At our house, it is tradition to at least BEGIN decorating for Christmas on Thanksgiving weekend. This year was no exception. I've decided there are three kinds of people, when talking about those who decorate for holidays:

- those who want to exactly duplicate the decorations from the year before (adding in any new decorations that were received)
- those who want them to be completely different from the year before
- those who have no idea what went where the year before, but it worked!

You may have deduced that I would be in the third group. Add to that the fact that this is only our second year in this house, and I was stressing! How did I fit my Snow Village collection on top of the kitchen cabinets? Did I really get all of my Santas displayed in the windows? Weren't there some Santas on the stairs? What did I do with the snowmen? You get the picture! In fact, it was my pictures that saved me! Not the pictures that are destined for the family Christmas book, but the ones I took just because. The ones that have been patiently waiting in Memory Manager for me to remember them! So my gift today is a simple one!

- Take pictures of all of your holiday decorations
- Choose those that best represent the look of your house
- Label and file appropriately using Memory Manager software
- Tell the story - this is a great place to record details about where and when you got the decorations or their significance to your family
- If you have limited storage space in your home, and things need to fit a certain way, or you hide things away and then can't remember where you put them, consider taking photos of the places that you store things and the way they are stored!

Watch 7 Minutes to Managed Memories for more tips!