

Entertaining Encyclopedia

Get back to basics for soirees you can host any time. In this book are all the ideas, menus and recipes you'll need to invite friends over for a cozy movie night or to host an exotic dinner party featuring the foods of Spain or Greece. The best part? These are impressive menus, but they won't require excessive time or unusual mail-order ingredients; you can pull off any one of them this weekend, if you choose. Entertaining friends and family is one of the best gifts you can give them; parties are the stuff of memories, far more valuable than anything you can buy.

Taking it one step at a time will make planning your party easier, ensuring that you have thought of everything. So relax because there are really only six basic elements to entertaining:

Theme

Location

Decor

Guests

Food and Beverages

Entertainment

- everything you need to know to plan the perfect celebration, from a child's birthday party to a formal sit-down dinner to an all-out bash
- more than 200 foolproof recipes and 25 menus ranging from casual to elegant — delicious results guaranteed
- the ultimate go-to guide to entertaining, with hundreds of sensational party ideas and tips



DENISE VIVALDO is a seasoned food professional who has catered more than 10,000 parties. In 1988, she founded Food Fanatics, a catering, recipe-development and food-styling firm. She has catered such events as the Academy Awards Governor's Ball and Hollywood wrap parties. In addition, she has written five books and is working on her sixth.

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