



Thanksgiving Dinner



CHECKLIST

ONE MONTH BEFORE

SEND OUT INVITATIONS	
START PLANNING THE MENU	
THREE WEEKS BEFORE	
FINALIZE MENU	
FINALIZE GUESTLIST	
ASSIGN DISHES	
PLAN THE SEATING ARRANGEMENT	
MAKE GROCERY LIST (CHECK YOUR PANTRY)	
WATCH FOR THANKSGIVING COUPONS/SALES	
MAKE DINNER ROLLS, PIE CRUSTS AND ANYTHING THAT FREEZES WELL	
ORDER TURKEY (IF BUYING FRESH). PLAN ON 1 LB PER PERSON	
TEST NEW RECIPES	
START DEEP CLEANING HOME	
CHECK CHINA, GLASSWARE, LINENS AND COOKWARE	
MAKE ARRANGEMENT TO BORROW EXTRA TABLES/CHAIRS (IF NEEDED)	
TEST APPLIANCES (ELECTRIC CARVING KNIFE, MIXER)	
STOCK UP ON FOIL, FREEZER BAGS AND LEFTOVER CONTAINERS	
PLAN KIDS' ACTIVITIES	
PLAN FOR OVERNIGHT GUESTS	

TWO WEEKS BEFORE

POLISH SILVERWARE
FINALIZE THANKSGIVING PLAYLIST
MAKE ROOM IN CLOSET FOR GUEST'S COATS

A WEEK BEFORE

PREPARE GUEST ROOM (INCLUDE WIFI INFO)
SHOP FOR GROCERIES
RESTOCK BASIC SUPPLIES
MAKE SPACE IN FREEZER FOR TURKEY (IF BUYING FROZEN)
DECORATE HOME
CLEAN SPECIAL OCCASION DISHES & GLASSES

FOUR TO FIVE DAYS BEFORE

CLEAN OUT THE FRIDGE TO MAKE ROOM
THAW TURKEY IN THE REFRIGERATOR (ALLOW 24 HRS FOR EVERY 5 LBS)
IRON TABLE LINENS

TWO DAYS BEFORE

PICK UP HAM/TURKEY (IF FRESH)
TAKE ROLLS, PIE CRUSTS, ETC FROM FREEZER
BABY-PROOF HOUSE (IF APPLICABLE)

THE DAY BEFORE

MAKE CRANBERRY SAUCE, SIDE DISHES & PIES
SET THE DINING ROOM TABLE
SET UP A BAR/DRINK STATION
CHILL DRINKS
CLEAN BATHROOMS
PUT OUT FRESH TOWELS
REFILL SOAP DISPENSERS AND PUT OUT EXTRA TOILET PAPER
VACUUM
BUY ICE
CHARGE YOUR CAMERA / BUY BATTERIES

THANKSGIVING DAY

COOK THE TURKEY
MAKE THE STUFFING AND GRAVY
REHEAT/WARM ANY DISHES MADE AHEAD
MAKE ANYTHING ELSE STILL ON YOUR LIST
STOCK THE BAR/DRINK STATION

AFTER DINNER

PUT AWAY LEFTOVERS WITHIN TWO HOURS
PACK UP LEFTOVERS FOR GUESTS
PRETREAT TABLE LINEN STAINS

THE DAY AFTER

WASH TABLE LINENS
PUT AWAY DISHES, SERVING PIECES, ETC.
PUT AWAY EXTRA TABLES/CHAIRS
TREAT ANY CARPET/UPHOLSTERY STAINS

A FEW DAYS AFTER

MAKE TURKEY BROTH
FREEZE REMAINING LEFTOVERS
RETURN ANYTHING YOU BORROWED
ORGANIZE & SHARE PHOTOS. ORDER PRINTS.
EMAIL ANY RECIPES (GUESTS ASK)

GOOD TO HAVE ON HAND

- SUGAR SUBSTITUTES
- MILK
- NON-DAIRY CREAMER
- COFFEE
- TEA
- WHIPPED CREAM
- ICE CREAM
- ICE
- BAR ITEMS
- DRINK COASTERS
- WINE GLASS TAGS
- TOOTHPICKS
- SALT AND PEPPER FOR TABLE
- MATCHES
- CANDLES
- EXTRA PLATE, SILVERWARE AND GLASSES
- EXTRA POT HOLDERS
- BATTERIES
- EXTRA TOILETRIES
- TO-GO BAGS
- EXTRA SERVINGS
- PAIN RELIEVERS
- ANTACIDS