

MARY ANNE'S CHECKLIST FOR *The Ultimate Birthday Party*



Birthdays are special so the celebrations should be, too! I've done my share of great ideas for birthday parties in the past. You should have seen Kristy's face when I created Kristy Day and had a full parade march past her house. Follow my tips below and you will also be celebrating an unforgettable birthday.

- CAKE**
Ice cream, chocolate, angel food, the options are endless. Choose one that fits the birthday person's taste.
- CANDLES**
Place the number of candles equal to the age the birthday person is turning on top of the cake. For added fun, you can always buy those gag candles that light back up after you blow them out.
- PLATES, NAPKINS, UTENSILS**
Parties have lots of food. Make sure you have these so people can eat with ease.
- GARBAGE AREAS**
Have multiple areas planned out for garbage. This will make clean up much easier for you at the end of the party.
- GIFTS**
Make sure they're all wrapped and labeled! Remember—a thoughtful gift always beats out an expensive gift. Include a card, adding a personal message to the inside.
- PARTY FAVORS**
Candy, special T-shirts, small toys, and other goodies—let your guests go home with something they can remember forever.



MARY ANNE'S CHECKLIST FOR *The Ultimate Birthday Party*

(CONTINUED)

- FOOD & RSVP**
Make sure people RSVP to the invitations so you know how much food you will need. People with special food needs should be told to call you in advance.
- INVITATIONS**
Surround yourself or the birthday person with their favorite people in the whole world.
- DECORATIONS**
Go all out with your creativity. Balloons, party hats, personalized banners, matching tablecloths—pick a theme and stick to it.
- ACTIVITIES**
It all depends on the birthday person and the time of year. Is it summertime? Maybe a pool party is best. Is a favorite movie of theirs coming out? Maybe they want the entire party to go together. Set your interests aside and make it all about the birthday person.

