

# Housewarming Party Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

- Planning
  - Set a budget for the party.
  - Make a guest list - include close friends as well as new neighbors.
  - Send out invitations or do the inviting over the phone.
  - Specify 'no gifts' on the invitation.
  - Keep track of RSVPs so you know how many guests will be coming.
  - Be certain to provide good directions.
  - Make a shopping list.
  - Consider a finger food menu - serve different choices in each room.
  - Get mineral water or soft drinks for people who do not drink alcoholic beverages.
  - Try to prepare the food on the day of the Housewarming Party.
  - Make sure that you clean your new house before the party.
  - Plan the games or other activities.
- The Party
  - Do last-minute things such as light candles, turn on music or set out appetizers just before guests arrive.
  - As guests arrive provide them with a beverage.
  - Give your guests a tour of the home.
  - Be careful that everyone is introduced with a brief explanation of his or her relationship to you.
  - Always be available to answer questions about the house or neighborhood.
  - Be sure to take plenty of memorable photos.
  - Express thanks to the guests for coming.
  - If you have received housewarming gifts, then always open the presents after the guests have departed.