ] Send wish lists to grandparents
- [ ] Pick your must-do traditions
- [ ] Schedule a Christmas movie night
- [ ] Schedule a cookie decorating day
- [ ] Plan a Christmas lights drive
- [ ] Plan your Elf on the Shelf ideas
- [ ] Set up the advent calendar
- [ ] Plan a giving-back activity
- [ ] Make a winter break bucket list
- [ ] Give the kids holiday jobs
- [ ] Do a toy purge before new gifts arrive
- [ ] Book pet sitters & holiday travel

## 3. For Gift Giving

- [ ] Make your master gift list
- [ ] Set a budget for each person
- [ ] Count teachers, coaches & aides
- [ ] Pick one teacher & coach gift, buy in bulk
- [ ] Buy stocking stuffers & sort by kid
- [ ] Order online gifts while shipping is easy
- [ ] Ship gifts to out-of-state family
- [ ] Plan your neighbor gifts
- [ ] Stock a grab & go gift bin
- [ ] Stock a few ready-to-go hostess gifts
- [ ] Plan delivery driver thank-yous
- [ ] Buy your gift/ornament exchange gift
- [ ] Order holiday cards
- [ ] Update your card address list
- [ ] Address & stamp your cards
- [ ] Pick a gift hiding spot
- [ ] Keep receipts in one envelope
- [ ] Stock your wrapping station
- [ ] Wrap gifts as they arrive
- [ ] Pick your “favorite things” gift & get it ready

## 4. For Your Home

- [ ] Deep clean before decor goes up
- [ ] Sort & purge your decor bins
- [ ] Test lights & toss dead strands
- [ ] Plan where decor goes this year
- [ ] Set up the tree
- [ ] Hang outdoor lights
- [ ] Refresh the front porch
- [ ] Style the mantel
- [ ] Clean the oven
- [ ] Reset the entryway for coats & shoes
- [ ] Set out a cozy throw blanket basket
- [ ] Restock batteries & extension cords
- [ ] Clear closet space for new gifts
- [ ] Swap in holiday towels & hand soap
- [ ] Stock up on paper towels, TP & trash bags
- [ ] Start a holiday simmer pot
- [ ] Freshen up the guest bathroom
- [ ] Clean out the fridge & freezer
- [ ] Catch up on laundry & fresh bedding
- [ ] Plan where decor goes back after

## 5. For Hosting

- [ ] Pick your holiday menu
- [ ] Order the turkey or ham
- [ ] Check your table linens
- [ ] Plan the kids’ table
- [ ] Pick your cookie exchange recipe
- [ ] Plan a make-ahead Christmas breakfast
- [ ] Set up a drink station
- [ ] Stock napkins, plates & to-go containers
- [ ] Put together a guest basket
- [ ] Stock ice, sparkling water & drinks
- [ ] Make your grocery list
- [ ] Take inventory of platters & serveware
- [ ] Count chairs & plan seating
- [ ] Stock the baking pantry
- [ ] Prep freezer meals for busy nights
- [ ] Plan a simple Christmas Eve dinner
- [ ] Pick your one go-to holiday appetizer
- [ ] Prep the guest room for out-of-town guests
- [ ] Plan a hot cocoa bar
- [ ] Bake & freeze cookie dough ahead