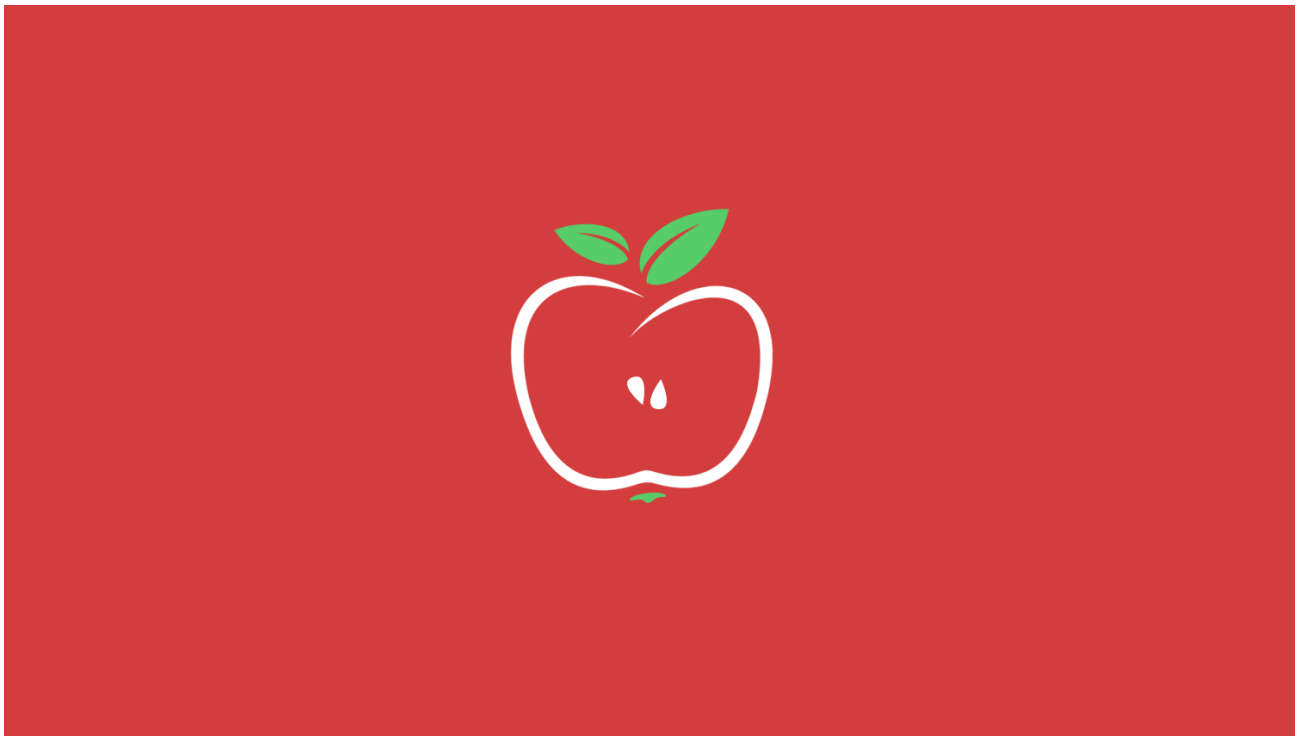
Thanksgiving Checklist



3 Weeks Before

- [ ] Pick your menu.
- [ ] Settle the number of guests, and figure out how much of each dish you'll need.
- [ ] Ask volunteers to pick their favorite task. Consider suggesting specific recipes to make it easy.
- [ ] Start making your shopping list, and begin stocking up on supplies.
- [ ] Order your turkey now, if you're getting a fresh turkey.

2 Weeks Before

- [ ] Set up a cleaning schedule.
- [ ] Check to see if the table linens are clean and ironed.
- [ ] Make sure you have the right tableware, including plates, silverware, glassware, serving platters, casserole dishes and utensils.
- [ ] Plan and design the tablescape.
- [ ] Shop for staple ingredients.

1 Week Before

- [ ] Buy wine, if serving. Try whites like Chardonnay or Riesling and reds like Pinot Noir or Zinfandel.
- [ ] Pick out serving dishes and utensils, and label selected dishes with sticky notes.

- [ ] Clean out the refrigerator – prepping and leftovers can take up a lot of room.
- [ ] Shop for perishables.
- [ ] Start thawing the turkey, if it's frozen

2 Days Before

- [ ] Get all of the cooking equipment together.
- [ ] Begin setting the table and setting up the buffet.

The Day Before Thanksgiving

- [ ] Pick up the fresh turkey, if ordered.
- [ ] Dice onions, celery and other vegetables.
- [ ] Place turkey in the brine and refrigerate, if brining.
- [ ] Bake the desserts.
- [ ] Put white wine and other beverages in the fridge to chill.
- [ ] Prepare make-ahead recipes.
- [ ] Put together the centerpiece.
- [ ] Finish setting the table.
- [ ] Review the checklist one more time, to make sure you haven't forgotten anything.

4 to 5 hours Before Dinner

- [ ] Prep the turkey for roasting.
- [ ] Put the turkey in the oven.
- [ ] Prep stuffing to be baked, if the turkey is unstuffed.
- [ ] Peel and cut the potatoes, then chill them in the broth.
- [ ] Prep the appetizers.

2 Hours Before Dinner

- [ ] Finish prepping the casseroles.
- [ ] Place food that will keep on the table.

1 Hour Before Dinner

- [ ] Serve cocktails and appetizers.

- [ ] Remove the turkey from the oven, when it's done.
- [ ] Bake the casseroles.
- [ ] Begin any stove top cooking.

30 Minutes Before Dinner

- [ ] Carve the turkey.
- [ ] Set out the refrigerated dishes.
- [ ] Make the gravy.
- [ ] Mash the potatoes.

Just Before Dinner

- [ ] Fill glasses with ice.
- [ ] Call guests to the table and give thanks.

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