**The ABC of English Christmas**

**A – Advent:** The period between Advent Sunday, the Sunday closest to the 30th of November, and Christmas Day.

**A – Angel** is a traditional Christmas decoration.

**B – Bauble** is one of the most popular Christmas ornament designs.

**B – Bells:** A traditional Christmas decoration.

**C – Candy Cane** is a treat and a decoration made of sugar. It is traditionally white with red stripes.

**C – Candle** is a traditional Christmas decoration.

**C – Card:** Christmas card was first made and posted in 1843. Every family sends and receives them at Christmas.

**C – Carol:** A Christian religious song that is sung at Christmas.

**C – Cracker** is an integral part of Christmas celebrations. Crackers are typically pulled at the Christmas dinner table or at parties.

**D – Decorations:** Any of several types of decorations used at Christmastime. The traditional colors of Christmas are green, snow white, and heart red.

**D – Dinner** is an important part of the holiday's celebration. A standard Christmas meal includes turkey or goose, meat, gravy, potatoes, vegetables, pudding, mince pies and fruit cake.

**E – Elf** is a diminutive creature that lives with Santa Claus in the North Pole and acts as his helper.

**E – Eve:** The evening or entire day preceding Christmas Day that takes place on December 25.

**F – Family:** Christmas is a family holiday.

**G – Ginger bread:** Children help their mothers to bake cakes and cookies, which they decorate and then hang on their Christmas trees.

**H – Holly:** This plant has fruit in winter. Its berries are red and symbolize drops of blood.

**I – Icing:** Domestically, it is used to make icing or frosting and other cake decorations.

**J – Jesus:** Christmas is the day on which Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

**J – Jingle Bells** is one of the best-known and commonly sung winter songs in the world.

**K – Kings:** Three kings or wise men (named Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar) visited the infant Jesus in the manger.

**L – Lights:** The use of decorative, festive lighting during the Christmas holiday season is a long standing tradition.

**M – Mistletoe** is used as a Christmas decoration, and people often kiss under it.

**N – North Pole:** According to a tradition which can be traced to the 1820s, Santa Claus lives at the North Pole.

**O – Ornaments** are decorations that are used to festoon a Christmas tree.

**P – Pie** is a traditional Christmas dessert made from fruit, nuts and flour.

**P – Poinsettia:** This plant is red and star shaped. Thus the Poinsettia became associated with the Christmas season.

**P – Presents:** The British thoroughly choose Christmas presents for their relatives, friends and even their pets.

**P – Pudding** is traditionally served on Christmas Day.

**Q – Quiet:** The children should be quiet on Christmas Eve waiting for Santa Claus.

**R – Reindeers:** They pull the sleigh of Santa Claus and help him deliver Christmas gifts.

**S – Santa Сlaus** is a figure with legendary, historical and folkloric aspects who brings presents for children on the night before Christmas Day.

**S – Star** revealed the birth of Jesus to the magi, or "wise men", and later led them to Bethlehem.

**S – Stocking:** This piece of clothes is hung by children on Christmas Eve for Santa Claus to fill it with presents and sweets.

**T – Tree** is traditionally brought into the home and decorated with Christmas lights (originally candles), ornaments and candy canes.

**T – Turkey:** Christmas turkey is a traditional dish on Christmas Eve.

**U – Under the tree:** A single by The Water Babies released in the UK on 12 December 2005. The song was in the UK Singles Chart Top 75 for three weeks.

**V – Virgin Mary** is a Jewish woman of Nazareth in Galilee. She is identified in the New Testament as the mother of Jesus.

**W – Wreath** is a Christmas decoration to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**X – Xmas** is a common abbreviation of the word "Christmas".

**Y – Yule log:** The expression "Yule log" has come to refer to log-shaped Christmas cakes, also known as "chocolate logs".

**Z – Zzzzzz:** The children must sleep when Santa Claus makes his rounds delivering gifts.

**Источники информации:**

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