

Holiday Cheer

The holidays. They bring festive spirits, cooler weather and like it or not, relatives. Hosting a party for such a crowd takes plenty of forethought, but throw in feeding and providing sleeping arrangements for everyone and you've got yourself a planner's nightmare. That is, unless you rent a little help. With proper planning, everything should go off without a hitch.

As far as the party goes, rent fine place settings, linens, food service items and even tables and chairs in a variety of styles. For larger parties, you can get a portable bar, beverage fountain, buffet-style chafing dishes and coffee makers. For less formal settings, purchase disposable party goods like napkins, plates, cups and flatware.

Music can play an important role in your party, as well. It lightens spirits and adds to the festive ambiance. Few things slow down a party faster than awkward silence. Music can carry your guest right through these moments and a karaoke machine is the perfect choice. Whether you sing along or just listen, it can supply hours of endless entertainment. If possible, set a warm festive mood with a fire in the fireplace. And get appetites rolling with the smell of good food and drinks.

For overnight guests, consider renting rollaway beds or baby cribs. It's a convenient, comfortable and sanitary solution. And when the guests are gone, the beds can be too instead of taking up precious storage space!