

Party-Planning Tips

Put Together The Perfect Outdoor Soiree *Easy Tips On How To Entertain Like An Expert*

(NAPSA)—Outdoor get-togethers are supposed to be time for fun and friends, but some party hosts find these events incredibly stressful. Throwing an outdoor gathering doesn't have to be a major feat. By preparing some noteworthy dishes and placing a few noticeable accents, you can impress guests and still be able to relax and enjoy yourself. Here are a few simple tips for your open-air soiree:

- **Decorate with vibrant colors.** For a daytime party, use small flowering potted plants as centerpieces instead of fresh-cut flowers that may wilt. For an evening party, string some colorful hanging lanterns throughout the yard to create a relaxing and festive mood.

- **Keep it cold.** Serve cold salads that can be prepared ahead of time, so you won't be in the kitchen while your guests are enjoying themselves. Instead of a standard potato salad, try a cold rice salad with Mediterranean flavors.

- **Get grilling.** Impress guests by offering a third option besides just hamburgers and hot dogs. Put eggplant and zucchini on a skewer and brush with a marinade of your choice—it makes a great vegetarian alternative.

- **Serve seasonal fruit.** Instead of spending hours in the kitchen baking dessert, buy some fresh fruit, such as strawberries or blueberries, and serve with whipped cream for a sweet finish.

- **Keep essentials on hand.** Be sure to have sunscreen available for daytime parties, and if



You can put together a terrific outdoor soiree.

your party continues into the evening, tiki torches can help give added light while keeping the bugs away.

- **Serve a signature cocktail.** Many people love a refreshing mojito, but don't have the bartending skills to mix one. If that sounds like you, try using T.G.I. Friday's Ready-to-Serve Flavored Mojitos. They include everything pre-mixed—even the rum—so you can just pour over ice and serve in a pitcher.

- **Be safe.** Make sure all your guests enjoy Flavored Mojitos or any drink responsibly and have a safe way to get home. Arrange a carpool with a designated driver or provide the phone number for a taxi service.

Please enjoy T.G.I. FRIDAY'S Flavored Mojitos responsibly.

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