

CHRISTMAS Past

It's the most glamorous time of year. Give your home the old razzle dazzle with a decadent mood evocative of the roaring twenties, says Zoe Hubbard, Interior Designer at Maison Interiors.

Look & Feel

Opulent jewel shades, sumptuous textures and shimmering metallic accents are key to creating an indulgent Christmas look. Use a bright jewel colour – such as maroon, turquoise, emerald or even raspberry pink – liberally throughout your festive theme. Accessorise with gold and silver, adding a touch of old-world glamour through the use of rich fabrics such as velvet, satin and fur.

Shape Up

The Art Deco style of the 1920's is synonymous with geometric and angular shapes, stepped forms and chevron patterns. Other design elements include shell, flower and sunrise motifs. If your home already boasts these original features, lucky you, but do consider adding some contemporary touches to avoid a museum like vibe. Not so lucky? Then dial it up with streamline furniture in highly polished wood or lacquer. There are a number of tasteful replicas on the high street right now.

Drinks Anyone?

Get into the spirit with a 20's style cocktail party. A perfect opportunity to use that mixology set you got for Christmas last year. Serve martinis and champagne cocktails in crystal glasses or alternatively use little teacups and saucers, the traditional way to serve alcohol at a speakeasy back in the Roaring Twenties. Keep food simple, arranging delicious canapés on metallic platters and glass plates. Finally don't forget to recreate the sounds of the era with a little light jazz.

Time to Indulge

For that lavish Deco feel your Christmas table should take centre stage! Dress with crystal coupes, delicate china and silk napkins. Show off with a striking peacock feather centrepiece, candelabras and use tiered metallic serving trays to add height and extra visual impact. And why not try making your own place settings. All you need is some black card and a silver or gold paint pen.

Branch Out

Whether real or artificial, for that vintage feel opt for a tree with a blue hue. In regards to the trimmings, completely coat your tree in mother of pearl, metallic and glass ornaments. Jewel colour decorations in various geometric shapes and patterns also work well. Finally ditch the tinsel in favour of lux feather bowers and swathe the tree in starry twinkle lights.

"Can't repeat the past?
Why of course you can!"

F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*