

Rocky home front

Décor: Expert tips on stringing lights ▶ 4

“Turkey platters can be great conversation pieces. They’re something wonderful you keep in the family . . .”



bird nests

Taste might trump all, but these platters will make the turkey look extra good

By Karen Mitchell
SPECIAL TO THE ROCKY

Every bird needs a home and a Thanksgiving turkey is no exception. Whether it's a traditional platter, a tray with a lip or a bamboo board, the golden turkey should always be presented with panache.

“The turkey is the star, and the trick is to have the platter complement the turkey,” Food Network design director Wendy Jane Waxman said.

One thought, Waxman said, is to settle the bird on a large serving tray, modern or vintage, with a lip to contain the juices.

“The big square or rectangular chargers are ultra modern, especially when they're very colorful,” she said. “Not everyone serves a big turkey. If you're serving just a small turkey or a breast you can use a brightly colored plate; the meat will look browned on it.”

Waxman's favorites include white ceramic platters, some with a silver or gold band, colorful Italian platters and sustainable bamboo wood cutting boards with a juice well.

“Turkey platters can be great conversation pieces,” she said. “They're something wonderful you keep in the family. They become pieces of art and can be hung on the wall.”



PHOTOS BY ELLEN JASKOL/ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS

The platters:

■ **A. Harvest Leaf Platter:** From Fitz & Floyd, a hand-painted glazed clay oval platter with an embossed design of leaves, berries, acorns and wheat in a warm palette of brown, tan and cinnamon. Available at Dillard's and online at dillards.com. \$55

■ **B. Turkey Serveware:** A proud turkey surrounded by a leafy border decorates this white porcelain platter and dinner plates from Pillivuyt, France. Available at Williams-Sonoma stores and at williams-sonoma.com. Platter \$148. Set of four plates \$73

■ **C. Harvest Borders Platter:** Martha Stewart's imprinted turkey platter in all-white motif. Available at Macy's. \$17.40

■ **D. Vietri Francesca Blu Oval Platter:** Scrolling blue lines on antique gold as only the Italians can do it. Available at HW Home and hwhome.com. \$185

■ **E. Persimmon Platter:** Large oval platter in cream festooned with persimmons to suit the season. Available at Pottery Barn, Flatiron Crossing. \$59