



LS PICK

Garden party essentials



It seems like everybody's hosting one, and what a lovely time of the year to do so. With the party season well under way and everyone in a festive mood, you don't really need an excuse to host a garden party. So get your creative juices flowing and aspire to host the most fabulous garden party of the year!

SWITCH IT AROUND

A lot of people are under the misconception that a garden party equals ladies wearing pastel colours and lots of macarons. There's nothing wrong with a delicious macaroon and feminine banter, but if you want to break away from the mould, why not add your personal touch to your party?

Invite people of all ages, both male and female. Add some outdoor activities like badminton or a fun game of Pictionary to the agenda.

Declare a quirky theme that will get everyone interested. For example, you can host a Mad Hatter-themed tea party and ask your guests to all come wearing the funniest hats they have. Or better yet, you can set up a funny hat-making corner at the party itself to really get the guests engaged.

GET THE BASICS RIGHT

You can't have an outdoor party in winter without some boiling hot, delicious tea to ward off the winter chill. A little variety in the hot drinks is sure to impress. You can try and add a kettle of masala chai, or some exotic, loose leaf flavoured herbal teas so that guests have more choice.

With regards to food, although you can't go wrong with dessert, keep some savoury finger food on the table to ensure a good balance of flavours. Avoid heavy savoury items like shingaras or kebab rolls and go for lighter options like sandwiches and crispy spring rolls.