

Thanksgiving Checklist



One Month Before

The month before is all about big-picture planning:

- Decide what you will cook:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Select what you are going to outsource
- Choose who you are going to invite
- Determine when and where the dinner will be held.
- Send invitations and requests to guests
- _____
- _____
- _____

One Week Before

The week before is all about getting things done ahead of time. The more you can do this week, the less you'll have to worry about on the big day. Here are a few things you can do the week before:

- Buy the turkey
- Chop veggies
- Get your table ready (make sure you have enough place settings)
- Delegate cleaning chores for after the meal
- Make and freeze the pie dough (or the entire pie)
- Make and freeze homemade stock
- Make and freeze the homemade rolls
- Take inventory - do you have enough toilet paper, napkins, dishes, etc for everyone?
- _____
- _____
- _____

The Day Before

It's almost time! Here are the things you can do the day before Thanksgiving to get ready for it:

- Set the table
- Thaw the homemade rolls
- Finish any last-minute baking
- Cook sides that can be reheated the day of
- Peel the potatoes for mashed potatoes and keep them covered in water overnight
- Complete all the food prep
- Organize the cooking schedule for the next day
- Put the wine and beer in the fridge
- Get plenty of sleep
- _____
- _____
- _____

Three Days Before

A few days before the big meal is when you prepare for all the festivities that are about to happen:

- Thaw the turkey
- Go shopping for anything you might have missed
- Make the perishable recipes (like dips and veggie platters)
- Make the cranberry sauce
- Buy the drinks
- Plan activities
- Clean the house
- _____
- _____
- _____

Two Weeks Before

Now it's time to make your lists:

- Create grocery shopping list
- Determine list of needed kitchen tools
- Confirm guests and who is bringing different side dishes
- Plan and put up Thanksgiving decorations
- Make a list of house cleaning tasks/chores
- _____
- _____
- _____

On Thanksgiving Day

Today is the big day! It's all about spending time with friends and family. Here's what to do on Thanksgiving Day:

- Pre-heat the oven and get the turkey cooking
- Make the mashed potatoes
- Cook the side dishes first that can be served at room temperature
- Make the gravy and the stuffing after the turkey is done
- Reheat/cook any hot side dishes
- Put the food into serving dishes
- Carve the turkey
- Rewarm the desserts in the oven
- _____
- _____
- _____

The Day After Thanksgiving

- Clean up and put away everything from the big day _____
- Make notes of what you want to do differently next year _____