Family Advent Calendar 2026

24 doors · color in a door each day

1 TUE · DEC 1

Make a paper chain with one link for each day until Christmas

2 WED · DEC 2

Read a winter or Christmas story together by lamplight

3 THU · DEC 3

Write and decorate a wish list or a letter to Santa

4 FRI · DEC 4

Movie night with homemade popcorn

5 SAT · DEC 5

Bake and decorate simple cookies

6 SUN · DEC 6

Winter walk with a scavenger hunt: a pinecone, something red, a star, a decorated window

7 MON · DEC 7

Cut paper snowflakes and hang them in the window

8 TUE · DEC 8

Living-room dance party where everyone picks one song

9 WED · DEC 9

Make homemade Christmas cards for grandparents or relatives

10 THU · DEC 10

Hot cocoa and a board game

11 FRI · DEC 11

Build a blanket fort and read in it with flashlights

12 SAT · DEC 12

Walk or drive around to look at Christmas lights

13 SUN · DEC 13

Make salt-dough ornaments (flour, salt and water) and paint them once they are dry

14 MON · DEC 14

Drawing contest where everyone draws the same Christmas thing

15 TUE · DEC 15

Make a pinecone bird feeder and hang it outside

16 WED · DEC 16

Christmas charades or a "hum the carol" guessing game

17 THU · DEC 17

Print your own wrapping paper with potato stamps on brown paper

18 FRI · DEC 18

Breakfast for dinner

19 SAT · DEC 19

Visit the library for holiday books, or go to a free local Christmas event

20 SUN · DEC 20

Build a gingerbread house from graham crackers and icing

21 MON · DEC 21

Shortest-day evening: lights off, candles or lanterns, and stories

22 TUE · DEC 22

Wrap presents together

23 WED · DEC 23

Look through this year's family photos and pick a favorite memory each

24 THU · DEC 24

Christmas Eve: pajamas, one last story and cookies for Santa