

Hosting Group



A Practical Guide to Hospitality

The goal is to provide a hospitable environment that communicates that guests are important and the group is important.

Cleaning

- Pick up dirty dishes, clothing, and stray pairs of shoes from the room where the group will meet.
- Vacuum/sweep the floors – do it earlier in day so that dust and allergens don't affect group members.
- Arrange the room for group discussion – do you have enough places to sit?
- Do you have pets? Clean where people will be sitting.
- Light a candle, spread deodorizer, and/or use a plug-in.
- Pray—cleaning for others has an incredible effect on your prayer life.

Before the meeting

- Turn off the TV before people arrive.
- Remove pets from the room for the entire evening (even if you love them more than the group members!).
- Turn your phone off.
- Check the bathroom for toilet paper and air freshener or matches.
- Turn the porch light on if its going to be dark.
- Is there parking?
- Do you have tissues easily available?
- Prepare snacks and drinks.

As people arrive

- Meet guests at the door and greet them with a smile.
- Ask if the lighting and temperature are comfortable.
- Is there anything that would disrupt the group discussion?

During the meeting

- Make sure everyone has a place to sit.

After the meeting

- Encourage people to stick around and talk.
- When it's time for people to leave, say politely, "I've had a great time tonight but need to prepare for bed. I look forward to seeing you next week."
- Pray, and thank God for His presence in the group and allowing you to serve as the host.