

5 Steps for a Halloween Party in a Pinch

Most of us think of trick-or-treating with kids when it comes to Halloween, or thumping night club parties filled with raunchily-costumed revelers. But there's no reason why you can't host a Halloween dinner for sophisticated grownups. Lose the kitschy marshmallow ghosts and goblins, and the punch bowls filled with creepy garnishes like floating eyeballs, and enjoy your own trick-or-treat. HGTV.ca hostess extraordinaire Rana Florida shows you how to pull it off practically overnight.

Topics: Entertaining, Party, Halloween, Decor



Step 1: Decorate Your Table

Dump those boring old white dinner plates and find some that tell a story. Or design your own, using edible-type paints or wax. Then, dim the lights and use lots of candles. A perfectly lit room instantly welcomes guests and makes them feel relaxed.



Step 2: Choose a Colour Scheme

When it comes to your colour scheme, break free from the traditional orange and black. Go for black and gold or black and silver for drama and sparkle, and add some deep purple or red for accents.



Step 3: Use Glitter

Spray paint and glitter dresses up anything, from vegetables, pumpkins and gourds, to old candle sticks and wine bottles.



Step 4: The Sweet Table

Go with a tried-and-true staple (like a bowl of Kit Kats, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups or Snickers) and add some fun cookies decorated in the holiday spirit. Mix and match your set up using jars, pots, or glasses as vases, and don't hesitate to enlist any other appropriate objects you find around the house.



Step 5: Find a Halloween Flick

There's nothing better than a scary movie running in the background—think classics like *Nightmare on Elm Street* or *Halloween* or more offbeat fare like Tim Burton's *Frankenweenie* or Wes Craven's *Scream*.