

Printable Advent Calendar

72 activities · 3 age groups · 1 to 24 December 2026



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How to use it

- 1 Pick the age group that fits your child. Got kids of different ages? Use two colors.
- 2 Stick the calendar on the fridge. Each morning, color in that day and do the card.
- 3 Prefer a paper chain? Use the strips on pages 12 to 14 instead of the cards.
- 4 Missed a day? Color the square anyway and carry on. Swap busy days onto a weekend.

Color key



Ages 3 to 5



Ages 6 to 8



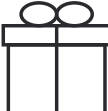
Ages 9 to 12

Prints on US Letter and A4. Every activity uses things most homes already have.



December 2026 Countdown

Color in one picture each day

1 TUE 	2 WED 	3 THU 	4 FRI 	5 SAT 	6 SUN 
7 MON 	8 TUE 	9 WED 	10 THU 	11 FRI 	12 SAT 
13 SUN 	14 MON 	15 TUE 	16 WED 	17 THU 	18 FRI 
19 SAT 	20 SUN 	21 MON 	22 TUE 	23 WED 	24 THU 

Orange squares are weekends: 5 to 6, 12 to 13 and 19 to 20 December. Save the bigger activities for those.



Activity Cards: Ages 3 to 5

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 1 to 8

DAY 1 · TUE

AGES 3 TO 5

Color in day 1 on the calendar and choose where to hang it.



DAY 2 · WED

AGES 3 TO 5

Make a paper snowflake. You fold, they snip (with safety scissors).



DAY 3 · THU

AGES 3 TO 5

Read a Christmas book under a blanket with a flashlight.



DAY 4 · FRI

AGES 3 TO 5

Dance party to three Christmas songs.



DAY 5 · SAT

AGES 3 TO 5

Make salt dough ornaments. Flour, salt and water, that's it.



DAY 6 · SUN

AGES 3 TO 5

Build a blanket fort and eat a snack inside it.



DAY 7 · MON

AGES 3 TO 5

Make a Christmas tree shape out of buttons, blocks or crayons on the floor.



DAY 8 · TUE

AGES 3 TO 5

Draw a picture to send to a grandparent.



Activity Cards: Ages 3 to 5

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 9 to 16

DAY 9 · WED

AGES 3 TO 5

Count the lights you can see from the window after dark.



DAY 10 · THU

AGES 3 TO 5

Wrap a favorite toy in newspaper, then unwrap it again.



DAY 11 · FRI

AGES 3 TO 5

A special drink in a special mug. Warm milk in the north, a frozen fruit smoothie in Australia.



DAY 12 · SAT

AGES 3 TO 5

Go on a Christmas lights walk or drive.



DAY 13 · SUN

AGES 3 TO 5

Make a paper plate wreath out of handprints.



DAY 14 · MON

AGES 3 TO 5

Play musical statues to Christmas music.



DAY 15 · TUE

AGES 3 TO 5

Stick cotton balls on a paper Santa to give him a beard.



DAY 16 · WED

AGES 3 TO 5

Cut sandwiches into stars with a cookie cutter.



Activity Cards: Ages 3 to 5

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 17 to 24

DAY 17 · THU

AGES 3 TO 5

Make a thank-you card for the mail carrier or the bin crew.



DAY 18 · FRI

AGES 3 TO 5

Pajama movie night.



DAY 19 · SAT

AGES 3 TO 5

Decorate cookies.
Store-bought ones count.



DAY 20 · SUN

AGES 3 TO 5

Make a paper chain for their bedroom door.



DAY 21 · MON

AGES 3 TO 5

Pick one toy to give to a child who needs one.



DAY 22 · TUE

AGES 3 TO 5

Color the Christmas tree page in the pack.



DAY 23 · WED

AGES 3 TO 5

Write (or draw) a note for Santa.



DAY 24 · THU

AGES 3 TO 5

Set out a snack for Santa and read one last story.



Activity Cards: Ages 6 to 8

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 1 to 8

DAY 1 · TUE

AGES 6 TO 8

Write a Christmas wish list.



DAY 2 · WED

AGES 6 TO 8

Fold a 3D paper star.



DAY 3 · THU

AGES 6 TO 8

**Christmas joke night.
Everyone tells one at dinner.**



DAY 4 · FRI

AGES 6 TO 8

Board game after dinner.



DAY 5 · SAT

AGES 6 TO 8

Build a paper gingerbread house from a template.



DAY 6 · SUN

AGES 6 TO 8

Make salt dough ornaments, then paint them once they're dry.



DAY 7 · MON

AGES 6 TO 8

Write a letter to a grandparent and post it.



DAY 8 · TUE

AGES 6 TO 8

Do the Christmas word search in the pack.



Activity Cards: Ages 6 to 8

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 9 to 16

DAY 9 · WED

AGES 6 TO 8

Make a paper snowflake with a harder fold.



DAY 10 · THU

AGES 6 TO 8

Learn to say Merry Christmas in three languages.



DAY 11 · FRI

AGES 6 TO 8

Indoor picnic dinner on the living room floor.



DAY 12 · SAT

AGES 6 TO 8

Lights walk or drive. Vote for the best house.



DAY 13 · SUN

AGES 6 TO 8

Make wrapping paper by stamping brown paper with potato stamps.



DAY 14 · MON

AGES 6 TO 8

Do something kind for a neighbor, like a card through the door.



DAY 15 · TUE

AGES 6 TO 8

Make a popsicle stick snowflake.



DAY 16 · WED

AGES 6 TO 8

Read a chapter of a Christmas book out loud together.



Activity Cards: Ages 6 to 8

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 17 to 24

DAY 17 · THU

AGES 6 TO 8

Christmas charades.



DAY 18 · FRI

AGES 6 TO 8

Movie night with
homemade popcorn.



DAY 19 · SAT

AGES 6 TO 8

Bake cookies and take a
plate to a neighbor.



DAY 20 · SUN

AGES 6 TO 8

Make gift tags for the
family presents.



DAY 21 · MON

AGES 6 TO 8

Sort out toys they've
outgrown to donate.



DAY 22 · TUE

AGES 6 TO 8

Make place cards for
Christmas dinner.



DAY 23 · WED

AGES 6 TO 8

Plan the Christmas Eve
breakfast and draw the
menu.



DAY 24 · THU

AGES 6 TO 8

Read a Christmas story in
pajamas, then leave a
snack out.



Activity Cards: Ages 9 to 12

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 1 to 8

DAY 1 · TUE

AGES 9 TO 12

Write the family's
December bucket list.



DAY 2 · WED

AGES 9 TO 12

Fold an origami star or
crane for the tree.



DAY 3 · THU

AGES 9 TO 12

Learn one card trick to
perform on Christmas
Day.



DAY 4 · FRI

AGES 9 TO 12

Run a family quiz night
with questions they wrote.



DAY 5 · SAT

AGES 9 TO 12

Cook dinner with a
grown-up. They pick the
recipe.



DAY 6 · SUN

AGES 9 TO 12

Make a stop-motion video
with toys and a phone.



DAY 7 · MON

AGES 9 TO 12

Write a letter to someone
who lives far away.



DAY 8 · TUE

AGES 9 TO 12

Design this year's family
Christmas card.



Activity Cards: Ages 9 to 12

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 9 to 16

DAY 9 · WED

AGES 9 TO 12

Solve the crossword and the maze in the pack.



DAY 10 · THU

AGES 9 TO 12

Find out how Christmas is celebrated in another country and explain it at dinner.



DAY 11 · FRI

AGES 9 TO 12

Game night. They choose the game and teach it.



DAY 12 · SAT

AGES 9 TO 12

Make a set of bookmarks as gifts, one for each family member.



DAY 13 · SUN

AGES 9 TO 12

Lights walk with a scorecard they design.



DAY 14 · MON

AGES 9 TO 12

Hide a kind note for a brother, sister or parent to find.



DAY 15 · TUE

AGES 9 TO 12

Make a woven paper star.



DAY 16 · WED

AGES 9 TO 12

Read a story to a younger kid.



Activity Cards: Ages 9 to 12

Cut along the dotted lines · Days 17 to 24

DAY 17 · THU

AGES 9 TO 12

Learn to wrap a present with neat corners, then wrap the family's gifts.



DAY 18 · FRI

AGES 9 TO 12

Movie night. They're in charge of snacks.



DAY 19 · SAT

AGES 9 TO 12

Bake something mostly on their own.



DAY 20 · SUN

AGES 9 TO 12

Pick toys, books or clothes to donate and drop them off together.



DAY 21 · MON

AGES 9 TO 12

Write a list of the best moments of the year.



DAY 22 · TUE

AGES 9 TO 12

Make place cards and a seating plan for Christmas dinner.



DAY 23 · WED

AGES 9 TO 12

Write a short Christmas story and read it out.



DAY 24 · THU

AGES 9 TO 12

Help set up for tomorrow, and make something for a younger kid to find in the morning.



Countdown Chain: Ages 3 to 5

Cut the strips, loop them from 24 down to 1, tear one off each day

1 TUE Color in day 1 on the calendar and choose where to hang it.	GLUE	13 SUN Make a paper plate wreath out of handprints.	GLUE
2 WED Make a paper snowflake. You fold, they snip (with safety scissors).	GLUE	14 MON Play musical statues to Christmas music.	GLUE
3 THU Read a Christmas book under a blanket with a flashlight.	GLUE	15 TUE Stick cotton balls on a paper Santa to give him a beard.	GLUE
4 FRI Dance party to three Christmas songs.	GLUE	16 WED Cut sandwiches into stars with a cookie cutter.	GLUE
5 SAT Make salt dough ornaments. Flour, salt and water, that's it.	GLUE	17 THU Make a thank-you card for the mail carrier or the bin crew.	GLUE
6 SUN Build a blanket fort and eat a snack inside it.	GLUE	18 FRI Pajama movie night.	GLUE
7 MON Make a Christmas tree shape out of buttons, blocks or crayons on the floor.	GLUE	19 SAT Decorate cookies. Store-bought ones count.	GLUE
8 TUE Draw a picture to send to a grandparent.	GLUE	20 SUN Make a paper chain for their bedroom door.	GLUE
9 WED Count the lights you can see from the window after dark.	GLUE	21 MON Pick one toy to give to a child who needs one.	GLUE
10 THU Wrap a favorite toy in newspaper, then unwrap it again.	GLUE	22 TUE Color the Christmas tree page in the pack.	GLUE
11 FRI A special drink in a special mug. Warm milk in the north, a frozen fruit smoothie in Australia.	GLUE	23 WED Write (or draw) a note for Santa.	GLUE
12 SAT Go on a Christmas lights walk or drive.	GLUE	24 THU Set out a snack for Santa and read one last story.	GLUE



Countdown Chain: Ages 6 to 8

Cut the strips, loop them from 24 down to 1, tear one off each day

1 TUE	Write a Christmas wish list.	GLUE	13 SUN	Make wrapping paper by stamping brown paper with potato stamps.	GLUE
2 WED	Fold a 3D paper star.	GLUE	14 MON	Do something kind for a neighbor, like a card through the door.	GLUE
3 THU	Christmas joke night. Everyone tells one at dinner.	GLUE	15 TUE	Make a popsicle stick snowflake.	GLUE
4 FRI	Board game after dinner.	GLUE	16 WED	Read a chapter of a Christmas book out loud together.	GLUE
5 SAT	Build a paper gingerbread house from a template.	GLUE	17 THU	Christmas charades.	GLUE
6 SUN	Make salt dough ornaments, then paint them once they're dry.	GLUE	18 FRI	Movie night with homemade popcorn.	GLUE
7 MON	Write a letter to a grandparent and post it.	GLUE	19 SAT	Bake cookies and take a plate to a neighbor.	GLUE
8 TUE	Do the Christmas word search in the pack.	GLUE	20 SUN	Make gift tags for the family presents.	GLUE
9 WED	Make a paper snowflake with a harder fold.	GLUE	21 MON	Sort out toys they've outgrown to donate.	GLUE
10 THU	Learn to say Merry Christmas in three languages.	GLUE	22 TUE	Make place cards for Christmas dinner.	GLUE
11 FRI	Indoor picnic dinner on the living room floor.	GLUE	23 WED	Plan the Christmas Eve breakfast and draw the menu.	GLUE
12 SAT	Lights walk or drive. Vote for the best house.	GLUE	24 THU	Read a Christmas story in pajamas, then leave a snack out.	GLUE



Countdown Chain: Ages 9 to 12

Cut the strips, loop them from 24 down to 1, tear one off each day

1 TUE Write the family's December bucket list.	GLUE	13 SUN Lights walk with a scorecard they design.	GLUE
2 WED Fold an origami star or crane for the tree.	GLUE	14 MON Hide a kind note for a brother, sister or parent to find.	GLUE
3 THU Learn one card trick to perform on Christmas Day.	GLUE	15 TUE Make a woven paper star.	GLUE
4 FRI Run a family quiz night with questions they wrote.	GLUE	16 WED Read a story to a younger kid.	GLUE
5 SAT Cook dinner with a grown-up. They pick the recipe.	GLUE	17 THU Learn to wrap a present with neat corners, then wrap the family's gifts.	GLUE
6 SUN Make a stop-motion video with toys and a phone.	GLUE	18 FRI Movie night. They're in charge of snacks.	GLUE
7 MON Write a letter to someone who lives far away.	GLUE	19 SAT Bake something mostly on their own.	GLUE
8 TUE Design this year's family Christmas card.	GLUE	20 SUN Pick toys, books or clothes to donate and drop them off together.	GLUE
9 WED Solve the crossword and the maze in the pack.	GLUE	21 MON Write a list of the best moments of the year.	GLUE
10 THU Find out how Christmas is celebrated in another country and explain it at dinner.	GLUE	22 TUE Make place cards and a seating plan for Christmas dinner.	GLUE
11 FRI Game night. They choose the game and teach it.	GLUE	23 WED Write a short Christmas story and read it out.	GLUE
12 SAT Make a set of bookmarks as gifts, one for each family member.	GLUE	24 THU Help set up for tomorrow, and make something for a younger kid to find in the morning.	GLUE



Make Your Own

Write your own ideas on the blank cards and strips

DAY _____

DAY _____

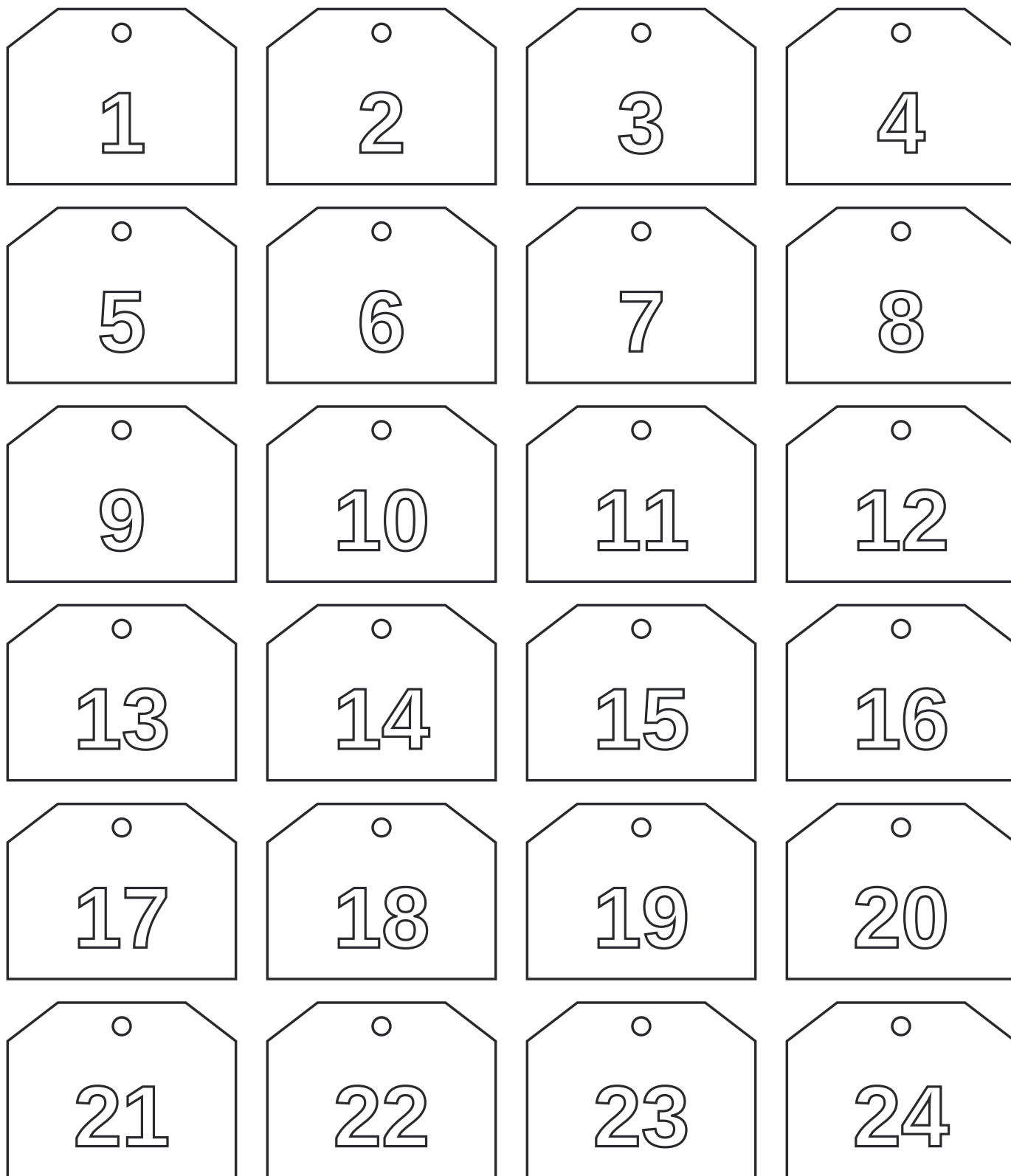
DAY _____

DAY _____



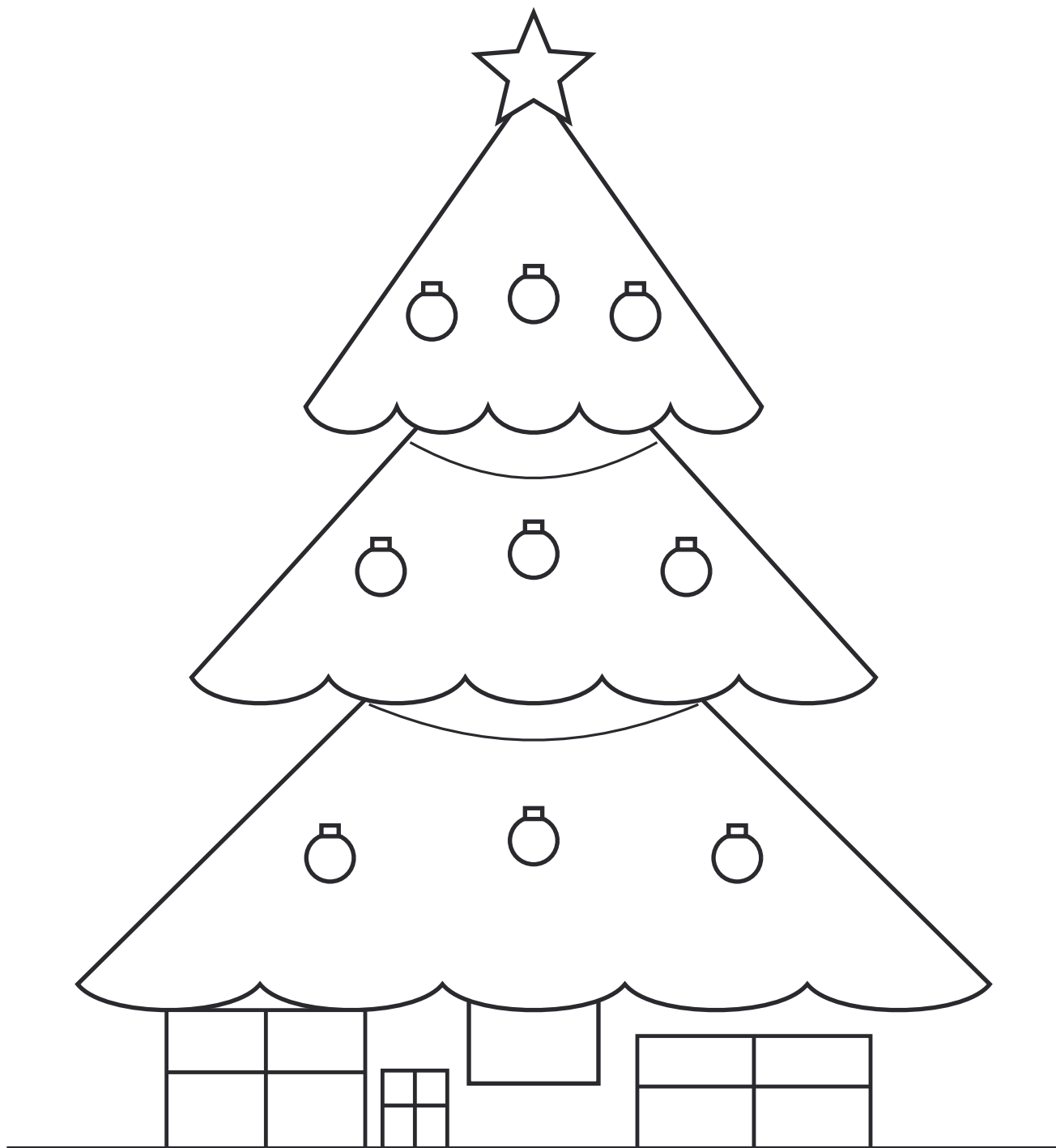
Number Tags 1 to 24

Color, cut out and tie onto bags, envelopes or pegs



Christmas Tree Coloring Page

Color the tree, then draw a present for someone you love



My present is for: _____ It's a: _____



Christmas Word Search

Find all 12 words. They go across, down or diagonally

G	B	C	N	L	I	G	H	T	S	N	A
C	O	O	K	I	E	C	H	C	S	O	D
N	B	T	W	C	T	D	H	V	V	R	V
T	B	R	T	R	A	S	T	A	R	N	E
G	T	E	M	R	E	N	B	H	B	A	N
I	S	E	E	J	E	A	D	N	E	M	T
F	S	D	T	J	S	I	T	L	W	E	F
T	D	S	A	N	T	A	N	H	E	N	T
T	V	G	L	D	S	Y	C	D	T	T	B
U	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	E	G	P
W	S	N	K	O	T	O	L	J	H	E	F
Y	H	C	T	J	R	P	K	O	J	U	R

☐ ADVENT

☐ GIFT

☐ REINDEER

☐ STOCKING

☐ CANDLE

☐ LIGHTS

☐ SANTA

☐ TREE

☐ COOKIE

☐ ORNAMENT

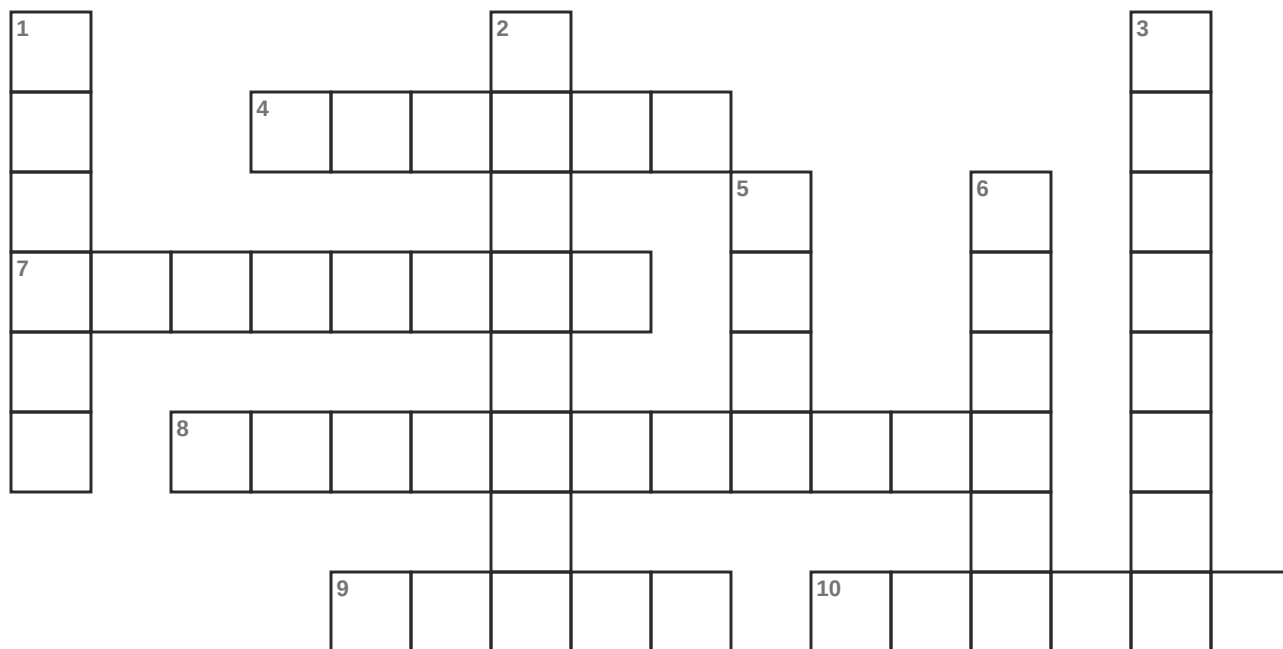
☐ STAR

☐ WREATH



Christmas Crossword

Read the clues and fill in the boxes



Across

- 4. The countdown season before Christmas (6)
- 7. Hung up by the fireplace or bed for small presents (8)
- 8. A spiced cookie, often made into a house (11)
- 9. A Christmas song (5)
- 10. A ring of leaves you hang on a door (6)

Down

- 1. Shiny strands draped over the branches (6)
- 2. They pull Santa's sleigh (8)
- 3. A decoration you hang on the tree (8)
- 5. Often sits at the very top of the tree (4)
- 6. It has a wick and a flame (6)

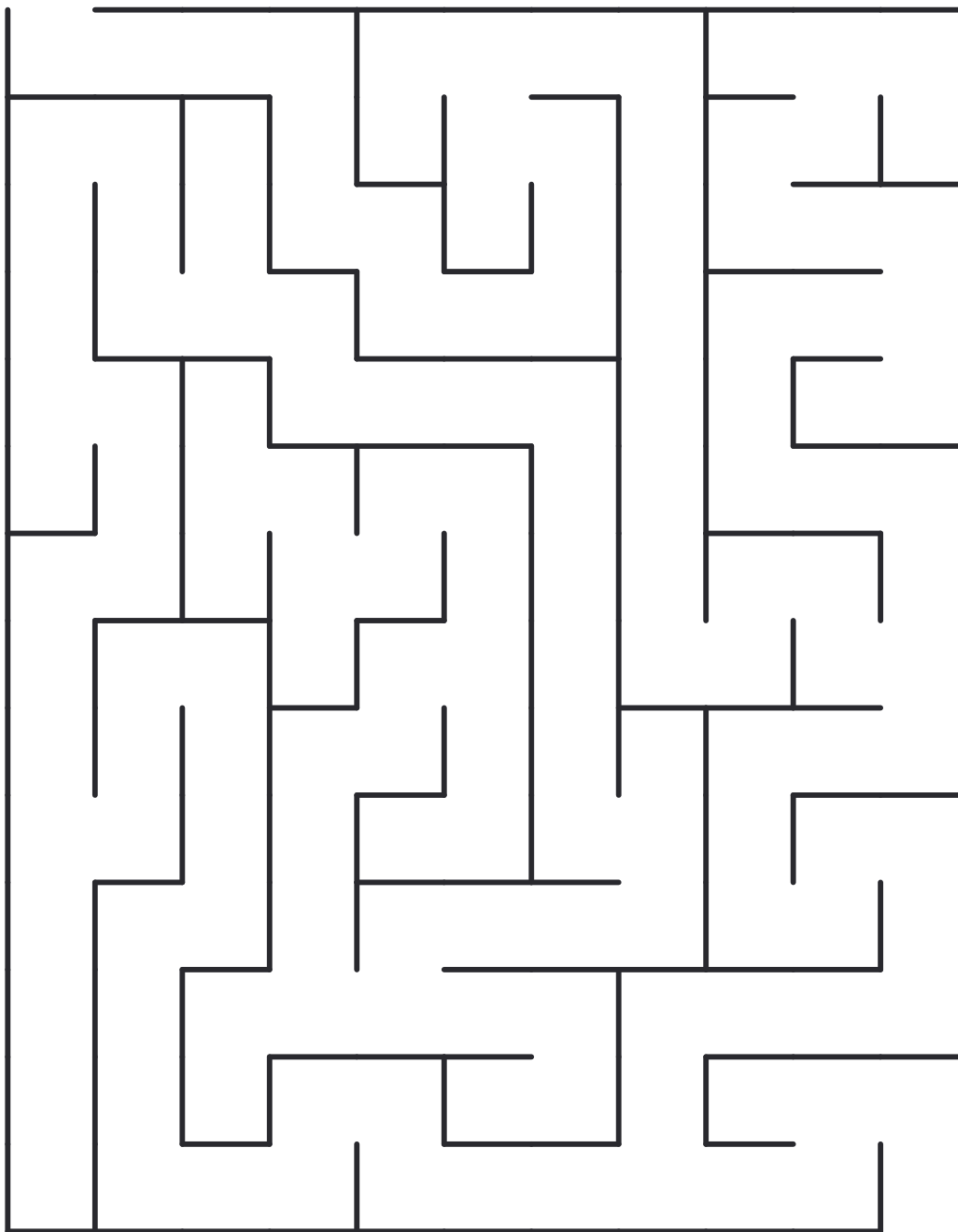


Reindeer Maze

Help the reindeer find the way to the presents



START



FINISH



Answer Keys

For grown-ups. No peeking

Word search



Crossword



Maze

