

# Markham Gift Guide



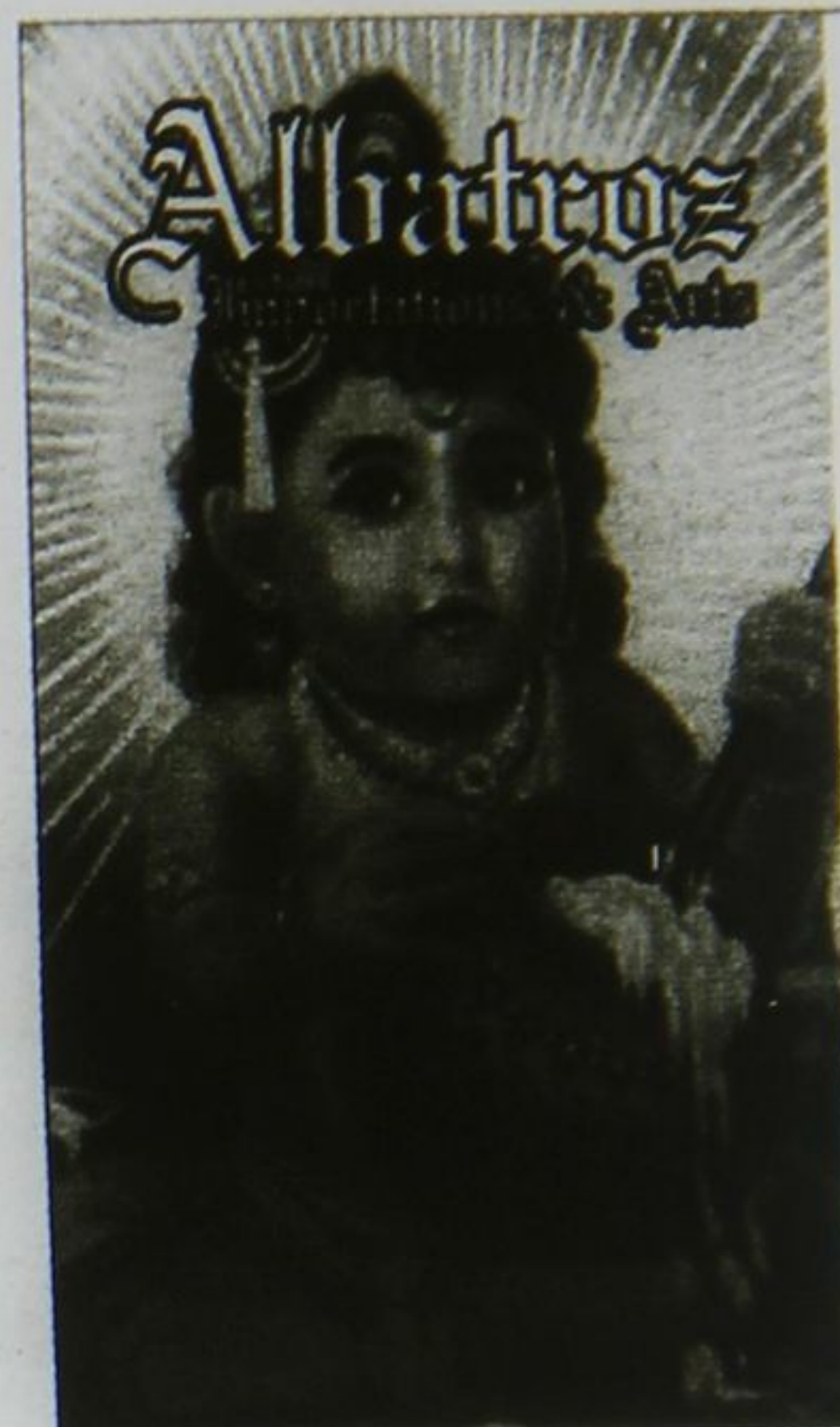
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Holiday Gifts  
Christmas Wish List  
Gift Ideas  
Holiday Wrapping

## LOW STRESS HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Make a detailed list for the party and break everything down by time — two weeks before, two days before, day of, et cetera.
- Do as much ahead of time as possible — make and freeze cookie dough, chili, lasagna.
- Take stock of all serving pieces, utensils, dishware, crystal and linens. This way, they can be replaced or borrowed ahead of time.
- Clean the oven before the dinner. Most roasts require high temperatures, and a dirty oven will smoke up the entire house. It will be easier to clean after the meal.
- Freeze candles so they burn longer. They won't have to be replaced as frequently.
- Stock vanilla ice cream in the freezer for eggnog and easy, last-minute desserts.
- Stock the bar, and don't forget the garnishes.
- Sharpen all knives, especially the carving knife.
- Keep a stock of heavy plastic disposable plates, glasses, utensils for last minute guests.
- Keep specialty foods and non-perishable hor d'oeuvres on hand, such as cheeses, olives, nuts, smoked salmon and smoked oysters.
- Most importantly, keep it simple — remember the holidays are about spending time with loved ones. Enjoy yourself.



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