

How to Decorate Your Christmas Tree, Russian Style

December 20, 2017



Vladimir Smirnov / TASS

You say Christmas tree, Russians say New Year's Tree.

But that is not the only thing that sets aside a Russian tree from its foreign counterparts. The holiday season is the perfect occasion to show your feathers and Russians are not ones to hold back.

Bizarre, quirky and cute, here's how to decorate your tree, Russian style.

Can you imagine Russia without its colorful Church domes?

Embed:

These are my favourite Christmas decorations, bought at the (now closed) souvenir market near the Church on Spilt Blood in St Petersburg on my first [@ipswichschool #Russia](#) trip in 2008. Beautiful! [#Рождество pic.twitter.com/q6dDgonBcg](#)

— Ipswich Sch Russian (@IpswichRussian) [December 10, 2017](#)

On the dinner table, on your tree — deck the hall with pickles ...

Embed:

[#Gherkin](#) Christmas ornament - sold in [#Russia](#), made in [#Poland](#) ☒ [#moscow](#) [#Christmas](#) [#azbukavkusa](#) [#baubles](#) [#корнишон](#) [#рождество](#) [#россия](#) [#польша](#) [#азбукавка](#) <https://t.co/5jb5Ze40Lf> <pic.twitter.com/3sEhA5vj2a>

— Katrin Scheib (@kscheib) [November 22, 2017](#)

It's a thing!

Nothing says "Season's Greetings" like tanks...

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В Москве продают елочные игрушки с изображением... военной техники. Название набора особенно впечатляет - "Наши традиции". <pic.twitter.com/Ylc2aVNXUW>

— DW (на русском) (@dw_russian) [November 23, 2017](#)

...or a military version of The Nutcracker.

Embed:

Spotted in a Moscow store: a very polite nutcracker. <pic.twitter.com/uh2tpDoI8Z>

— Eva Hartog (@EvaHartog) [November 23, 2017](#)

Who says you can't mix your favorite cartoon characters and Christmas? Here's Crocodile Gena ...

... and his friend Cheburashka (cheat sheet [here](#).)

If you're not into angels or other religious decorations, do it like the Soviets did, and put everyday objects in the spotlight.

Or take a trip down memory lane ...

... and forget about current troubles for a while.

Embed:

USSR Hockey player Christmas ornaments on sale in Moscow, day after [#IOC](#) decision pic.twitter.com/PpiBViR5n5

— Amie Ferris-Rotman (@Amie_FR) [December 6, 2017](#)

And don't be afraid of cliches!

Go high brow ...

... or just bring out the vodka.

Embed:

THIS is [#Christmas](#). [#xmas](#) [#vinyl](#) [#vinylcollection](#) [#record](#) [#LP](#) [#listentothis](#) [#VinylJunkie](#) [#nowplaying](#) [#nowspinning](#) [#music](#) [#ballet](#) [#russia](#) [#tchaikovsky](#) <https://t.co/KMGqC67Oid> pic.twitter.com/U8bomE555C

— Damon Sedgwick (@vinylLOVER70) [December 11, 2017](#)

Which we suspect is what happened here ... happy holidays!

Embed:

That Christmas feel pic.twitter.com/DbOPcEIIW8

— English Russia (@EnglishRussia1) [December 7, 2017](#)

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<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2017/12/20/christmas-decorations-russian-style-a59972>