



Eric Baker
Estill County Extension
Agent for Agriculture
& Natural Resources

Cut Christmas Trees

longer it will retain its needles. The freshest trees are locally grown.

In order to keep your cut Christmas tree looking good longer and decrease needle drop, consider the following tips. After you get the tree home, remove another 1 or 2 inches of the cut end of the stem to allow the sap to flow. Place the tree in a bucket of warm water (the heat will help get the sap flowing and open the water conducting channels in the wood) until you're ready to move it into the house. Select a spot in the home away from any heat sources - stoves, registers, fireplaces, etc. Limit the hours that electric lights are lit on the tree because each light is a hot spot on the needles.



When purchasing a cut Christmas tree, remember the following points:

- 1) a fresh tree is green, although some growers may spray dyes on their trees to tint them and reduce water loss,
- 2) fresh needles are hard to pull from branches,
- 3) when bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break,
- 4) the trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and
- 5) when the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that tree is too dry. The fresher the tree, the

Keep the cut tree watered. Use the following solution: 1 cup of corn syrup and 3 tablespoons of liquid bleach added to 1 gallon of water (The bleach tends to thin out the sticky pitch from the tree's water conducting channels and allows wa-

ter to get into the tree. The corn syrup provides the tree with a source of simple carbohydrates for food.) Continue adding the solution to the reservoir as long as the tree remains in the house.

Looking for local trees? A listing of Kentucky

Christmas tree farms is at the website: kychristmastreefarms.com

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Wishing Well®

7 3 7 3 8 3 7 4 8 4 8 7 3
Y B O E H C U L O O M F O
8 5 8 3 4 6 3 6 4 2 4 7 3
E D L N O A T S K F T O E
4 6 3 6 4 5 4 8 7 2 6 2 6
O P N L T E H I R A E M N
5 8 7 4 2 6 7 6 5 4 5 7 5
V F M E I D B I E F L O O
7 8 7 6 5 3 8 5 6 3 8 5 4
N E D D P T A T I E L A U
3 2 5 2 4 8 4 6 2 5 4 6 4
D L L Y T T U D V E R E E
8 6 5 2 5 8 2 5 8 2 8 2 2
E A N I T R S S E I D T S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: R equals E

XS V WRVY NRYR VQQLNRU PL
KYRKVYR JLSSRR LY PRV, JLGQU
ALG PMRH OVA MR NVO WYGXH?

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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

PLHINX HJXVCPB BANJZI HNW
VC MCHCPLWCI RGWA L
XCWANI DANBCH LW PLHINX.
— INHLZI UHJWA

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Giving trees These companies and others offer young trees and seedlings packaged and delivered as gifts:

- www.eternitree.com
- www.treegivers.com
- www.seedsolife.com
- www.arborday.org
- www.greenworldproject.net
- www.treesforachange.com
- www.nextgenmemorials.com
- thetreesremember.com

— Brenda Weaver

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Greatest Birding Moment
As the year comes to a close, I love to reflect on my greatest birding moment. This year it was the male painted bunting that came to my yard for an afternoon. He was more beautiful than any picture I've seen. I simply love birding. It's great fun!

E-mail: birdingbits@cflr.com
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Puzzle Answers

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Puzzles4Kids

Answer

CHOSEN H CONES
PRAISE A SPIRE
FLIERS L FIRES
OODLES O DOLES

TAMEST T TEAMS
SHIFTS H FISTS
BARGES E GRABS
ALERTS R STALE
ERASED E DEARS

FEAR KNIGHT

answer

T Y P O
H E
R O P I A T E
I N M R
C R Y P O
T E A A P
C A C M E
M E A N T
Y

Even Exchange
answers

- Model, Motel
- Spiral, Spinal
- Rentor, Render
- Grime, Grippe
- Local, Loyal
- Daddy, Dandy
- France, Prance
- Crowd, Crown
- Torch, Touch
- Octane, Octave

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

B	A	G	S	E	R	E	T	H	U	D
L	U	R	E	M	I	X	R	I	F	E
A	R	I	A	B	B	C	E	B	O	N
B	A	T	T	L	E	L	O	V	E	
T	E	R	R	A	F	I	R	M	A	
W	H	O	L	E	H	I	T	N	I	L
H	I	V	E	J	I	M	A	I	N	T
E	K	E	J	A	N	I	M	A	G	O
T	E	R	R	A	C	O	T	T	A	
H	A	W	K	R	A	Z	O	R	S	
A	B	E	L	P	O	I	I	D	O	L
P	E	A	L	O	W	L	N	O	M	E
E	D	D	Y	T	E	L	G	R	O	W

Letter Box

Solution

I	F	E	R	U	P	D	O	W	
U	O	D	E	W	F	P	I	R	
W	P	R	I	O	D	E	U	F	
R	D	F	O	P	U	W	E	I	
E	U	P	W	F	I	O	R	D	
O	W	I	D	E	R	F	P	U	
D	E	U	F	I	O	R	W	P	
P	R	O	U	D	W	I	F	E	
F	I	W	P	R	E	U	I	D	O

Answer

3	4	7	9	6	2	5	8	1
5	6	2	4	1	8	3	9	7
9	1	8	7	3	5	6	4	2
6	2	5	1	8	9	4	7	3
1	7	9	2	4	3	8	6	5
4	8	3	5	7	6	1	2	9
2	9	6	3	5	4	7	1	8
8	5	1	6	9	7	2	3	4
7	3	4	8	2	1	9	5	6

Bible Trivia Answers

ANSWERS: (1) Neither; (2) Shepherds; (3) No mention of animals; (4) Jerusalem (Mat 2:1-2); (5) Silver; (6) Isaiah

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

Under the Mistletoe

from Eric Baker, Estill Extension



Stickeler's Answer
Stickelers Answer
The word is disproportionately.
Stickeler's Puzzle on Page 7

Puzzle Answers

BIBLE WORD SEARCH
Answers

H	R	A	W	S	E	Q	D	I	
R	G	Q	L	D	N	G	H	C	M
E	F	U	R	L	B	N	L	T	O
V	D	O	O	U	Q	I	Y	M	U
E	L	K	J	R	O	S	N	M	T
R	W	G	E	G	H	Y	J	N	H
O	I	R	H	K	Y	T	E	W	E
F	L	E	T	L	A	S	W	O	V
M	L	A	I	S	J	M	U	N	O
C	Q	T	W	F	Y	H	X	K	L

Cryptoquip
You then say he was bruin?
prepare coffee or tea, could
If a bear were allowed to
answer
Cryptoquip

Random numbers should not
be generated with a
method chosen at random.
— Donald Knuth
answer
Cryptoquote

Bible Word Search on Page 7