

Tip

5 Fun Holiday Parties



Who doesn't love a good party? But how many times in one season can you get together, drink eggnog, and play charades? If you need some ideas to add a little life back into all your gatherings (without spending a fortune), here are 5 fun and frugal ideas to help you get the party started... and keep the celebration going!

1. Progressive Dinner: Fun and Frugal

Want to save time and money? Have a progressive dinner! Each friend hosts a different course of the meal at his/her house... Mason offers a great appetizer, Susie serves the salads, Barb hosts the soup course, then everyone goes to Mike's place for the main dish, and so on. All the guests go from house to house until the meal is complete. You can have as many courses as you want, depending on the number of friends who want to make something. Each person only has to prepare ONE dish instead of food for an entire dinner party, which saves

everyone time and money... and you still get a great meal. Plus, this gives you a chance to see each friend's holiday décor! Stop by Dollar Tree and pick up all the plastic catering/serving trays and dishes you need... they have a stylish look, are easy to clean up, and everything's just \$1 each.

2. Trim My Tree Party

If you're a newlywed or a recent college grad getting ready to decorate your new place for the first time, then this idea is for you! First, buy and put up your tree and lights. Next, invite all your friends over and ask them to bring their favorite Dollar Tree ornament for your first-ever on-your-own Christmas tree. Then, ask them to tell a little story on why they picked that ornament for you... you'll be surprised at the heartwarming (and sometimes crazy) stories. Everyone will have a good laugh, you'll get your tree decorated with fun memories, and as a thanks you can serve your friends dinner!

3. Present Wrapping Party

This is the perfect get-together for all you busy moms and dads! Before the party, ask all your guests to go by Dollar Tree and grab some wrapping paper, gift bags, tissue, bows, tape, and scissors — we have a great selection and every item is just a buck. The night of the party, ask your guests to bring the gifts they have that need wrapping, all the wrapping supplies they

purchased, plus a dish to share (you can provide the drinks). Let's face it... gift wrapping is way more fun when you can laugh with your friends, have a great snack, and share all the different styles of gift wrap and bows!

4. Coolest Dollar Tree Gift Ever Bash

Challenge all your guests to go to Dollar Tree and buy the coolest gift they can find... or a number of items to make something cool (craft, gift basket, etc.). Have your guests wrap their gifts and bring them the night of the party. Each guest picks a number and chooses a gift to open in numerical order. Each guest also gets a ballot to vote for the coolest gift, most interesting gift, most creative gift, silliest gift, etc. Plus, they can try to guess who brought what. Reward the winners with fun little door prizes (also from Dollar Tree, of course). No one has spent that much money and you've all had a great time!

5. Red Carpet Gala... with Photo Opportunities!

All dressed up and nowhere to go? Invite your friends to your place and tell them to wear whatever they want... even fancy gowns and tuxes, if they choose. Greet your guests with a photoshoot, red-carpet style, at the front door to capture their entrances. Plus, set up a "photo booth" inside (could just be a corner of the room) with a table or bucket of fun props from Dollar Tree — feather boas, funny sunglasses, silly hats, crazy teeth, plastic jewelry, and more. Every silly prop is just \$1 each, but the memories are priceless!