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Baby chicken whole roast, hot parathas, carrot halwas, spicy bhuna beef liver, brain masala, roasted potatoes — I would pull out all the stops for that breakfast spread, although this year, it's going to be just for my small family. Thus, my energy will be vested towards table decor instead of the menu, I am toying with a few ideas that I am sharing with you.

Your layout plan can be eclectic, vintage, and casual; a colour theme or an afternoon high-tea setting. Whichever you plan to pick, make sure you carry it throughout the table. My six-person dinner table will follow



an eclectic layout — for each chair seating, I will go for a mix of plates and glasses so that each seating looks different from the other.

You may find the idea too haphazard, but if you plan carefully, each seating will boast individuality. As it's going to be just an immediate family jamming session over Eid breakfast or lunch, why not go for the dissimilar look? The white crochet lace tablecloth will do just fine as a background for the non-matched setting.

For the eclectic look, I will bring out green printed plates and contrast it with my blue tall glasses and place them on a red placemat. The burst of colours is going to be a cheerful surprise for the spouse during my special Eid breakfast. My son, who is not obliging towards my crazy ideas, will have a casual setting with his favourite blue

recycle glass plate and a short yellow glass. I will go for my vintage look, white plate in blue prints bordered in gold, a white lace cotton napkin, and my cherished Villeroy and Boch cutlery.

For the colour-themed teatime snacks, I picked the shades of pink, baby pink, salmon pink, hot pink and going all the way to warm magenta. A high-tea tier dish serving *deshi* pantoas and savoury pancakes and then, for a boho chic look, I would go with wood and bamboo plates and earthy trinkets to enhance the decor; maybe a half cut open old coconut as the centre piece, stuffed with coloured fruits of the season.

The look and setting will be colourful and brought to life by adding garden fresh seasonal flowers. Lilies are in season, thus a stalk of amazon lily or spider lily, and pink tiger lily with fern twigs will make the table look grand.

This year, we will celebrate Eid modestly in terms of food and clothes, not spend too much on ourselves, and rather, use the money for charity. But you can go the extra mile to make yourself happy by giving your home a festive air.

— RBR

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