

Thoughtful Entertaining Tips

Entertaining for Hosts and Guests

- As a host it is helpful to use a checklist to assist you in prepping before your scheduled event. A checklist will save you time and keep you from stressing over little things.
- As a host it is customary to greet each guest personally. If this is not possible, have someone with a great personality that has been well informed as to what area the guest are to congregate to do this for you and have refreshments ready to offer them as they come in. Have a room or area prepared for coats and jackets if you do not have a coat closet.
- There are many allergies that people suffer with today. Make sure to find out prior to any food preparation if any of your guests have any allergies to any of the food items or ingredients you may have on the menu. Put away pets for the evening. Make sure to let guest know if you have pets in case of any pet allergies. You don't want your event to turn into a hospital run.
- As a guest be courteous and do all your best arrive in a timely manner. If being late is unavoidable, be courteous and call the host and advise them of your approximate time of arrival and give an accurate time.
- As a guest it is customary to bring a gift for the host. Think about what may interest the host and bring something accordingly. You wouldn't bring wine and the host doesn't drink alcoholic beverages.



- Food should be past to the served on the left side of a guest and passed to the right. Pass the food in one direction. Consider all guests and be sure to take a portion size that is reasonable for all to be able to indulge
- As a guest at the end of the meal you should offer to assist with clean up. If the host wishes to do this alone give them the option to decline your offer.
- As a guest you must be aware of any clues that it is time to vacate the premises and do not overstay your welcome. A good host will be gracious and entertain you even when they are tired so don't put them in a place where they may have to excuse you.

Overnight Guests

- As a host provide a general agenda for your guest. It will help to know what the plans are during your guests stay and will help them to be prepared at the appropriate times should you have group activities planned.
- As a host provide clean linen and a place for your guests to place dirty linen. If you have a washer and dryer provide access and instructions on how to use the appliances.
- As a guest make sure to understand the rules of the house. While you are a guest, it is not your home and people live very differently. Be courteous and aware of the home you are in. While the host may say make yourself home that does not mean leave your socks in the middle of the floor or your glass on the Expensive coffee table with no coaster.
- As a guest clean the room and take all the linen off the beds and take all used towels and place them in the appropriate area.