



Everything You Need for the Ultimate Friendsgiving Party

November 18, 2016 [Lisa Renz](#) [Holiday and Seasonal](#)

Thanksgiving is a traditional meal—you gotta have that sweet potato pie that's been in the family for generations—but Friendsgiving? It's a perfect time to start a new tradition. You might even forgo the customary Thanksgiving dinner staples and go for something different like pumpkin cornbread or finally try that fried turkey recipe you've been eyeing on Pinterest—the world is your oyster (err, stuffing?).

But above all, Friendsgivings are a celebration of eating, drinking and remembering all the experiences you shared. Friendsgiving parties are unbelievably fun, but you should still put together a game plan for the big day. So start with these tips and begin a new tradition this year by hosting an amazing Friendsgiving party!

And as a [Splendor member](#), you can earn cash back on all of your Friendsgiving party essentials. From food to décor—we've got you covered!

Scheduling Your Friendsgiving

Hosting a Friendsgiving is a great idea if you're unable to make it home for Thanksgiving or if you just want a great way to stretch out the holiday over the following weekend. You can strategically repurpose leftovers into new dishes, turkeys are on sale and you can actually make that one thing you forgot this year.

You might also consider holding your feast earlier in the month as a trial run for the actual holiday. The benefits to this are that people are usually still around town and no one has gotten turkey fatigue yet.

Planning the Dishes

As the host, take care not to overwhelm yourself. We know that having a bunch of hungry and thirsty people in your home can be quite [stressful](#), so consider just making the turkey and gravy and nothing else. After all, you're also giving up your home and space to your guests, so you'll probably need some time for [decorating](#) and cleaning, too. Let your guests bring the side dishes and desserts to complete the Friendsgiving menu. To make sure nothing is forgotten you might even assign them categories of dishes such as potatoes, cranberries, vegetables, stuffing or dessert.

If you have any vegetarian or vegan guests, tofurkey is a holiday staple. Steaming it makes it more tender and baking it in a bag seals in the juices. Ask your guests if they have any allergy or diet restrictions in your invite, and make sure those people have at least three different things they can put on their plate. Stores like [Target](#) (2% cash back), [Walmart](#) (2% cash back), [Wolferman's Gourmet](#) (8% cash back) and even [Wine.com](#) (our favorite, and available with 5% cash back) have everything you'll need to complete your menu.



Set the Scene

What are friends for if not to appreciate your decorative gourd collection? Go for a unique table centerpiece or keep things minimal with a couple of candles or flower arrangements if you prefer. Just make sure you have plenty of serving utensils and platters. [Crate & Barrel](#) (2% cash back) has a great selection. We especially love these adorable hand-glazed [Pumpkin Serving Bowls](#) and this classic [Embossed Turkey Platter](#).

Don't neglect the rest of your dining room. Make the space festive with décor like this ["Thankful" Felt Garland](#) from [Target.com](#) (2% cash back).

Keep the mood relaxed and just let conversation happen. A great host makes everyone feel comfortable and welcome.

Supply a Playlist

And finally, every good party needs the perfect playlist. For your Friendsgiving party, choose songs that are cheerful and fit the mood of the holiday, but make sure they'll also make pleasant background music while your guests are enjoying their meals and great conversation. Maybe ask everyone to offer up some suggestions in their RSVP or create a group playlist online. Also ask for one of your guests to bring speakers like this [Sony Portable Wireless Speaker](#) from [Best Buy](#) (1% cash back).

Here are a few of our Friendsgiving playlist suggestions:

We're Going to Be Friends by The White Stripes

Homeward Bound by Simon & Garfunkel

Super Rich Kids by Frank Ocean and Earl Sweatshirt

Mashed Potatoes U.S.A by James Brown

Thank You by Blood Orange

Furr by Blitzen Trapper

Beacon by Matt Duncan

Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Again) by Sly & The Family Stone

This Must Be The Place (Naïve Melody) by Talking Heads

America by First Aid Kit

Regardless of what you do, as long as your table is full of friends (and your friends are full of delicious food) consider your Friendsgiving a success. Just don't tell mom if you like it better than the family Thanksgiving!

Cheers!



And don't forget to shop for all of your Friendsgiving necessities at [Splender.com](https://www.splender.com) to earn cash back rewards and awesome deals on every purchase. [Sign up for Splender today!](https://www.splender.com)