



Coloring Outside the Christmas Box

by Susan Currie



WHEN MOST PEOPLE THINK holiday season, they envision an explosion of red and green. During the holidays, try to think outside the box. Why not let the colors that you love fill your home, even during the holiday season? The inspiration for the holiday décor here is from the vibrant orange-and-turquoise Romo cut velvet fabric on the dining chairs. The rich hues lend joy and warmth to the space and make excellent use of the light, particularly in the late afternoon. During the holiday season, play off the colors that evoke joy and happiness for you, your friends and family.



In true Southern style, I like to dress the entrance to my home and mantel with a wreath and garland made of magnolia leaves by Dunn and Sonnier Flowers. Using accents of citrus throughout the greenery provides that pop of color to tie in with that inspirational fabric.

Magnolia leaves also add texture and depth to a traditional fir Christmas tree. This simple touch makes a real

impact in the overall look of the tree and can be accomplished using just a few sprigs left over from your garlands. Clusters of three ball-shaped ornaments made by using zip ties and floral wire are much more visually interesting than a single ball. For added sparkle, place sprigs of glittered foliage throughout the tree. I always make sure to have

extra of everything. You never know when an ornament will break and you'll need another one. Plus, you can always throw the extra ones in a beautiful bowl or vase to put on your table.

Spread holiday cheer throughout your home by adding small accent pieces like bright red flowers and embroidered holiday towels in small rooms. Don't be afraid to use different colors in different rooms. Mix much-loved Christmas décor that you have had for years with your newer color choices. Marrying new design trends with old holiday traditions can make your home picture-perfect for the holidays.

