

# Entertaining

## A Bouquet Of Party Planning Ideas

(NAPSA)—Getting ready for guests involves more than planning a memorable menu.

Putting out the welcome mat means making your home as attractive and appealing as you possibly can. Making sure the rooms your guests will use are picture-perfect and comfortable is one way to show you care about the people you are inviting.

For example, there are easy ways to make the room where your guests powder their noses even more pleasing.

Set out some attractive guest towels for them to use, a collection of small assorted pretty soaps, and liquid soap for those who prefer it.

You can put out toiletry items for your guests to use, such as hand lotion, breath mints and a small packet of pain relievers. A small travel sewing kit is also a nice courtesy.

Beside cleaning and straightening up, entertaining is a good excuse to dress up your rooms for company with interesting throws and some conversation-inspiring arrangements.

Appeal to all the senses. Scented candles and potpourri can be “scent-sational,” as can a concoction of water laced with vanilla and cinnamon simmering on the stove.

Another attractive and economical way to freshen and perfume the air is the use of fresh flowers.

A simple tumbler or pitcher filled with fragrant blossoms can brighten and freshen a room.

Or, you can add a touch of romance with a few beautiful



**A simple glass bottle filled with fragrant blossoms makes an attractive air freshener.**

stems that complement or accent the color of linens or wallpaper.

Put flowers in unexpected places and to add interest, use unusual containers, such as old watering cans, enamelware pitchers, or teapots.

A row of champagne glasses with a large blossom in each can make any dinner an elegant occasion. Bowls and shallow dishes can be used for floating flower heads.

For seasonal arrangements, use seasonal props. A hollowed-out pumpkin filled with autumnal flowers and leaves can serve as a focal point at Halloween, or an evergreen and flower wreath can be used around Christmas.

For more ideas, visit [www.flowerpossibilities.com](http://www.flowerpossibilities.com). For a free brochure about using flowers to make the party, write to P.O. Box 16, Ovid, MI 48866.