

YOUR HOLIDAY GRIEF SURVIVAL GUIDE

HOW TO GET THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS WHEN YOU'RE GRIEVING

1. LET YOURSELF SAY 'NO'

Above all else, you need to take care of yourself. If you're feeling sad & not up for going to that holiday party - give yourself permission to say no! Stay home, watch a movie and take care of yourself.

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2. IT'S OKAY TO LEAVE EARLY

You might feel like you're up for a social gathering until you get there and realize "I am not okay being here". That's okay! Give yourself permission to go home early - your friends will understand.



3. ALWAYS HAVE AN EXIT STRATEGY

Drive to holiday parties yourself so you have the option to leave as soon as things get too difficult to handle. Avoid hosting if you can - if you host, you can't leave! ALWAYS make sure you have an escape plan in place.

4. YOU'RE ALLOWED TO CHANGE YOUR MIND

So you've said yes to that thing you said you'd do but now you're absolutely dreading it? Know that you're allowed to change your mind! If you've over-committed yourself, be honest! You're allowed to change your mind.

5. SURROUND YOURSELF WITH SUPPORTIVE PEOPLE

Only surround yourself with people who make you feel supported & understand that you're grieving and might not be up for celebrating this year.



6. KNOW IT'S OKAY TO BE SAD & IT'S OKAY TO BE HAPPY TOO



You don't have to love this holiday season. A lot of it is hard. Give yourself that it's okay to be sad. it's also okay to feel happy - it's okay to get better. It doesn't mean you're "over" the loss.