

DECEMBER 2007 £3.30

Good Housekeeping

134 great recipes
and tips for
your best-ever
Christmas

96 brilliant
last
minute gifts
to save time
and money

30 easy
party
make-up tips

GET THAT FESTIVE FEELING...

★ Wrap the presents ★ Decorate
the tree ★ Dress the table

THE PERFECT
LITTLE BLACK DRESS
whatever your age!



Win £25,000 Transformation

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TRIED AND TESTED ★ Champagne ★ Smoked salmon ★ Mince pies
★ Christmas cake and pudding ★ Pâté ★ Brandy butter
★ Digital cameras, camcorders and radios ★ MP3 players



THE BUYING RULES

Your dress should be elegant with a quirky twist in the details – a sprinkling of shimmering embellishment works wonders. Avoid stiff, restrictive fabrics and embrace the bias cut. Add a little jacket or sheer cardigan if you'd rather hide your arms. The most important considerations? The right fit and some good underpinnings: they'll lose you pounds.

► **Dress**, £265, 8–18, Vera Mont (020 7411 0322; veramont.co.uk). **Cardigan**, £69, 34–44, Stills (01342 811181; www.stills.eu). **Shoes**, £185, 5–9½, Russell & Bromley. **Hair pin**, £40, Crystabelle (crystabellejewellery.com). **Fan**, from a selection, Basia Zarzycka (020 7730 1660; basia-zarzycka.com). **Bracelet**, £58.95, Harriet Kelsall (01462 790565; purple-label.com). **UNDERNEATH: Miraclesuit slimming underwear**, £27, M–XXXL, Figleaves.com (0870 499 9000; figleaves.com). **Earrings and ring**, Diane's own



£120, 14–30, Evans

£60, 8–20, Bhs

'It doesn't matter how slim you are, there's always a bit you'd rather not have on show. When you're my age, dresses should definitely cover your knees!'

Diane Watson, 54, size 14,
5ft 7in, retired ►

The glorious
50s