

housebeautiful

DECEMBER 2002

Deck
the
Halls

Decorating
with all the
Trimmings

Table Settings
with a Sense
of Place

Gifts for the
Hard to Please

Entertaining
for the Holidays

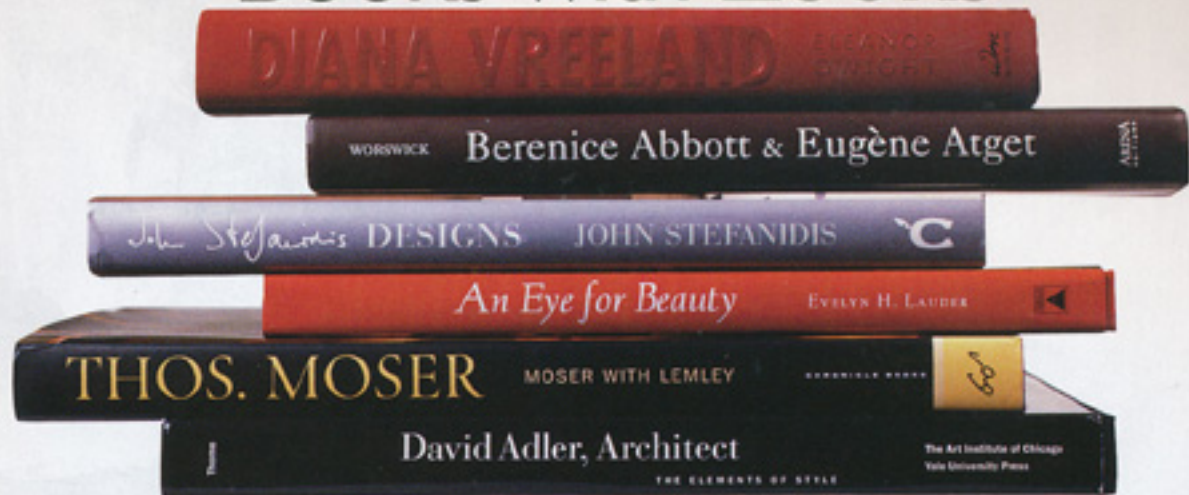
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Books with Looks



From soups to stone houses, decorative arts to divas, there's something for everyone on your list this holiday season

Entertaining Diversions

• Preston Bailey knows how to throw a party. When the event planner was asked to design the backdrop for Melissa Rivers's wedding, he transformed a chandeliered space into a starlit, snow-covered forest straight out of *Dr. Zhivago*. For his tips on how to stage your own fabulous fêtes, check out **Preston Bailey's Design for Entertaining** (Bulfinch, \$45). • Score some stylistic points at your holiday get-togethers with **Cocktail Parties with a Twist** (Stewart, Tabori &

Chang, \$30), in which authors Alexandra and Eliot Angle (principals in Los Angeles-based catering and design company Aqua Vitae) serve up cassis cocktails and pork-and-veal pâté instead of eggnog and cheese logs. • To keep frigid winter chills at bay, crack open Lois Anne Rother's **The Soups of France** (Chronicle, \$50) for warm, fortifying concoctions like cabbage and Roquefort soup from Auvergne or fisherman's



soup from Breton. • In **Jeremiah Tower Cooks** (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, \$35), the two-time James Beard Award winner and father of California cuisine tackles everything from culinary language—he prefers cream to *crème*, blue to *bleu*—to the proper way to serve foie gras (never hot) to recipes ranging from oyster soup with caviar to fried green tomatoes. Printed on extra-thick paper, it will withstand even the messiest of chefs.

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