

December 2020

the Crossing Board



Free
holiday
postcard
included!

Quiz:

Which
Animal
Crossing
season
are you?

Follow
our island
**photo
guide**

Make your own
window display
just like Nook's Cranny



Learn about
your yearly
horoscope
with Celeste

Predict your
**turnip
prices**

Check out our first
YouTuber interview with
Liss the Lass

Get cosy with our
**hot chocolate
snowboys** recipe



Don't forget to visit our website TheCrossingBoard.com



Welcome Villagers!

To our new readers, thank you for joining us. And to our existing friends, it's good to have you back.

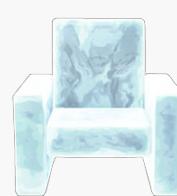
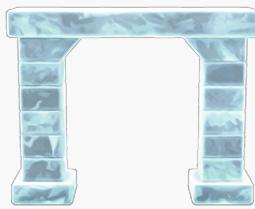
We're spoiling you as always with a whole load of goodies! You've probably already noticed our very own holiday postcard included with this issue. Send it to someone close to your heart and spread the cheer. Even if they don't play Animal Crossing, who could resist Roald's adorable face?

But that's not the only gift you'll be able to give this December; we've also included a guide to making a DIY winter window display just like the one in Nook's Cranny! Fancy something to munch on as well? No problem, our Yule Log Recipe will do the trick. They're both perfect, heartfelt crafts... but don't forget to make some for yourself!

If you're finding yourself short on bells after a month of generosity, we're letting you in on our secrets to cracking the stalk market. You'll have overflowing pockets in no time! We're also diving further into the Animal Crossing community with our Reader's Bulletin and an interview with the one and only, Liss the Lass!

So grab a mug of your favourite hot drink (or maybe even a snowboy hot chocolate) and enjoy the magazine.

DECEMBER GIVEAWAY



To be in for a chance to win a full frozen set, all you need to do is post a photo of your magazine and let us know which article was your favourite before the 25th of December. Make sure you tag us: @crossingboard on Twitter and @thecrossingboard on Instagram.

Good luck!

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Hey Reader,

Wow, congratulations! December is here and you know what that means? It means you made it to the end of the year. Whether you're skipping into summer or walking into a winter wonderland, this year hasn't been easy for any of us. No matter what has happened, you made it and we're so proud of you! Thanks to your patience with everything 2020 has thrown your way, you get to enjoy another month of Animal Crossing with us. And if that isn't something to celebrate, we don't know what is.

Thanks to a winter update, there's so much to look forward to this December! Prepare to Jingle all the way to Toy Day this month with presents, lights, and festive cheer. Jingle will arrive on the 24th with his sack full of gifts for the whole town. If the event is like previous games, Jingle will ask for your help in matching each item to the correct villager, so be sure to log in and enjoy the fun!

If you're in the Northern Hemisphere, you'll welcome the festivities with winter magic this month as forecasts call for blankets of snow! With the cold weather comes new adventures as snowballs will begin appearing on your island and snowflakes flutter down from the sky. Keep your nets at the ready because catching snowflakes will lead to some great furniture recipes. You can also try stacking snowballs on top of each other to see what unusual friends you might make. And as your cedar trees twinkle, remember to shake them to obtain some ornaments. Crafting materials are abundant this month, so be sure to shoot down balloons and check messages in bottles for all sorts of seasonal furniture.

Southern Hemisphere islands will feel like paradise this month as summer shells line the shores and warm weather items appear in Nook's Cranny. But be careful when diving as some big finned friends will be coming close to the shore to say hello.

No matter where you are this month, we hope you're enjoying the array of new features added in the winter update. Our favourite activities this month have been yoga with our villagers followed by a relaxing sit by the river. What reactions are you hoping that Nintendo will add in future updates? We would love the ability to hug our villagers. Social distancing doesn't have to exist on our virtual island paradise!

Recap



Speaking of the next update - Nintendo have announced that it will be coming in January and will feature the return of Pavé, the Festivale dancer extraordinaire. In previous games, Pavé arrived to samba and gyrate the winter chill away (their words not ours). Confetti and feathers would rain from the sky and it would be your job to catch his feathers with your net and return them in exchange for a rare furniture item. Perhaps this means another furniture set will be added to New Horizons like all of the other events so far. As Festivale is all about gyrating and moving your body like a wet fish (again, his words not ours) maybe we could also see the introduction of dancing reactions!

Before we experience the wonders of Festivale however, we can't forget the countdown to the New Year. On the 31st, there will be a grand countdown event in the plaza. Isabelle and Tom Nook will stand with the giant countdown clock in some very dashing outfits. Your whole town will gather just before midnight to see the final moments of 2020 and celebrate the beginning of the New Year, so be sure to log on and see the event for yourself.

Although 2020 has definitely had it's challenges, it was also the year that brought us Animal Crossing and for that we are grateful. After the game's release, many of us flocked to the online community where we made friends and had virtual fun in a time where physical fun wasn't possible. Whether it was watching people stream, going to each other's islands, or sharing inspiration; Animal Crossing definitely gave us all something to smile about! And without it, we wouldn't have started The Crossing Board. So, whether you're a new reader or you've been with us since our first issue in July - thank you for all of your support.

See you in the New Year!

Lots of love,

The Crossing Board.



Melting Snowboy Hot Chocolate

Prep time: 20min (including chilling) | **Serves:** 1

Snowflakes are falling all around us and magical friends are appearing in unlikely places. It must be winter! And what better way to enjoy the season than warming up with a nice hot chocolate. These Snowboys are a great way to get your hands messy and spend time with family members of all ages. They're also perfect as gifts for loved ones! Just ensure they don't stay out of the fridge for too long as the thin parts of the chocolate can begin to melt at room temperature. Enjoy!

Ingredients

100g white chocolate
2 marshmallows
20g dark chocolate
20g orange candy melts
1 cup of milk



Creating Your Snowboy:

1. The first step is to figure out which chocolate you would like to use as the main flavour for your drink. To get the iconic Snowboy look, white chocolate works best. However, feel free to use orange, mint, milk, or dark chocolate too. Just ensure that your chocolate of choice is smooth as drinking chunks will offer a... Unique texture!
2. Once you have chosen your chocolate, break it into smaller pieces and place in a microwave-safe bowl. Gently melt the chocolate by heating it in the microwave for roughly 15 seconds at a time. Stir thoroughly before placing into the microwave again. When only a few lumps remain, remove and stir until mixture is completely smooth. Be sure to take the chocolate out sooner rather than later as the mixture will burn quickly.
3. While your chocolate is still warm, it's time to begin assembling! On a baking tray lined with a silicone mat or foil, place two marshmallows on top of each other. Using a teaspoon, gently spoon your melted chocolate on top of your stacked marshmallows. The chocolate should drip down the side of your tower and eventually begin to pool around the bottom creating the illusion that the marshmallow



tower is melting. Ensure that the whole tower is coated and that you haven't missed any patches to get the best look.

4. Once your Snowboy is completely coated, gently place your baking tray in the fridge. Let cool until the chocolate has mostly set (around 10 minutes). **Top Tip:** To create a top hat, spoon a small amount of melted dark chocolate onto your baking tray. Once removed from the fridge, grab one mini marshmallow and coat in dark chocolate. Place the coated marshmallow on top of the chocolate disk and allow to set before placing on top of your dashing Snowboy!
5. While your Snowboy is chilling out in the fridge, begin melting your dark and orange chocolate in the microwave separately.
6. Remove Snowboy from the fridge and begin decorating. We recommend always looking at a reference picture if you would like to create a true-to-game Snowboy, but feel free to use your imagination and decorate however you wish!
7. Using a small wooden skewer or toothpick, dip into the dark chocolate and paint two large circles on the top marshmallow for the eyes. Work quickly as the coldness of your Snowboy will set the melted chocolate.
8. Using a clean skewer, dip into the orange candy melts and begin creating a triangle for the nose. Then use the dark chocolate skewer to add small dots around the bottom of the nose to form the mouth.
9. Once your Snowboy has come to life, place in the fridge to set. Once fully set, use for a hot chocolate or place in a container and use within one week.

Making The Hot Chocolate:

1. Heat up your milk in the microwave 30 seconds at a time. Stirring thoroughly before placing back in and heating until you start to see steam rising from the milk. Take care not to overheat your milk as it will burn quickly.
2. Find the perfect mug. We recommend a wide-brimmed mug as the Snowboy will sit more comfortably inside.
3. Place your Snowboy at the bottom of the mug and slowly pour your steaming milk on top. Stir thoroughly and watch in delight as your snowboy begins to melt, giving you the gift of a luxurious hot chocolate!
4. Top with extra marshmallows, whipped cream, and cinnamon for the ultimate cozy experience.



To see how we assembled our Snowboys and check out more of our recipes, head over to our TikTok (@thecrossingboard)!



Favourite Colours



Favourite Styles

Active
Simple



Roald

Roald's gifts: Red Snowy Knit Cap, Gold Pilot Shades, Red Letter Jacket

December Villa



Favourite Colours



Favourite Styles

Cute

Skye's gifts: Silver Festive Dress, Giant White Ribbon, White Pom-Pom Sweater

Skye

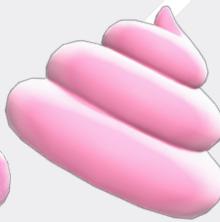


Favourite Colours



Favourite Styles

Elegant
Cute



Flurry

Flurry's gifts: Pink Faux Shearling Coat, Pink Soft Serve Hat, Hibiscus Hair Pin

Anger Gift Guide



Favourite Colors



Favourite Styles

Simple



Erik's gifts: Red Argyle Vest, Winter-Solstice Sweater, Brown Tweed Cap

Erik

Winter Season Guide



Winter is coming to our Northern Hemisphere islands and with it brings exciting new DIYs, materials and seasonal items. Check out our comprehensive guide to the winter season in Animal Crossing: New Horizons.

December Event Overview

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Summer Start (SH)	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Festive Season Start	16	17	18	19 Bug Off (SH)
20	21	22	23	24 Toy Day	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 NYE		

All Items in the New Update



How to make the perfect Snowboy

In order to craft the Frozen Set, you'll need Large Snowflakes and the DIY recipes which are both given to you by Snowboys! Only perfect Snowboys will give you these so here's how to make the perfect one every time.

1. Find two snowballs on the ground. One will be for the Snowboy's head and the other will be for the body.
2. Start to roll the snowballs, making sure not to roll them onto sand or paths as this will make them smaller. Rolling them into trees or rocks will destroy them.
3. Make sure the body of the Snowboy is larger than the head. As a guide, the larger snowball should be up to the top of your character's eyes and the smaller snowball should be up to the top of your character's ears when on the ground.
4. Roll the smaller snowball onto your larger snowball to create a snowboy!

Your snowboy will tell you immediately if you've created him perfectly. If not, don't fret, simply quit your game by pressing (-) on your left Joy-Con and make another Snowboy with the two new snowballs that have spawned on your island. Alternatively, just wait until the next day for two new snowballs to spawn.



Frozen Set

Materials needed: Snowflakes, Large Snowflakes, Tree Branches, Star Fragments



L to R: Snowperson Head, Ice Flooring, Frozen Tree, Frozen Pillar, Frozen Counter, Frozen Sculpture, Frozen Arch, Frozen Chair, Three-Tiered Snowperson, Ice Wall, Ice Wand, Frozen Bed, Frozen Treat Set, Frozen Partition, Frozen Table.

Festive Set

Materials needed: Ornaments (Gold, Red, Blue), Iron Nuggets, Clumps of Weeds, Wood, Tree Branches, Clay



L to R: Big Festive Tree, Festive Tree, Illuminated Tree, Ornament Mobile, Tabletop Festive Tree, Jingle Wall, Festive Top Set, Holiday Candle, Illuminated Present, Illuminated Reindeer, Ornament Wreath, Illuminated Snowflakes.

Snowflake Set

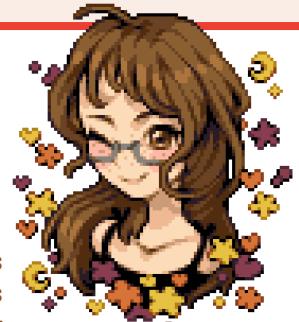
Materials needed: Snowflakes



L to R: Snowflake Pochette, Snowflake Wreath, Snowflake Wall, Iceberg Wall, Iceberg Flooring, Ski Slope Flooring, Ski Slope Wall.

Featured Creator Interview

Liss the Lass



Liss is a content creator who, in the past five months has built an incredible platform with 17.6k subscribers (and counting)! Her passion for video and photography shines through in her content, creating Animal Crossing videos that appeal to anyone and everyone. We were so excited to have the chance to chat with Liss and delve into her creative process!

TCB: Hello! First things first, it really means a lot that you've taken the time to speak with us for the magazine!

Liss: Of course thanks for having me!

TCB: So you've been creating Animal Crossing content on Youtube for five months now. What inspired you to create videos and are there any creators you look up to or find you're inspired by?

L: Five months has really flown by! I was inspired by other content creators such as CrossingLife and TagBackTV's amazing island tour videos. Like many others, I lost my job during the pandemic. Before that I had been working in video and photography, so when I saw the kind of Animal Crossing content people were creating I thought, "I can do that!".

TCB: It's really great to hear that you've taken something that really has affected so many people this year and turned it into a positive thing that not only you, but others can enjoy. So, what have you learnt from creating content?

L: I have learned SO much. I thought I was hot stuff because I had all of these skills I got from film school. But, I have learned more about editing and video composition while making Youtube videos than I had in school! Honestly, I cringe when I watch my old videos now. I'm still in the process of changing and evolving my content.

TCB: Sometimes it is better to learn on the job! Recently you visited a 'murder mystery' island - I visited too after seeing your video. Are these the kinds of islands you like to see; ones that have some kind of story?

L: Rosie Horizon's murder mystery island is a total trip. It's the single most inspiring thing



I've seen and has fueled the idea of creating a visual novel to go along with an island. I love role playing games and want to create an island with quests and story elements.

TCB: Completely agree, there's so much inspiring content out there. On the subject of islands, your island Beep Beep is being erased and, as you've said, your new island is going to be almost like a visual novel. Are there any more hints you can give us? We're excited to see it!

L: Ooh I'm excited too! So my original island Beep Beep has been flattened, and the new theme is going to be [Holiday]core. As soon as the holidays are over, we'll be working on the island that will be paired with our visual novel, which is basically a genre of game that is dialogue and story based. I'm hoping to collaborate with artists and make it into a game that can be played alongside my island, a lot like the murder mystery. However, it will be more quest based and dystopian-cyberpunk themed. This is a huge venture that I'm thrilled to work on!

TCB: Sounds so amazing - we can't wait! So, how would you describe your island design process in two words?

L: Hot mess. ;)

TCB: Relatable. And if you could design any new villager, what would it be?

L: I just really want the Sanrio villagers back. But, if I got to make my own, I'd probably want a whole new breed of villager, like bugs or snakes.

TCB: Definitely agree on the Sanrio villagers coming back, I do miss Marty and Etoile! And finally, is there any advice you would give to people who are considering creating content for Youtube?

L: Try it out and see if you like it! It's a lot of work but so, so rewarding. All I can say is keep trying, and if you're not proud of something, don't post it! People will be able to tell when you're not into what you're making.

TCB: Thank you so much for your time Liss! Where can we all find you online?

L: Find me on Youtube as Liss the Lass and join our wonderful Discord community!

Quick fire questions

Lazy or smug? Lazy, because Punchy is the best villager.

Bear or cub? Cub always.

Cherry blossom or maple leaves? Tough. Maple leaves would probably win this one.

Tom Nook or Isabelle? Tom Nook is O.G.

Bubblegum K.K. or Stale Cupcakes? All I'm saying is if Bubblegum played in the club, it'd probably bring world peace.

How to Decorate Yo

With a new season in Animal Crossing New Horizons comes a new opportunity to spice up your island look. So pack up the pumpkins and put away the mushrooms because here are some ideas to turn your island into a winter wonderland.

Start at home

From December to February (in the Northern Hemisphere) you can use the falling snowflakes to craft super cool DIY's! Create an icy tundra at home using the Iceberg Flooring and Iceberg Wallpaper? By creating a perfect Snowboy, you can also obtain recipes for a Frozen Tree, a Frozen Sculpture and, of course a Three-tiered Snowperson to really immerse yourself in the atmosphere.

Alternatively, turn your home into a festive haven ready for Jingle? Collect the coloured ornaments that fall from the decorated pine trees from 15th December to 6th January to craft some fun DIY recipes. Using the Festive Tree, Illuminated Present, the Holiday Candle, and Holiday Top Set from the Festive season DIY collection you can create a room that's ready and prepared for the 25th December!



Landonia: DA-4043-1369-9071



Landonia: DA-4043-1369-9071

Try combining these items with the Log Furniture Set to create the ultimate Alpine vibe. Add in either the Red-brick Wall or the Jingle Wall and even a Kilim-style Carpet to complete the look. And of course, don't forget to pick up a Snow Globe and a Fireplace from Nook's Cranny to finalise the last details.

Around the Island

So, you've created a perfect holiday home. But what about your island? The Festive Season DIY's also include an Illuminated Reindeer and Illuminated Snowflakes which would look holly jolly outside of your islanders' homes. Don't forget to give either a Snowflake Wreath or Ornament Wreath to your villagers to really complete your island's aesthetic. The Big Festive Tree would also serve as a great centerpiece for your island – whether you use this in your entrance, in your 'town centre' or even using it to create a festive holiday market (using

ur Island for Winter

the Stall DIY and toy related items). If you're in the Northern Hemisphere, the Holly Bush is in bloom until the end of December, so use these to accent the small areas of your island.

Summer Holidays

Are you located in the Southern Hemisphere and wondering how to get into the holiday spirit? Try adding a Tiki Bar using the Stall DIY and some Tiki Torches – the perfect place to whip up some eggnog. Decorate using the Frozen Treat Set and the Shaved Ice Maker to incorporate a little winter into your tropical paradise.

Ice, Ice, Baby!

Whether you're in the height of summer or deep winter, create your own slice of ice with the Snowboy DIY set. Assemble an ice palace and with items such as the Frozen Partition, Frozen Pillar, Frozen Arch and of course the Frozen Table/Chair. You may need a few custom designs for flooring but have a play around and see if you can create something that's fit for an Ice King or Queen!



@wyndencrossing

Communicator Parts – we're sure he won't mind if it's repurposed for the North Pole!

No matter your aesthetic, try to use these ideas as a starting point and add your own personal style. Just have a Slingshot ready, build a perfect Snowboy, and have fun!



Landonia: DA-4043-1369-9071

Jingle's Grotto

Using the Simple Panels and the Stall you can create an outdoor log cabin. Fill it with the Festive Tree, Toy Box, Doll, and Wooden-block Toy. You can even place a DIY Workbench and drop some wood to suggest that Jingle is creating everyone's presents for Toy Day! Remember, you can obtain a South Pole item from Gulliver by finding his



The Heath: DA-4411-6752-1783

Which Animal Crossing Season Are You?

What's the first thing you do in the morning?

- A. Drink a glass of water.
- B. Get out of bed and get breakfast.
- C. Snooze my alarm again and again.
- D. Drink my weight in coffee..

What colour is your phone case?

- A. I can't remember, it's covered in stickers.
- B. Grey and bulky but it's indestructible.
- C. Black - it's simple.
- D. Clear, always.

What's your favourite snack?

- A. A bowl of fruit is the way to go!
- B. Sour candy.
- C. Pretzels.
- D. Anything chocolate!

What's your favourite drink?

- A. Herbal tea.
- B. Water, it's boring but important to stay hydrated!
- C. Anything caffeinated!
- D. Hot chocolate.

What's your favourite outdoor activity?

- A. Enjoying a picnic by the lake.
- B. Hiking up a hill.
- C. Riding my bike around town.
- D. Outdoors? No thank you.

What's your go-to self-care activity?

- A. A long skincare routine.
- B. Getting some fresh air!
- C. Sleeping in.
- D. Movie night!

What song are you loving at the moment?

- A. Put Your Records On by Ritt Momney.
- B. Watermelon Sugar by Harry Styles, always.
- C. Taylor Swift's folklore album!
- D. I'm still loving the same playlist I made 5 years ago!

Pick a Pascal quote that speaks to you the most!

- A. "If you waste your time doing something you enjoy, then you don't waste your time."
- B. "It's more fun to ride a slow bike fast than a fast bike slow."
- C. "Wherever you are, whether you're in a house or your own head, make it comfy."
- D. "Whether you walk or run, you're gonna get there."

Count up your answers and check the next page for your results...

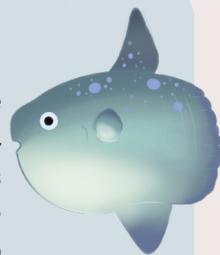
If you chose mostly A's... Cherry blossom season!

This season represents change and turning over a new leaf. You believe there is always room for improvement and you're not afraid to change up your look. With a hidden creative side, friends are always looking to you for a fresh outlook on life. A warm and breezy personality makes you a great person to be around.



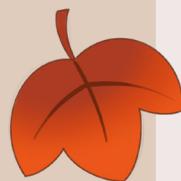
If you chose mostly B's... Big fish season!

The great outdoors are calling! You love being by the sea; the sounds of the waves crashing is calming for you. You're always ready for an adventure, and love doing things that make your heart race. Whether it is riding roller coasters or going out for a hike, you love getting that adrenaline rush! However, you also love taking time off for yourself to recharge and get ready for the next adventure.



If you chose mostly C's... Maple leaf season!

Anything cinnamon-scented or flavoured is the way to go. You love the neutral colours, they make you feel at ease. The chilly breeze makes you feel as good as Gourds do. You love being able to slow down and spend quality time with your loved ones. Reading is one of your favourite past-times, especially reading those hard cover physical books - nothing beats the scent of an old book and turning over its pages!



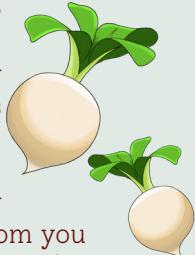
If you chose mostly D's... Snowflake season!

Fuzzy socks and hot chocolate, please! This season is your time to shine. You love feeling cosy and laying underneath warm blankets, especially when it's cold or when it's snowing outside. You love to indulge in sweet snacks and desserts, but a little salty chip doesn't hurt every once in a while. You are a naturally happy person, and you love spreading happiness to cheer people up.



How to Play the

Turnips have featured in every Animal Crossing game to date and they can be a sure-fire way to make a stack of bells. In New Horizons, you can buy them in bundles of 10 every Sunday morning from 5am until 12pm from Daisy Mae. Prices will vary each week but range from 90-110 bells per turnip.



The challenge for the week is to sell your turnips to Timmy and Tommy for more than you paid. They will buy turnips from you on every day except Sunday and prices will change twice a day (at midnight and midday). So, for example, buying 100 turnips at a rate of 100 bells per turnip will set you back 10,000 bells. If you then sell them at Nook's Cranny for 150, you'll receive 15,000 bells (a profit of 5,000). This is what many fans have lovingly named the Stalk Market and conquering it can lead to huge profits!



Disclaimer: make sure you sell before Daisy Mae returns the following Sunday as your turnips will spoil. It's best to sell for a loss than end up with worthless rotten turnips! Time travelling will also result in them spoiling.

It is possible to predict your prices and sell at the highest price. The best way to do this is to keep a note of what prices you're offered both in the AM and the PM of each day. Then you will be able to decide if your prices follow one of four trends. These are **Random (or Fluctuating)**, **Large Spike**, **Decreasing** and **Small Spike**.

Random Trend

In a Random trend, prices will bounce between around 40 – 200 bells. It is difficult to know when the best time to sell will be in this trend but chances are you will at least break even or make a small profit. We would recommend selling when the price hits more than 125.



Prices in a Random trend may look like:

Monday: AM – 107 / PM – 55

Tuesday: AM – 65 / PM – 70

Wednesday: AM – 52 / PM – 46

Thursday: AM – 104 / PM – 82

Friday: AM – 135 / PM – 97

Saturday: AM – 51 / PM – 45

Stalk Market

Large Spike

Prices will begin low and decrease, until there's three consecutive increases. Your best time to sell will be the third increase. If it's anything above 200 then sell sell sell! However, if this price is in the mid-100s then this would be considered a Small Spike.

Prices in a Large Spike trend may look like:

Monday: AM - 89 / PM - 79

Tuesday: AM - 64 / PM - 102

Wednesday: AM - 165 / PM - 320

Thursday: AM - 174 / PM - 101

Friday: AM - 81 / PM - 62

Saturday: AM - 52 / PM - 48

Prices in a Small Spike may look like:



Monday: AM - 91 / PM - 85

Tuesday: AM - 82 / PM - 74

Wednesday: AM - 83 / PM - 102

Thursday: AM - 121 / PM - 195

Friday: AM - 109 / PM - 87

Saturday: AM - 61 / PM - 54

Small Spike

For a Small Spike trend you are once again looking to start with low and decreasing prices. Although you will then see three moderate increases, what you are looking out for here is the next increase, which will be your best time to sell in this trend.



Decreasing Trend

Your prices will start low and just get lower. While your best price will be at the start of the week, unfortunately you won't know if you're on this trend until at least Thursday. We would recommend selling immediately or finding a friend with better prices.

Prices in a Decreasing trend may look like:

Monday: AM - 88 / PM - 80

Tuesday: AM - 76 / PM - 71

Wednesday: AM - 54 / PM - 48

Thursday: AM - 46 / PM - 41

Friday: AM - 38 / PM - 32

Saturday: AM - 31 / PM - 29

Using these methods to your advantage could lead to huge profit margins and help you to pay off a few bridges or loans to Tom Nook. Some players have even reported making millions of bells each week! Whatever you're using your bells for, we hope these tips help.



Island Tour

Artemis

The Holidays are coming and what better way to celebrate than a visit to the jolly island of Artemis? Named after the Greek goddess, this winter wonderland is so full of festive cheer it feels just like the North Pole! With Toy Day fast approaching, let's explore and find out if this island makes the naughty or nice list...

Island Explorer: The first area I noticed was the **Holiday Train Ride** in front of Nook's Cranny. Is this the best way to get around the Island?



Ezzie: Yes, it is the best way to get around! I was in the marching band at high school so that was a large part of my inspiration behind it.

I: I decided to continue the tour on foot. The **Berry Farm** looks amazing with the custom designs on the panels, how did you come up with that?



E: I've seen other creators make vineyards with the Hydrangea Bush, so thought "Berry Farm" when I first saw the Holly Berry Bush.

I: At the top end of the island is the lookout with a small town and spaceship hovering above. What was the inspiration behind this?



E: My inspiration came from a lot of the different perspective builds on Pinterest. On my first island a while back, I did a train station perspective build. I found the lookout type builds to be more challenging.

I: The path from the lookout took me to the **Tree Farm**, are villagers picking out their own? I know I'll be back to pick one myself!

E: Yes you can come back to pick your own tree! The villagers are excited

to have a Tree Farm to pick their own trees to decorate. Fauna is definitely going to have the best decorated tree. She's the most festive deer and the only villager with her own shop at her house; **Fauna's Gift Wrap Shop.**



I: I'll have to come back and visit her too, wrapping presents isn't easy! There was another holiday shop by the Tree Farm, what makes this one different?



E: The **Holiday Shoppe** next to the Tree Farm was the original Shop where business was doing so well, they decided to open more!

I: The feast area is ideal for a well-earned break for both me and the villagers. How do you make sure there's enough food to go around?



E: We start preparing a few days ahead, by gathering ingredients and doing an inventory of our ready stock!

I: I then came across **Santa's Workshop**, has the man himself made an appearance yet?



E: Yes, but only I have seen him, the other villagers haven't seen him yet!

I: They'll have to wait until the big day! There's more shops on the beach and even a **Flea Market**, you must be spoiled for choice picking out gifts this year?



E: Yes, very spoiled! There's so many treasures at the flea market from around the world! Statues and sculptures from Asia, dishes and trinkets from Europe,

Island Tour

the list goes on!

I: I discovered that resident reindeer, Erik, has his house at the end of **Candy Cane Lane**, what was the thinking behind that?



E: I always see him eating lollipops that look like candy canes! Seeing him eat all that candy gave me the idea to make an entire path to his house with endless candy canes!



I: The final stop of my tour was the campsite. With ornament decorating and gingerbread house making workshops, guests won't want to leave will they?



E: Nope, and that was the idea! To make workshop areas so visitors can really get involved and get their hands messy!

I: That's the end of my time here on Artemis. I think it's definitely earned a place on the nice list! Thank you for having me and answering my questions!

E: Aww, I'm glad! My goal was to bring holiday cheer to everyone with the difficult and trying year it has been! Thank you!

Artemis island representative Ezzie (Instagram: @tigelily.acnh) has definitely brought festive cheer to us at The Crossing Board. Let us know what you think and if you'd like your island to be featured, tag us in your pics (Twitter: @crossingboard or Instagram: @thecrossingboard). See you next time for another island adventure!



xoxo
Island Explorer



Island Photo Guide

You've worked hard on your island and put countless hours into the game so it's not surprising that you'd want to show it off to the world! One way to do it is by linking your Twitter or Facebook account to your Nintendo Switch and start posting, easy as that!

The Basics

Play around with the filters, frames, angles, and zoom on your Nook phone to capture your island at its best. Once your camera app is set up, you can even run off screen to take a photo without your island rep in the picture. Get rid of the camera guides by pressing down the right stick to make it easier to see what the final photo will look like. You can even take videos by holding down the screen capture button.

Filters and Editing

Different filters have different effects on how your final photo will turn out. If you don't quite like the filters in the in-game camera app, you can use another editing app like Lightroom. Some well-known creators of ACNH presets include Blathies and miss_acnh on Instagram. One of our team members here at The Crossing Board also has a preset available to download: linktr.ee/acnh_lola.

The Bigger Picture

If you want to take a wide-angle photo, you can place your island rep on a higher area, either a curved bridge or a cliff, preferably on the third level of your island. This way, the camera can zoom out more and you can capture even more of your island at once! Check out these gorgeous shots by @miss_acnh on Instagram!



A Different Perspective

After you've expanded your house to have both side rooms, you can pick up your mailbox and place it anywhere. There will be a small moment between pressing A and when the mail window opens where you will be able to press the screen capture button to take an angled photo of certain parts of your island. Your island rep will be in the left side of the photo, but you can easily crop it out. This can be tricky to get the hang of, so take your mailbox on a walk and have fun practising.

Make Your Own Yule Log

Prep time: 50min | **Cook time:** 15min | **Serves:** 4

Ingredients

For the sponge:

65g / 2 ½ oz flour
4 large eggs at room temperature
40g / 1 ½ oz cocoa powder
120g / 4 oz caster sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
Pinch of salt

For the filling:

250ml / 1 cup heavy cream
2 tbsp icing sugar
20g / 4 tbsp cocoa powder
2 tbsp maple syrup

Decoration:

240ml / 1 cup heavy cream
200g / 7oz dark chocolate

If you downloaded the winter update, you may have woken up to a chocolatey gift in your mailbox. This fan favourite looked too good to not eat, so here's how to recreate it at home! For this recipe you will also need an electric hand mixer. Only the brave should attempt all this whisking by hand.



Making the Roll Cake

1. Lightly grease a 9 x 13 inch cake pan with butter and baking paper. Grease the top of the baking paper generously as the cake will stick easily. Preheat your oven to 180C / 350F.
2. In a medium bowl, sieve and whisk dry ingredients together. Set aside.
3. Separate your eggs and add the yolks to a bowl with your vanilla and ¼ cup / 54g of the caster sugar. Whisk on medium speed until pale yellow.
4. Add egg whites to a separate bowl and, with a clean electric mixer, beat on medium high until soft peaks form. Slowly start adding the rest of your caster sugar a spoonful at a time, mixing well between each addition. Your eggs should be white and glossy.
5. Start combining the two egg mixtures together by folding the egg whites into the yolk mixture a heaped spatula at a time. When only half of the

- whites mixture remains, add all of the yolk mixture to the whites and fold gently.
6. Slowly add the dry ingredients and fold to combine until no clumps remain. Stop as soon as you reach this point as you do not want to overmix.
 7. Pour the batter into your prepared pan and bake for 10 minutes or until springy to the touch and starting to shrink away from the edges. Allow to cool for a couple of minutes.
 8. Prepare a clean dish towel with a generous layer of powdered sugar. Turn the cake onto a wire rack, remove the bottom piece of parchment, and dust with sugar. Flip the cake over once again and place onto the prepared dish towel so that it is facing up the same way it did in the oven. Dust the top of the cake with powdered sugar.
 9. Using the dish towel, gently roll your cake into a log shape (starting at one of the shorter ends). Use light pressure as this cake is very delicate. Now that your cake and dish towel are rolled together, let it sit to cool at room temperature for around 15 minutes. The sponge will remember this shape and the pre-roll will prevent cracking during the final roll.

Making the Filling

1. Once the cake has cooled to room temperature begin to make the filling by whipping the ingredients together until stiff peaks form. **Top tip:** freezing your bowl for 10 minutes beforehand will make whipping much quicker.
2. Spread your filling evenly over the sponge and begin rolling, using the dish towel to help you. Don't worry if the sponge cracks a little, just try your best! Place the cake seam side down and, still wrapped in the towel, place in the fridge to cool completely.

Decorating your Yule Log

1. To make the decoration ganache, heat your cream until steaming. Pour over your chocolate and let sit for five minutes. Stir together and place in the fridge to cool slightly (around 10 minutes) until thickened.
2. Cut a piece of your log around two inches thick. Place the slice on top of your log to create the illusion of another branch, securing with a dollop of ganache.
3. Spread ganache over the rest of the log until evenly coated. Run a butter knife along the length of the log to create the bark texture and dust with icing sugar.
4. Top with holly leaves, sliced strawberries, and blueberries to create the iconic in-game look!

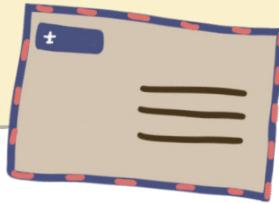
Seeing pictures of your recipes makes our day, so be sure to tag us on Instagram (@thecrossingboard) and Twitter (@crossingboard). We can't wait to see!

Agony Agnes

Dear Agony Agnes

Happy Holidays!! I am so excited for this year's festive period! I love spending time with my friends on the island and sending letters and gifts back to my family.... The only problem is, I don't know what presents to give to them. I have been running to Nook's and The Able Sister's shops every day, but I just find myself looking at all the wonderful items in despair. I want to find the perfect gift for each of my island friends to thank them for everything they have done for me. From giving me medicine when I get stung by bees to helping me pay off our bridge loans, they are the best friends in the whole world! How do I find them the perfect gift?

Yours sincerely,
Santa's not-so-good helper.



Dear Santa's not-so-good helper,

Happy Holidays!

Finding the perfect gift for your island friends is difficult, especially when there are so many choices. I have a few tips when looking for the gift that will make those little faces light up!

First of all, write a list of all the things you know that the gift recipient is interested in. For example, if we were to write a list for our sweet little friend Poppy, we would note down that Poppy loves reading and her favourite hobby is educating herself about the world around her. She likes cute items and her favourite colours are green and yellow.

As well as the things you know your friend likes, what do they need? Have they mentioned that they have been feeling a little stressed recently? If so, a care package gift of candles, bath products and a face mask could make their day. Are they looking to brighten up their room? Maybe a picture frame with your favourite photo of yourself and your friend is just what they are looking for.

One of my favourite things to receive during the holiday period is a homemade food gift! Not only are these unique as you can't buy them from the store but they have a lot more thought and care put into them. I know many of our islanders (Zucker springs immediately to mind) who would be grateful for a lovingly baked item to enjoy. Some of my favourites are holiday cookies, fudge, and gingerbread.

If you still can't think of the perfect gift for those special people in your life, maybe giving them an experience could be the answer. A day out to your favourite cafe (we love visiting Brewster at The Roost), a trip to the Island Museum, or even a day spent at the beach with a picnic. It will not only be a great gift but you can both treasure the memories for years to come.

For the perfect gift for your favourite Animal Crossing Islander, read our Gift Guide on page 7-8.

Yours sincerely,

Agony Agnes



Thanks for writing in, Santa's not-so-good helper! I hoped this helped unstick the jam you're in. If you're in need of some friendly advice, be sure to send us a question at contact@thecrossingboard.com

Make Your Own Winter Window Display With Timmy

It's the most wonderful time of year and as usual, Uncle Tom has asked me and my brother Tommy to decorate Nook's Cranny. We love to decorate our windows for passers by to enjoy and you can do it too using materials you most likely already have at home. But remember, tape can often leave sticky residue or even chip paint, so be sure to ask permission from the window owner first ...first!

Rock, Paper, And Scissors!

One of the easiest ways to add character to your seasonal window is to create your own paper shapes. White paper looks very winter-y, but use whatever you have to cut out some festive characters. These could be trees, snowboys, snowflakes, reindeer, or anything your heart desires! Once you have cut out your shapes, use double-sided tape to stick them to the window. Try to create a scene that tells a story and play around with the arrangements of your shapes.

Walking In A Cotton Wonderland.

To add more magic to your seasonal scene, don't forget to make the most of all the space you have! Using sheets or balls of cotton wool, you can create the effect of fallen snow. It almost looks real! Line the window ledge with strips of double-sided tape and place your cotton on top to create a blanket of pillow-y snow. For even more fun, string a few cotton balls together and hang vertically from the top of the window to give the illusion of falling snow!

Props.

Don't be afraid to think outside of the Christmas decoration box. Spare ornaments and trinkets can be used as props in your seasonal story! Place winter animals on top of your snowy landscape to really convince passersby.

Lights, Camera, Action!

To bring your festive window to life, try shedding a little light on the situation. Placing fairy lights on top of your snow will make your scene glow, even at night time. Try cutting out a few paper houses with windows and lighting up the background behind them for a cosy village aesthetic! And remember to get your camera ready and send us some pictures of your creations at @thecrossingboard on Instagram and @crossingboard on Twitter!

Want to gift your friends something special
on Toy Day, but end up tangled in tape and
ribbon when wrapping presents?
Well fear no more!

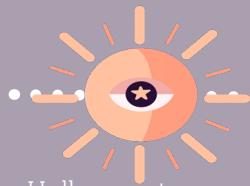
"**IT'S A WRAP**" gift wrapping services will
make your Toy Day tears disappear!

Use the coupon below for a generous
discount, courtesy of Jingle the black-nose
reindeer.



(Only valid until Toy Day. We cannot be held responsible for any unsuccessful gifts)





Celeste's Observatory

Hello my stars and welcome to the observatory. A safe space to observe the night sky and discuss your astrological journey. As the year draws to a close, let us grow from the ashes and ponder our triumphs from this period knowing that reflection can shine hope in even the darkest of corners.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

You miss the sparkle of gathering with friends, the laughter and fun that can be found in being with others for one important reason – having fun as an end to itself. The stars are reassuring you that your spark will attract you to the gathering you seek.



Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 20)

Your usual steady steps have wisely opened up to a more flexible approach. You have chosen to flow with the current of the times; intelligently finding ways to continue your ambitions so that you may care for your loved ones. The stars will reward your flexibility with inspiration and new ideas.



Aquarius (Jan 21 – Feb 18)

Family and friends may be physically absent but your clever wit has taken your intuition to new heights in search of connection. You may have been feeling overwhelmed, but the new year brings new light. Remember to ask for help when you need it.



Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 19)

Although you are not always able to be in the physical presence of those you love, your whispered intentions are transformed into blessings they receive. Though apart, others ‘feel’ you as you do them. The stars are encouraging you to focus on the things and people you love, lest you spread yourself too thin.



Aries (Mar 20 – Apr 19)

“What, is that a mountain?”, you ask, “well I shall climb it and fearlessly butt heads with anyone in the way.” Never one to shy away from confrontation, you are fearless in protecting the pursuit of your desires. The stars will shine positively on your new attitude to get along rather than get ahead.



bservatory



Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

More than other signs, you find the uncertainty of the current global atmosphere to be ungrounding. A tactile sign such as yours craves the experience of community that you can connect with. However, your ability to stay on course comforts those around you and reminds us that we are all in this together.



Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)

Not one to make a fuss unless necessary, you cannot help the fact that you have enjoyed a successful period of self-nurturing this year. Staying in has gifted you with time to retreat and recharge that loving heart of yours. You generously extend this calming energy to others.



Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

You have experienced increased sensitivity to nature and the natural world. Imagine someone walking in a quiet forest, attuned to the sound of every insect and the vivid colours of the trees. This has been solitude's gift to you this year. You will find comfort in using your sensitivity to help those around you.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You have done your mighty share of planning, strategising and delving deeper within. Is it possible that you might have exhausted yourself a bit? There are people in your life now who would like to help.



Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)

Your strategy this year has been to gently walk the path of least resistance. This goes deeper than just going with the flow. You've chosen to be directed by your inner compass instead of outside chaos. Sharing the secret to your success will bring your loved ones great comfort.



Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)

You bring an infectious burst of confidence to everyone. You're always ready for whatever life throws at you and deflect obstacles with your bold and inspired ideas. Continue to act upon these ideas and you will find that unforeseen helpers are with you to bring joy to others.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)

Making magic, giving out laughter and showering pick-me-ups on all who cross your rose-coloured path. You may question the impact of your presence on others, but extending your heart to others is a generous act of kindness. Now the stars encourage you to turn that energy inwards.



Reader's Bulletin

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this page through your insights, photos, and art this month! Make sure to keep an eye out on our social media accounts for a chance to be featured: Twitter @crossingboard and Insta @thecrossingboard!



Your Voice

This month we asked our readers **“Which feature are you most excited for in the winter update and why?”**

“The snow for sure! Can’t wait to see my island get turned into a winter wonderland especially since Winter Wonderland (in London) will be closed this year :(” - @solyluna_acnh

“I’m excited for Toy Day! Going to be dressed as Santa’s Little Helper and deliver all the gifts to the villagers! Such a cute idea.”

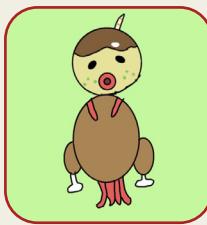
- @acnh_district12

“I am most excited for the snow and new [holiday] items! I can’t wait to decorate my island in a new white [winter] theme”

- @DewdropsIsland

“The Toy Day event!” - @palevius

Your Art



@Liviabbunny1

Send us art inspired by winter in ACNH for a chance to be featured in the next issue!

Your Reviews

“I just got my first [Crossing Board] magazine in...I’m so hyped. Best 5 dollars plus uk shipping spend in a loooong time. I love all the recipes and quizzes but I think the interview [with Marshal] might be my fave part.”

- @jennathelill



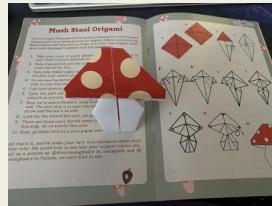
Your Magazine



Twt: CraftInfinityAndBeyond



Twt: @PatriciaBrobst1



Twt: @TamsynMMurphy



Twt: @milliesmelodys



Twt: @crafty_crossing



Twt: @kor_iko



Twt: @nicolescrossing



IG: @rhiannOnw



Twt: @BirdDisplayName



"When your @CrossingBoard magazine comes in on the same day as the the Thursday game update!?!?!...It's so gorgeous and fun! Quality paper, great layout, and all to add to the fun of #acnh life!" - @springsluvi

"Lately I am really struggling with my life again, so getting each month such a lovely little magazine, cheers me up. I love reading them while having a hot cup of coffee or tea. Thanks always for the great team's work." - @milliesmelodys

Colour Me In: Timmy and Tommy



Thank you...



As always, we want to take the time to say a big thank you to all of The Crossing Board team. The artists, the writers, and everyone contributing behind the scenes; we're so lucky to have such a talented and passionate group of people. Of course, we wouldn't be able to do this without our lovely readers, so the biggest thank you goes out to **you** for supporting our project. Whether you were here from day one or if you've only just discovered us, we're so appreciative.

If you just can't wait until January and would like more content from us at TCB, head over to our website **thecrossingboard.com** where you'll find interactive quizzes, regular blog posts, and all of our previous issues available in digital form!

Turn up the wholesome dial because grandma Thi Can Duong is here and she's hand-knitting Switch pouches! Finding herself with not much to do during lockdown, Mrs Thi Can Duong (born in 1941) decided to pass the time by knitting. With the encouragement of her granddaughter Mai Lu, she started to make pouches that are just the right sizes to keep a Switch or Switch Lite cosy and safe! When we found her creations, we knew that they deserved a bit more of a spotlight. So, if you'd like a handmade pouch in a customisable size and colour, be sure to contact @maixnhu on Depop or @mai_eatery on Instagram!



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