

MEXICAN DINNER ~ PARTY

Themed Dinner Party: Plan, Prep and Enjoy

You decide to have a dinner party with family and friends and select a date.

Confirm headcount

and now start planning and preparing. Do a little each week and then the event is seamless and stress free. Below we broken it all down into 3 weeks of activities.

From the Recipe list decide on what items you'll include.

Print and check off.

W3

W2

W1

Veggies and Prep

☐ Confirm HeadCount

Purchase Veggies:

- ☐ Broccoli
- ☐ Green Beans
- ☐ Garlic
- ☐ Red Onion
- ☐ Small Red Potatoes
- ☐ Red Wine Vinegar
- ☐ Make Pickled Veggies
- ☐ Decide if you will use your dishes or will buy paper products
- ☐ Check your pantry and see what existing spices you have and determine what you will need to buy
- ☐ Buy a sharpie and tape (blue painters tape trim 1inch is good)

Proteins and Spices

- ☐ 2 pounds of chicken thighs
- ☐ 4-5 pounds of pork shoulder (boston butt)
- ☐ 2 pounds of shrimp (optional you can buy this the day before party if you are good on time).
- Spices:**
 - ☐ Cayenne Pepper
 - ☐ Cinnamon
 - ☐ Cumin
 - ☐ Garlic Powder
 - ☐ Chili Powder
 - ☐ Oregano
 - ☐ Paprika
 - ☐ Salt and Pepper
 - ☐ Red Pepper Flakes (optional)
 - ☐ Measure out your spice mixes for each recipe and keep in ziplock or tupperware.

Salsa, drinks and Final items

- ☐ 8-10 Med Tomatillos,
- ☐ 4 Lg Red Tomatoes
- ☐ 2 bunches of Cilantro.
- ☐ 2 Jalapenos
- ☐ 1 bulb of fresh garlic
- ☐ 2 Limes
- Other items:**
 - ☐ 1 can 16 oz canned whole tomatoes and
 - ☐ Small can of chipotle
 - ☐ 12 oz small/single orange juice
 - ☐ Corn and Flour Tortillas
 - ☐ Corn Chips for the Salsa
 - ☐ Beer, Wine and Spirits (Tequila or Mezcal) Make your salsas and label with tape, date and name of salsa. You can do this 1 week in advance or a few days before.

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PROTIPS:

- ☐ Pickled veggies can last a month in the fridge. You can add to salads and sandwiches.
- ☐ Ground spices can last 2-3 years and Dried herbs can last 1-3 years. Check your dates and toss out the old and replenish if necessary.
- ☐ Fresh salsa can last 7 days in the fridge, assuming it has been continuously refrigerated. You can make earlier and freeze.

Day
Before

Party
Day

Optional - buy some fresh cut flowers

- ☐ Buy 1 bunch of Cilantro
- ☐ Buy 3-4 large avocados
- ☐ Buy 3-4 large limes and lemons
- ☐ Peel your shrimp, you may need to buy today if you didn't get earlier
- ☐ Keep half the peeled shrimp in a container for the next day
- ☐ Set out your crock pot or pan for oven
- ☐ Set you table, ensure all dishes are clean, or paper products
- ☐ Determine your flow, meaning, how will your guests fill their plate.
- ☐ Option: Have plates and tortillas near the protein, guests get their plate and protein then flow to table or bar area for the toppings

Relax, enjoy your favorite morning beverage and lite breakfast

- ☐ Organize house if needed
- ☐ Start the pork - see recipe
- ☐ Start the chicken - see recipe
- ☐ Make your ceviche - see recipe
- ☐ Set out salsas, and condiments right before guests arrive.

Once they arrive offer a drink, then encourage people to have the chicken or carnitas tacos, meanwhile,

- ☐ Saute your chili lime shrimp