10 Quick Ideas for a Kickass 4th of July BBQ

What better way to celebrate Independence Day than with hosting a kickass BBQ? BBQ parties don't require much planning, but having a general outline before you begin purchasing your supplies makes you look organized and, well, pretty kickass. Here, I've gathered everything you need to pull off a quick and easy party with this list of 10 ideas to throw a memorable 4th of July weekend BBQ.



- [ ] 1. Theme - It's easier to plan a party when you have a theme in mind before you begin buying your food and party supplies. With the 4th of July, patriotism is a common theme.
- [ ] 2. Meat - Meat of course! And food is probably the most important aspect of planning a BBQ. Therefore, take time to think about what meat you're barbecuing. Even if you're hosting a potluck style affair, plan a good meat for the barbie. We love this idea for a burger or hotdog bar.
- [ ] 3. Fruit - Creative fruit displays are a sure-fire way to make your 4th of July BBQ stand out. Continue your patriotic theme with these red, white, and blue fruit kabobs.
- [ ] 4. Side Dishes - If you like the idea of easy grab-and-go appetizers and sides, create single serve seven layer dip cups, or perhaps individual containers filled with carrot and celery sticks. Wanting more variety? Skewer some asparagus or bacon wrapped scallops to throw on the grill for a mouthwatering side dish.
- [ ] 5. Drinks - Get creative with your drink recipe or display. Try serving a summery watermelon lemonade or blue long island ice tea. If you have a kiddie pool on hand, dump some soft drinks, waters, and beer in a 'pool' of ice, and you got your backyard BBQ drinks easily accessible in a fun and creative way.
- [ ] 6. Utensils - Dress up your utensils for an ultra-special attention to detail. I love this casual yet easy-to-assemble brown bag holder from The Garnish. You can find all of these supplies at your local bargain store.
- [ ] 7. Music - Create the right mood with the right music. Many people have their own portable music player or sound system for use outdoors. Make sure you provide music that's tailored to your audience to set the right party atmosphere.
- [ ] 8. Games - Providing activities is always a win when entertaining guests for a BBQ. It allows your friends to really enjoy themselves and the day. Some all-time favorite outdoor games include corn hole, horseshoes, beer pong, darts, and volleyball. For the calmer crowd, offer cards, shuffleboard, or golf toss.

- [ ] 9. Desserts - Give them an excuse to save room for dessert with this Berries on a Cloud recipe by Mel's Kitchen Cafe. For the health conscience, try offering Healthy Light Berry Dessert Pizza by Undressed Skeleton.

- [ ] 10. Kid Zone - Kids need a lot of stimulation and activities to keep a party going strong well into the evening. I love the idea of providing kid friendly outdoor games, a kid's table full of activities, or a backyard movie under the stars to ensure that everyone has a good time.

Make and Share Free Checklists

checkli.com