

Tailgating Secrets From The Pros

(NAPSA)—No matter the season or sport, everyone loves a great tailgate party—but what makes some so much more fun than others? We've pulled together advice from the best tailgaters, so whether you're trying to create a small gathering for your family or an elaborate camp-out for 40, you'll pull it off without stress and have a great time!

- Organize and stock important items in a large plastic storage container. Include paper towels, trash bags, utensils, charcoal, matches and other important things that you don't want to forget, but won't want to have to repack every time you tailgate.

- Invest in quality tailgating furniture. Folding tables and chairs, umbrellas, tents, tarps, portable grills, etc., are all items that help create the atmosphere and comfort of your own backyard in the parking lot of a racetrack, arena or stadium.

- Decorate your area to celebrate the colors of the team, driver or personality that you will be cheering for. Lifetime Products makes a variety of portable tailgating tables that feature the colors and logos of some of the most popular sporting personalities and teams. To help your friends find you in the crowded parking lot, hang helium balloons in appropriate colors high above your area.

- Marinate meats, chop vegetables and do anything else possible to prepare the food the night before. This will increase the time you have for socializing and decrease the number of tools and



ingredients you have to pack. A simple and tasty marinade perfect for grilling steak and chicken is Cola Marinade:

12 ounce can of cola
½ cup orange juice
onion powder
garlic powder
pepper
salt
paprika
bay leaf

Simply mix the cola and OJ. Then add all the other seasonings according to your taste. Marinate steaks or chicken overnight for a sweet and tangy flavor. Grill until cooked to taste.

Many Web sites offer tailgating tips, but one site has compiled useful information into one site that serves as a comprehensive resource, including these tips and many others. Visit tailgateofalifetime.com for tips and recipes, links, downloads and more that will help you create your own tailgate of a lifetime!