

Entertain In Style

Elegant Simplicity: Outdoor Entertaining Made Easy

(NAPSA)—Whether you're hosting a relaxed backyard cook-out, a poolside soiree or a stylish outdoor wedding, you can still give it that touch of elegance without a lot of effort. After all, nobody wants to spend hours in the kitchen preparing complicated meals or washing stacks of plates and glasses.

Experts refer to this style as "Elegant Simplicity," which is defined as a lifestyle that's effortless, yet classic. Elegant simplicity fits perfectly with any type of gathering. It can easily be attained by keeping your menu as light as possible. Try using fresh ingredients—homegrown fruits and vegetables always taste better. By using citronella candles you'll be able to set the mood while deterring unwanted pests. You may want to incorporate fresh flowers from your yard.

The aim is to keep it relaxed. Serve dinner family style and offer a variety of appetizers or finger food. Finally, use disposable plastic serving items. This will make the cleanup fast and easy.

Today's plastic servingware is available in a variety of designs suitable for many types of occasions. Sandy Stoffel, director of marketing at Tyco Plastics, has these ideas for effectively incorporating plastic servingware into any gathering.

- Use plastic martini glasses to serve chilled specialty drinks,



Photo courtesy of Tyco Plastics

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such as smoothies or margaritas. They can also be used to serve shrimp cocktail, adding cocktail sauce in the middle of the glasses for easy dipping.

- For a fun twist, serve lemonade, punch or iced tea in champagne flutes.

- Add visual excitement to typical summer fare by serving slaws and salads in Prestige® or Legacy® plastic tumblers or stems.

- Use shortcuts and prepared foods for appetizers. Display these on Opulence® or Profiles® catering trays and pair with matching dessert plates.

To learn more about the many disposable plasticware options, call Tyco Plastics at 1-800-752-7462.