

# Create a Game Day Atmosphere

Cold weather, warm coffee and autumn-scented candles aren't the only things that come with the fall season.

In fall, sports are back, and that means creating a space for you and your friends and family to watch the weekend's biggest college and professional football games.

## FLOOR PLAN

The floor plan for your game day space is important. You want to have enough space for you, your friends and family to comfortably sit and watch TV or play video games while also having easy access to the kitchen for more snacks and refreshments.

An open floor plan allows you to turn the kitchen island into a buffet and another spot to place people with some bar stools around the sides of the island.

If you have a traditional floor plan, it will take a little more elbow grease to create the space an open floor plan offers. Move your furniture according to how spaced apart or close together you want your guests to sit.

Pull out any hidden furniture or folding chairs in case more



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## REAL ESTATE 101

### Fancy Eats

Looking for more adventurous game day food ideas than just hot wings, dip, ribs and chili? Southern Living offers "44 Football Party Food Recipes Made for Game Day" — a list that includes the old standbys and more creative twists. Recipes include Curried Chicken Pot Pie, Green Chile-Chicken Stew, Pull-Apart Pizza Bread, Pecan Praline Dip and a Savory Bacon-Cheddar Dutch Baby. Read the whole list and get the recipes at [www.bit.ly/3630DSY](http://www.bit.ly/3630DSY).

people show up than expected.

Make sure your television is the center of attention and there are no chairs blocking the view.

### HOME BAR

A home bar can liven up the space and mood of your game day atmosphere. There are plenty of ways to build your

home bar, whether you have the space or not.

You want your home bar to be in a corner of the living space or game room to com-

fortably sit a few people as they drink their beverages.

Consider using a layout that isn't just parallel to a wall. A 45-degree angle at two corners can give you some extra space for guests to sit or stand and more space for storage.

You want a durable bar top since it is what will be taking the most wear and tear and the most mess, and it is what people will see the most. A bar top can be an expensive marble or a dark wood top if you have room in the budget, or it can be a portable bar top that you can store in a closet or shed if you don't have the space for a permanent bar.

Use your walls for storage of drinks and glasses. Your walls can also become part of your theme for your bar. Install shelves to hold bottles or a rack to store your favorite glasses. A shelf can also be used to store and display open bottles.

### OUTSIDE BAR

If you have a backyard with space for people to gather and sit, an outdoor bar is a great way to fill some space and liven up any occasion at any time of the year. An outdoor bar would also give you more room to add features to your bar, such as multiple TVs, a sound system and easier access to amenities for your guests.



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### HOMEWISSE GLOSSARY

**Demand feature:** a loan feature that permits the lender to require early repayment of the loan.

SOURCE: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

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