

Impromptu Stress-Free Get-Together Tips

Prepare and Stock up on the following:

Pantry Items:

- Crackers, Chips, Pretzels, Popcorn
- Nuts
- Jarred Olives and Tapenades
- Canned Smoked Muscles
- Artichoke Hearts – Jarred or Canned in brine
- Dried fruit: Dates, figs, mangos
- Quality chocolates
- Unique jam or chutney

Drinks:

- Basic cocktail mixers: Tonic and club soda, soda
- Alcohol of choice
- Nonalcoholic options such as natural seltzers

Cold items that will keep in your refrigerator for snacking:

- Hard cheeses
- Cream cheese (regular or vegan)
- Ready-made hummus
- Veggies you would typically use throughout the week: Carrots, celery, radishes, snap peas, peppers, squash
- Slice and bake cookies
- Frozen Spinach (for dips)

Outdoor items, decorating, and service ware:

- Check that all [outdoor lights](#) are working and available. Have batteries on hand in case a change-out is required.
- Have multiple throws available for your guests as the evening cools.
- Have bug deterrents available.
- Find an [outdoor storage box](#) for your deck to keep pillows and throws dry and available. You could also store lanterns and candles this way.
- Colorful summer cocktail napkins, disposable appetizer plates, or invest in a [lovely set](#) that you can use year-round.

