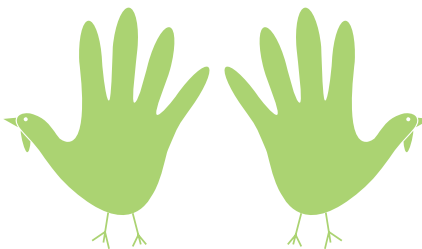


follow Des all month long on  
instagram ([@whatsinseasonwithdes](#))  
& twitter ([@wiswithdes](#)) for Thanksgiving  
prep tips & photos.



You can even tweet at her  
([@wiswithdes](#)) for help with  
food-emergencies!

## what's in season with des thanksgiving checklist

### planning your menu

#### did you...

- compile your recipes?  
(appetizers, main dishes, sides, desserts)
- read your recipes?
- find out which dishes require prep/to be made ahead?
  - defrosting your turkey** (5 days ahead)
  - brining your turkey** (12 hours ahead, or longer)
  - turkey/vegetable stock for gravy** (1 day ahead, or longer)
  - toasted/stale bread for stuffing** (1 day ahead, or longer)
  - cheesecakes/custards** (12 hours ahead, or longer)
  - others** (list here)
- find out which dishes would be fine if made ahead?
  - cranberry sauce** (2 days ahead)
  - cakes/brownies/pies** (1 day ahead)
  - pie dough** (1 day ahead, or longer)
  - others** (list here)
- reserve your turkey?  
(many stores, butchers & farms accept/request reservations)
- make a grocery list?
- make space in your fridge for the groceries?
- make a cooking schedule?

**Sunday-Tuesday:**

**Wednesday:**

**Thursday (list these by the hour):**

### organizing your home

#### did you...

- organize your cookware?
  - roasting pan big enough for your turkey**
  - meat thermometer**
  - baking pans/dishes**
  - others** (list here)
- organize your serveware?
  - carving knife**
  - serving platters/utensils**
  - silverware**
  - others** (list here)
- clean your house?
- pick music for your play list?

### taking care of yourself

#### did you...

- organize your OTHER meals?
  - Wednesday night dinner** (list here)
  - Thursday morning breakfast** (list here)

### last-minute chores

#### did you...

- pick up ice?
- set the table?
- wash dishes before guests arrive?
- remember to breathe?

**now go enjoy Thanksgiving!**