

All I Want for the Holidays is... My Sanity!

3 Tips for Mental Wellness During the Holidays

1. Your Emotions are Okay, Whatever they are

It's ok if your holidays are not happy – or if they are a mixed emotional bag.



- Holidays bring additional stressors (financial, planning, interpersonal) that can be hard to manage. For those living with grief, loneliness, illness, or mental health issues, the holidays can be especially complicated.
- Being unhappy during the holidays does not mean that you are doing something wrong or that anything is wrong with you. You may just be noticing the realistic challenges that the holidays bring.
- If you find yourself in a mental health crisis or are experiencing thoughts of suicide, reach out for help: friends, family, and/or call or text 988 (Suicide & Crisis Hotline).

2. Set All Your "Budgets" and Stick to Them

We all have limited time, money, and emotional resources. Going into "debt" in any of these areas leads to more stress and problems.

- Remember that quality is usually more important than quantity. This applies to gifts and time spent with others.
- Prioritize the most important activities and let go of the other stuff during the busy times.
- Remember to schedule meaningful-to-you activities and self-care time (e.g. sleep, exercise, hobbies, connecting with others); this gives you more resources to "spend."



3. Consider Random Acts of Kindness

They're a "twofer" (2 for 1). They make others AND ourselves feel good.



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