



[Rana Florida](#)

CEO, The Creative Class Group & Author, Upgrade

Creative Entertaining: Hot Arabian Nights

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The last day of summer is just a few days away and there's no better time to gather friends and family for the final backyard soirée of the season.

It's your party--there are no hard and fast rules. Pick a theme to set the tone for the food, décor and music. These party throwers chose the regions of Marrakesh and Morocco for inspiration.

Northern Africa's rich culture is reflected in the alluring design style. Vibrant shades of bright orange and fuchsia came together to mimic a colorful desert tent.

Traditional Arabic fare such as tabouleh, eggplant, baba ganoush, hummus, and other mezze salads were served.

This Arabian Nights theme party came complete with Bedouin tents, sitar and tablah musicians and even belly dancers.

View the gallery for more event planning tips.

Seating



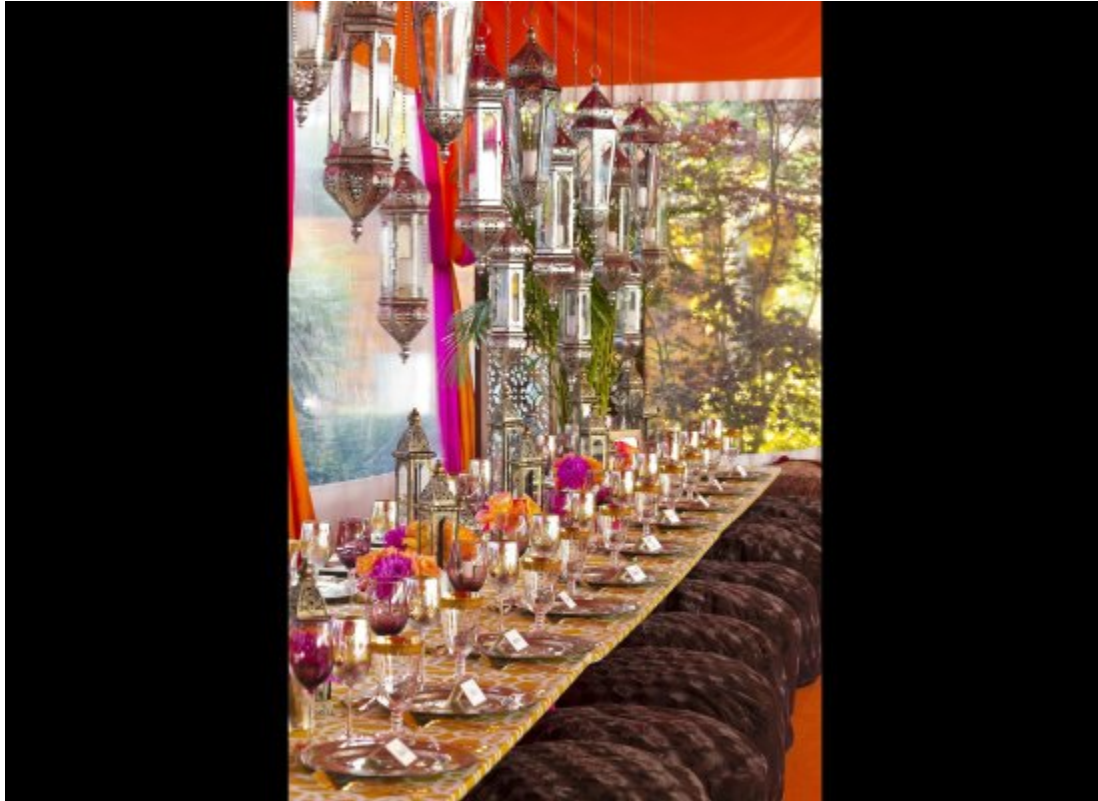
A low table was setup for ottoman style seating.

Flow



Set up small seating areas so guests can gather and talk.

Line em up



Continuity makes ordinary objects look much more dramatic.

Dance Off



The vibrant deep colors were also carried onto the dance floor.

Seating



Separate seating areas allow for smaller groups to dialogue.

Tent Ideas



Tent decor and textiles can be influenced from Morocco, Thailand, Dubai, and India to create a perfect fusion of ethnic styles.

Transformation



Transform any ordinary backyard to an exotic oasis with a little imagination and lots of creativity.

Go Exotic



These party throwers chose the regions of Marrakesh and Morocco in northern Africa for inspiration. The rich culture is reflected in its alluring interior design style, characterized by vibrant colors which mimic a colorful desert tent.

Find Your Inspiration



A themed party can elevate an ordinary celebration into a magical evening.

Set the Mood



Use candles, votives and hanging lanterns for ambiance.

Name Cards



Place cards are an elegant and fun way to mark your guests' places at the dinner table.

Menu



Display a framed menu card on the table for guests to learn about the ethnic fare.

Fashion Forward



Guests were encouraged to dress in white with vibrant colored scarves as accents.

Entertainment



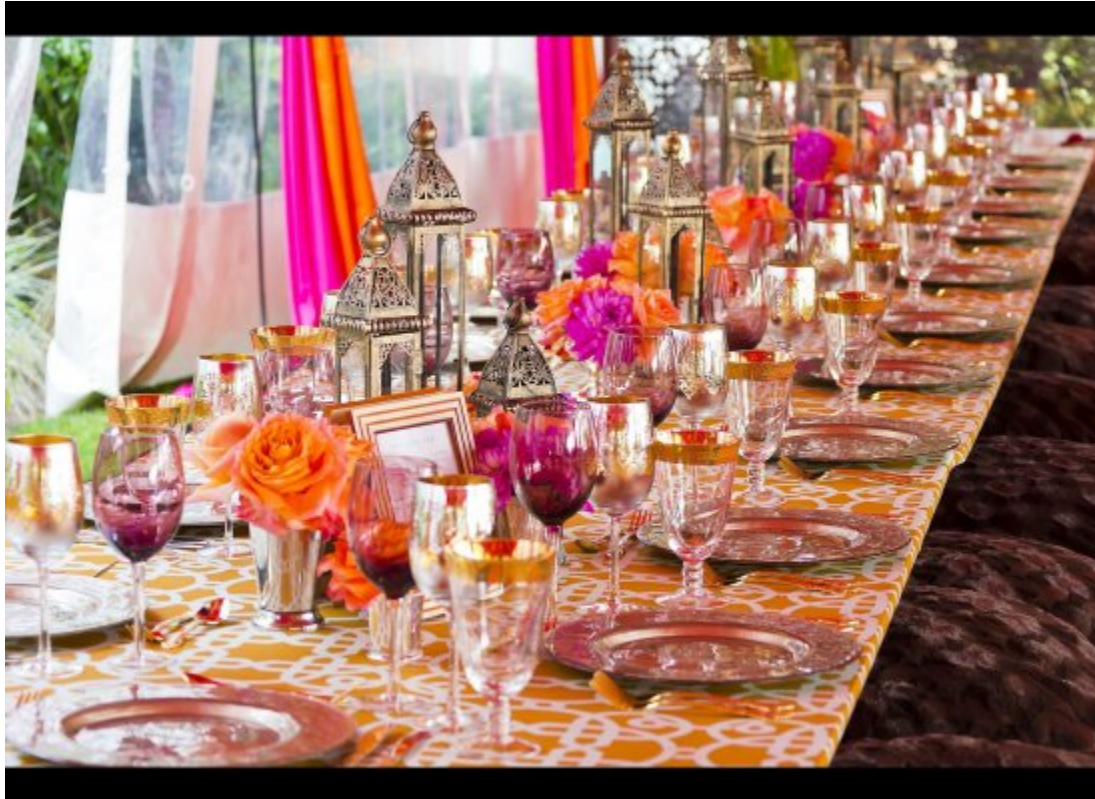
Musicians entertain with ancient instruments. The sitar and tabla add to the ambiance during dinner.

Drama



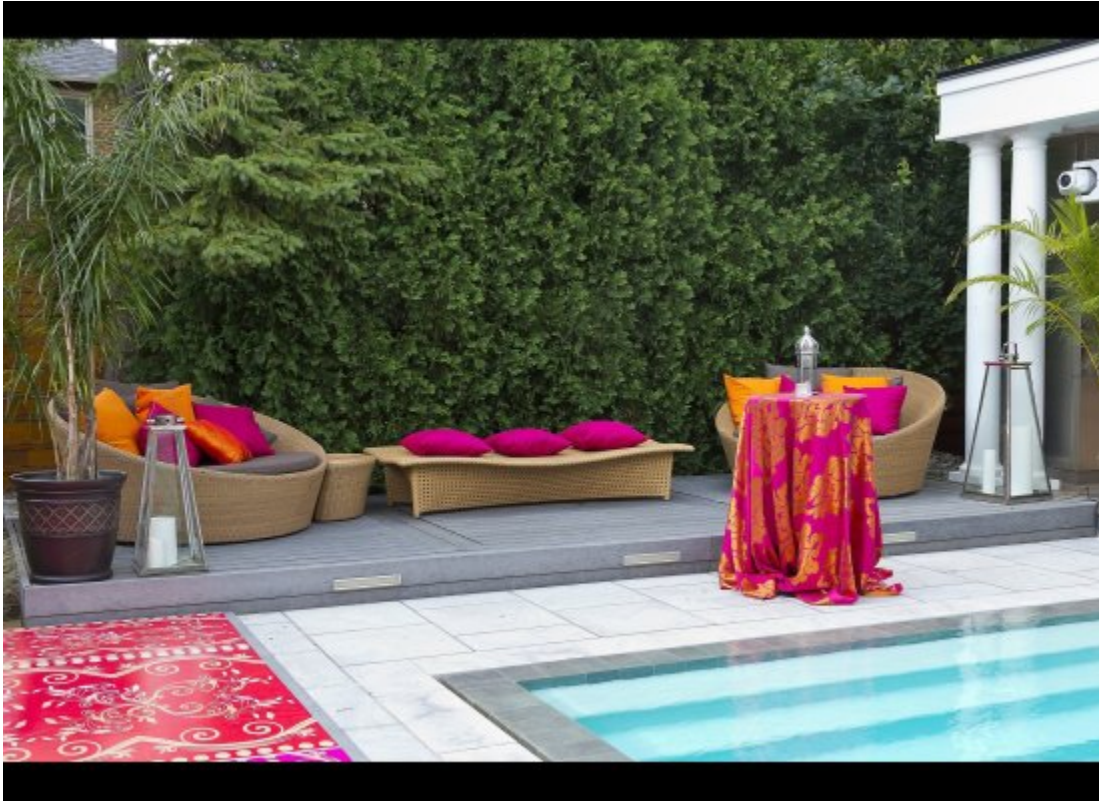
Drapes from a local fabric store can easily add some drama by loosely draping nearby.

Table Linen



Feel free to layer textures, designs, colors and fabrics.

Layer It



Use fabrics, pillows and linens to enhance the overall effect.

Roll, Shimmy & Shake



Think of your entertainment in various forms, from art, to music to performances. Belly dancers shimmyed over the beat of the tabliah.

Entertainment



Whether you're celebrating a birthday or milestone event, a themed Arabian night can transform an ordinary night into a magical one.

Cultural Fare



Rather than serving formal courses, keep it simple with family style dining.