

Thanksgiving Checklist

By Sherry M. Lewis

- 3-4 Weeks Prior
 - Determine your dinner menu.
 - Create a list of everything you'll need to purchase and gather.
 - Send invitations.
 - If you need to place a special order for a smoked turkey or honey-baked ham, place it now.
 - Map out roles for event helpers and delegate by asking for their assistance before your dinner.
 - Start making holiday decorations for your home, if you desire.
- 2 Weeks Prior
 - Finalize your shopping list.
 - Make or purchase your centerpiece Buy candles, if needed.
 - Verify dinner guests and what they are bringing (if anything).
 - Place an order with your local bakery for rolls, pumpkin or other varieties of pies.
 - Check your equipment, confirm you have enough for all your guests.
- 1 Week Prior
 - Do your grocery shopping a week ahead of time to help avoid the rush.
 - Defrost your turkey (if it's frozen).
 - Call any guests who have not responded.
 - Make party costume or select outfit.
- 1 Day Prior
 - Clean your house.
 - Decorate your house with holiday decorations.
 - Settle on a seating arrangement and make place cards.
 - Make and refrigerate any dishes that you can.
- Morning of Dinner
 - Eat breakfast.
 - Plan out and coordinate timing of dinner items so all are completed at the same time.
 - Be sure to put the turkey in the oven early.

- Set the table.
- Dress in party outfit.
- When Dinner Begins
 - Greet guests and invite them into your home.
 - Lay out the food and beverages.
 - Light candles.