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Stylish Ways to Bring a Night Out In

Home is where the party is

Hunkering down and staying close to home in the name of safety may mean the current state of your social calendar is a blank canvas, but that doesn't mean forgoing the spirit of entertaining altogether. Who doesn't need an outlet right now? Even if you

entertain amongst your own household members (or have a virtual party with friends) you can still set a festive tone at home.

“Though we are not able to go out as we normally would, I have always thought that entertaining at home can be even more charming than going out,” says Carleton Varney, president of Dorothy Draper & Co. in Palm Beach, Florida. “You get to prepare exactly as you’d like from the decor to the food and drinks.”

While this year has been a *time*, “it’s also given us the opportunity to create new experiences at home,” says Lindye Galloway, owner and creative director of The Lindye Galloway Design Studio in Orange County, CA. “In the absence of traveling, parties, and outings, gathering at home creates space to build memories in more intimate ways that keep us connected.”

Put the sweats aside, slip on your party pants, and follow these expert tips for imbibing with style (or save them for a future date when it’s safe to throw a fête for friends). Trust us, it’s the best distraction you never knew you needed.



The sleek design of the LG SIGNATURE Wine Cellar.

Rely on Savvy Storage

A spirited intimate soiree starts with cocktails and fine wines, of course. And the vino you serve is as much about the variety as it is about how it's stored. The **LG SIGNATURE Wine Cellar** offers a high-tech shelf life that preserves every vintage and varietal at optimum temperature and humidity levels for reds, whites, and champagnes. And, the sleek design features an InstaView™ function that when knocking twice, magically reveals the contents of what's inside without having to open the door. It also holds up to 65 bottles and has a drawer for storing food or drinks. When a bottle runs dry, all you need to do is ask it to open by voice control using the LG ThinQ® app and you shall receive.



The sleek design features an InstaView™ function that when knocking twice, magically reveals the contents of what's inside.

Create a Cocktail Station

Maybe you already have a home bar, but if not, now's the time to get creative. "I once knew a woman who loved to entertain in her small apartment, so she'd fill her bathtub with ice to store champagne and use her ironing board as a bar," Mr. Varney says. Should you have a bit more space to work with, console tables make excellent bar displays since they don't take up extra space, he says. Galloway suggests creating a cocktail corner with a hutch, bar cart, or shelves, which will allow you to become a mixologist for the evening. "Layer with your favorite cocktail books, bottles, and glassware," she says.

Set the Tone

The ambience you create undoubtedly defines the experience. And ambient lighting is key to a swanky vibe. Dim the lights and place votives and hurricane candles on the table and around the room. “If you want fancy host points from your guests, have a glass for every type of beverage you’re serving. All these little details bring a sense of thoughtfulness and enhance the experience,” Galloway says. Equally as important is the music and entertainment. A slim, sleek high-tech television like the [LG SIGNATURE OLED 8K ZX TV](#) features special Dolby Vision and a Dolby Atmos sound bar for a cinematic experience. Use the incredibly crisp display as a backdrop, or simply tune in to your favorite music channel (jazz, 80s, etc.). You’ll set the soundtrack to your night in superior-quality stereo that can be amplified by connecting to other speakers in your home using AirPlay 2. And if your guests have special requests, just ask the TV to change channels. Google Assistant and Amazon Alexa compatibility mean your wish is its command.



The LG SIGNATURE OLED 8K ZX TV features special Dolby Vision and a Dolby Atmos sound bar for a cinematic experience.

Have a Virtual Mixologist on Hand

If your household is a party of one or two, hosting a gathering of the virtual kind can still be social even though you're distancing. To pull off a happy hour (or three), send along a playlist ahead of time, so everyone can tune in to the same soundtrack, as well as a couple of recipes for party snacks. And while your likeness may be represented by an image on screen, don't forgo festive attire (even if it's just a party on top). A change of clothing will help get you in the celebratory spirit. The highlight of the night: Have a mixologist on your video call who can help you create clever cocktails. Send out all the ingredients needed beforehand, so everyone can shake and stir together.

Sip in Style

"I'm a big believer in making even the smallest gathering feel special," Varney says. An easy way to elevate the feel of the space is by adding floral arrangements, pretty napkins, and a little sparkle with decorative napkin rings." These add pops of color and personality without having to go over the top. And, this is the time to impress with your best China and flatware, which allow you to get that upscale feeling at home. "I have always made it a point to bring out my nice dishes and use them whether I'm entertaining a small group or just getting take-out," Varney says.

Encourage an Easy Flow

To keep conversation lively and the mood festive, set up stations throughout your home, Galloway says. "Start with cocktails at the bar station, appetizers on the kitchen island, then move to the

dining table with a delicious meal, and finish in the living room with comfortable seating and a cozy environment,” she says. The other essential ingredient is a constant stream of clean glassware. The beauty of the [LG SIGNATURE Smart wi-fi Enabled Dishwasher](#) is that it runs with TrueSteam[®], which imparts a blast of steam at the start of the cycle and another one while drying, so even the most delicate stemware will remain spotless. And features like Smart Access and Smart Adapt let you monitor your load remotely via the LG ThinQ[®] app, so you can start a cycle and never have to leave a conversation mid-sentence.

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