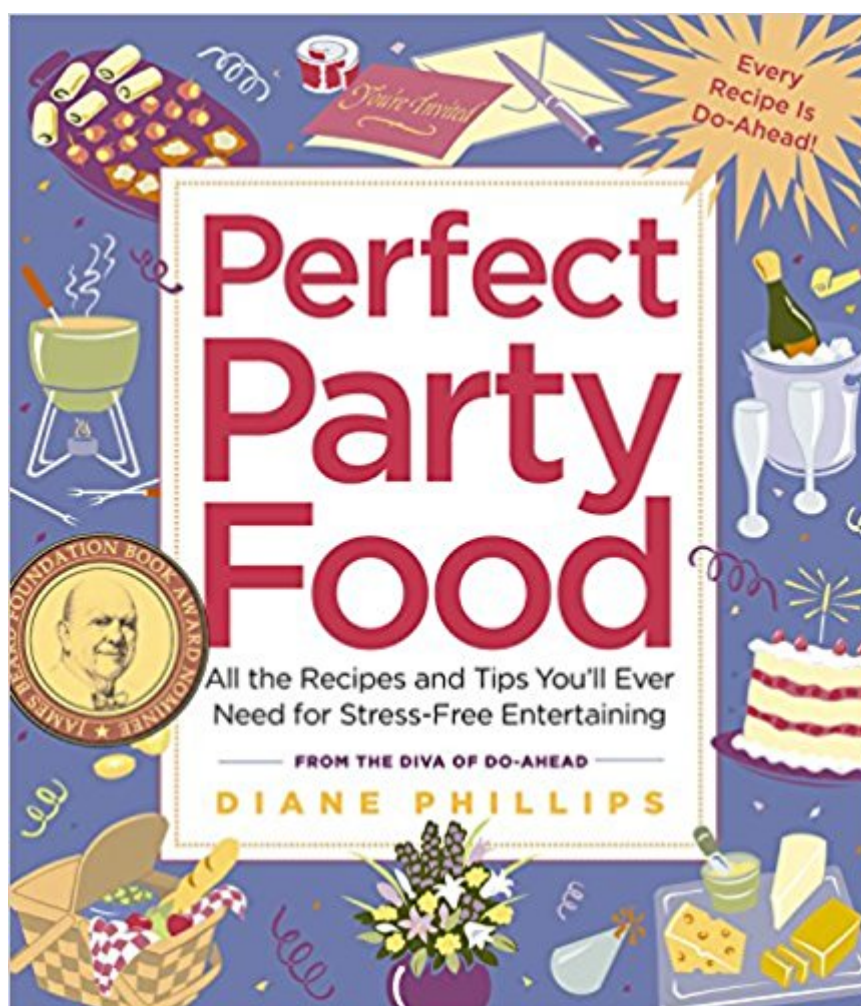


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Perfect Party Food: All The Recipes And Tips You'll Ever Need For Stress-Free Entertaining From The Diva Of Do-Ahead



Synopsis

How do you throw a party without stressing out? Plan ahead and do-ahead. This entertaining guide from Diane Phillips, the Diva of Do-Ahead, with help you get out of the kitchen and into your own party. She presents nearly 500 recipes that can all be made ahead of time--some days and even weeks--that taste delicious, and are designed to be served buffet style. Handy icons show which recipes are just right for a backyard barbecue, an elegant cocktail party, or an all-night blow-out bash. Dozens of menu suggestions, templates for figuring out the menu range and quantities, easy decorating tips, and guidelines for stocking a bar complete this essential guide to entertaining.

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Customer Reviews

If readers walk away with just one lesson from this hulking volume, it's that planning is essential when you're entertaining guests. Cooking teacher Phillips reinforces that point throughout this manual, in both her recipes and her miscellaneous advice on setting a table, arranging food and more. She includes more than 600 recipes, each one serving 10 to 12 guests, and each containing do-ahead components that can be made ahead and refrigerated or frozen (many recipes can be completely cooked advance). The recipes are generally simple, though no less appealing, and include dips and spreads, "small bites" like Pigs in a Blanket and Prosciutto Pinwheels, salads, side dishes, main dishes, breads, beverages and desserts (there's also a chapter on breakfast and brunch). Phillips's advice on how much food readers will need is helpful, as are her "diva rescues" tips (e.g., what to do if extra people show up for the party; if your rice burns; if your layer cake "looks like Mt. Etna erupting"; etc.). Encompassing casual, "grazing," holiday, informal and elegant events,

this book will be essential for novices and may also teach some old dogs new tricks. Illus. (Sept.)
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Party is a five-letter word almost guaranteed to generate shock and awe among many would-be hosts and guests alike. But the self-acclaimed "diva of do-ahead" just might soothe the minds and spirits of those contemplating more-than-two entertaining. First, no cuisine is ignored; more than 500 recipes representing traditional and not-so-well-known ethnic dishes stand ready for selection. Second, there is plenty of advance preparation, with icons indicating five kinds of get-togethers (casual, grazing, holiday, informal, and elegant), basics, pantry and equipment necessities, plus emergency rescues. (No dessert? Serve ice cream with a choice of pour-over liqueurs.) Third, there are tips and shortcuts for recipe parts that can easily be completed and frozen or refrigerated. Nothing truly out of the ordinary, unless such choices as roasted beet salad and creole vinaigrette count as unusual, but a good foundation for great food outcomes. Barbara JacobsCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book has a lot of practical information on preparing parts of your meal in advance so that you are not trapped in the kitchen at your own parties. Like any cookbook of this size, some of the recipes are very good, others, average. I prefer healthier versions of some of the classic recipes featured in this book, so I have modified them accordingly -- less sugar and less fat. While this is not my go-to cookbook during the winter months, it is more useful during the summer weekends spent at the lake, when time spent on outdoor activities restrict time spent in the kitchen.

This is a fantastic cookbook filled with many delicious recipes I have made for family gatherings and parties with friends. I greatly appreciate the ability to make the recipes ahead of time so I can be more relaxed on the day of my party and enjoy my guests. She has make-ahead tips for all of the recipes. Some of my favorite tried-and-true recipes are New York Strip Roast with Horseradish Sauce, Crispy Fried Chicken, Gulliver's Corn, Barbeque Pulled Pork, Lemon Oreganata Chicken, Dilly Potato Salad, Pacific Rim Slaw and Spinach Parmesan Casserole. Buy this one for easy entertaining and you will not be disappointed.

I own a lot of cookbooks but this is, by far, one of the best. My go-to for entertaining and everyday

meals.

Spending my time in the kitchen while entertaining is not my idea of a good time. So when I saw this cookbook, I was anxious to purchase it and try the recipes! I have made several recipes in this book and they have all been excellent. The recipes are easy to follow, delicious and creative, with ingredients that I usually have in my pantry or are easily found at the store. The recipes feature a lot of fresh veggies, herbs and quality ingredients making the recipes fresh and healthy. There are not a lot of high fat, high salt ingredients called for. I love the fact that all of the recipes have steps that can be done in advance that will allow me to have most everything prepped and ready to go before company comes. I find myself referring to it over and over. Great find!

With hundreds, I repeat hundreds of recipes, this cookbook is jammed packed with delightful and delicious dishes. Plus Diane gives you helpful hints on the side of the recipes, in case you want to change it up a bit. I love that all of these recipes are no fail so even the beginner in the kitchen can be successful. This is hands down my favorite cookbook!

This book changed my life! I love to entertain, but it always seemed to be that I'd spend the entire day of the party in the kitchen, making me too tired to enjoy the event. Now I can prepare the food well in advance, and the day of the party is just a breeze! And every recipe I have tried has been absolutely delicious. Love this book!

Not what I expected. I bought this book to help plan a Christmas open house. I was disappointed by how few h'or d'oeuvre recipes there were. And most of the ones shown look pretty boring and mundane. Pigs in a blanket, really? This is more appropriate if you are looking to plan a sit down dinner. It is nice that all of the recipes have at least some portion that can be done in advance.

This is a wonderful addition to my party food library! The recipes are diverse, timeless and fool-proof. The author, Diane Philips, as well as Ina Garten (Barefoot Contessa) and Ree Drummond are my favorite party food/ cookbook authors--they help me pull off the best events!

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