

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.