

The girls of RSVP Party Planning give you tips for planning the very best parties!

Sadie



Take it from me, the Queen of Organization: parties require lists. Lots of them. Which is cool, because I kind of love them. Here's a list describing the lists you'll need to make for your party:



Oh, but the other thing parties require is a little bit of what my mom calls a "throw up your hands" attitude. Things might go wrong. (Orrrr seriously wrong. You should read about the Little Mermaid-themed wedding I helped my mom with. Can you say disaster?) The thing is to just laugh off those mishaps. If you're having fun, your guests will too, no matter what little detail gets forgotten. (Except maybe try to not forget the dessert. People get cranky when there's no dessert.)



 \bigvee_{i}

Sadie's right about dessert, so I thought I'd make it easy to remember by giving you the perfect recipe because cooking and baking is So Very Vi (meaning, I love kitchen stuff as much as I love swimming and soccer -- a lot!). The best part is you can make these ahead of time, so you have nothing to worry about on the day of the party. Well, there's always something to worry about at the party, like cakes that arrive from your archnemesis. I promise these taste just like s'mores (no campfire needed)!

From the kitchen of: Vi

S'mores Cookie Bars

Ingredients:

3/4 cup graham crackers, crumbled	11/4 cup all-purpose flour
4 tbsp butter, melted	1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 cup butter, softened	1/2 tsp salt
3/4 cup sugar	1 cup chocolate chips
1/2 cup brown sugar	1/2 cup mini marshmallows
1 egg	1 chocolate bar
1/2 ten vanilla	

Ask an adult to preheat the oven to 350°F. Mix graham cracker crumbs with melted butter. Place a sheet of parchment paper into the bottom of a square baking pan, and then press the graham cracker mixture into the bottom of the pan to make the crust. Cream the softened butter, add in the sugar and brown sugar, and cream until fluffy. Mix in egg and vanilla. Combine the flour, baking soda, and salt. Mix well. Add the flour mixture to the butter-sugar mixture and combine. Fold in chocolate chips and marshmallows. Spoon the mixture on top of the graham cracker crust (try to make it as even as possible, although it won't be perfect). Bake for 20 minutes. While the cookie bars are baking, break the chocolate bar into pieces and place it in the freezer. About 8–10 minutes before the cookie bars are finished, you can sprinkle

extra marshmallows over the top. Then let the cookie bars

finish baking. When done, place pieces of chocolate bar on

the top. Let the cookie bars cool completely before cutting.

Becca



People, people, PEOPLE! Fine with the food, fine with the lists, but you know what really makes a party super-duper unforgettable? The right music. I'm totes serious. You need to plan your party tunes so you're sending just the right vibes. I'm all about mixing it up with modern and classic (no, I did not say classical. I mean, okay, if you're hosting a proper tea with your grandmother, maybe. Unless your grandmother is Lauren's Bubby. Then it's T. Swifty all the way). Until the day when I get my very own songs produced, this sunshine—y playlist should do the trick:

Sunshine-y	
Name	Artist
Good Life	One Republic
Party in the USA	Miley Cyrus
Don't Worry, Be Happy	Bobby McFerrin
Our Song	Taylor Swift
Bubble Toes	Jack Johnson
Hey, Soul Sister	Train
Girls Chase Boys	Ingrid Michaelson
Нарру	Pharell Williams
Just the Way You Are	Bruno Mars
Teenage Dream	Katy Perry
I'm Yours	Jason Mraz
Stereo Hearts	Gym Class Heroes
Tonight, Tonight	Hot Chelle Rae
Brighter than the Sun	Colbie Caillat



Lauren

My take on things is this: people like something to do at parties. Otherwise, what's the point? Sadie asked me to come up with a craft for this planner, but to be honest, I felt like that was pretty disingenuous (adjective -- not genuine or sincere) because the only craft I ever tried was when my Bubby attempted to teach me to crochet hot pants and that ... did not go well. But even though I have this huge science test to study for right now, I can share one activity anyone can do that's guaranteed fun (well, not technically guaranteed, because I'm sure that might get us in trouble with advertising laws or something). Anyway, this is it: cell phone photo scavenger hunt. Each guest gets a list (yes, Sadie, a list!) of items they need to find or do at the party. Snap pictures to document yourself completing each item. First one done wins the prize!



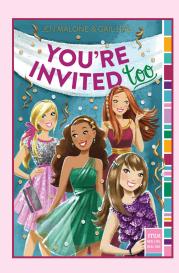
Good luck with your party and definitely check out some of ours in You're Invited (we may have good advice, but not all of our parties are smooth sailing, um, AT ALL). We may have plenty of (mis)adventures, but at least we get into them together! Here's a little more about our story:



When best friends Sadie, Lauren, Vi, and Becca cook up the idea for RSVP Party Planning while hanging out in the Purple People Eater (their abandoned sailboat clubhouse), they expect summer in their little town of Sandpiper Beach will be their best one yet, full of parties and laughter. And it *is* full of parties. Problem is, none of them go exactly (or AT ALL) as planned.

Is the girls' friendship strong enough to survive a business?

Or does RSVP spell the end of the BFFs?



Illustrations © Marilena Perilli

