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Hogmanay is how the Scots ring in the New Year. Here are a few ideas on how to create your own Hogmanay fun!

# **Celebrate Hogmanay In Your Home**

### Get Cleaning!

It's considered bad luck to start off the new year with a dirty house so first things first, get to cleaning!

## Light Candles!

Fire is an important part of the Hogmanay celebration as it symbolizes burning away the past and lighting the way to the future so be sure to light candles throughout the house and in the fireplace if you have one. As an alternative, try using LED candles.



### Good Luck Charms!

Wish this house and everyone in it good luck in the new year by hanging protective charms above each of the doorways to ward off evil spirits. Most popular is the Rowan and Red Thread charm.



## Welcome The New Year!

At the stroke of midnight open your front and back doors to symbolize letting out the old year and welcoming in the new year. This is also the time when you should be prepared to start receiving guests.



### Kick Off Your Celebration

After midnight, guests will begin to arrive at your celebration and the first person to enter your home is called the "first footer." The "first footer" is said to influence your luck for the next twelve months.

In Scottish tradition, it is important to choose your "first-footer" carefully. A tall, dark haired man bearing the gift of coal to place in the host's fire is said to bring the best luck. Other Scottish traditions include singing "Auld Lang Syne", eating traditional treats such as Bannocks or Black Buns and sharing well wishes with everyone in the house.

"Auld Lang Syne" is a traditional poem reinterpreted by Scottish poet Robert Burns, which was later set to music. LYRICS ON PAGE 2 >>



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# "Auld Lang Syne" Lyrics

Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And never brought to min'? Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And days o'lang syne? **CHORUS** 

We twa hae run about the braes, And pou't the gowans fine; But we've wander'd mony a weary foot, Sin "Auld Lang Syne". **CHORUS** 

We twa hae paidl'd i' the burn, Frae mornin sun till dine ; But seas between us braid hae roar'd, Sin "Auld Lang Syne". **CHORUS** 

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere! And gie's a hand o' thine! And we'll tak a right guid willie-waught, For "Auld Lang Syne".

#### **CHORUS**

And surely ye'll be your pint-stoup! And surely I'll be mine! And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet, For "Auld Lang Syne".

CHORUS: For "Auld Lang Syne", my dear, For "Auld Lang Syne". We'll take a cup o' kindness yet, For "Auld Lang Syne".



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