

# BIG GAME

Party Planning GUIDE



# Be an Epic Party Guest

If you're attending a Super Bowl party, congratulations. Being a guest grants you a stress-free way to enjoy the biggest game of the year without playing the role of host.

But visitors aren't without their own responsibilities. Don't just show up with a bag of chips and plan to leave once the last whistle blows.

Learn how to be a helpful and epic guest so the host can enjoy the big game.

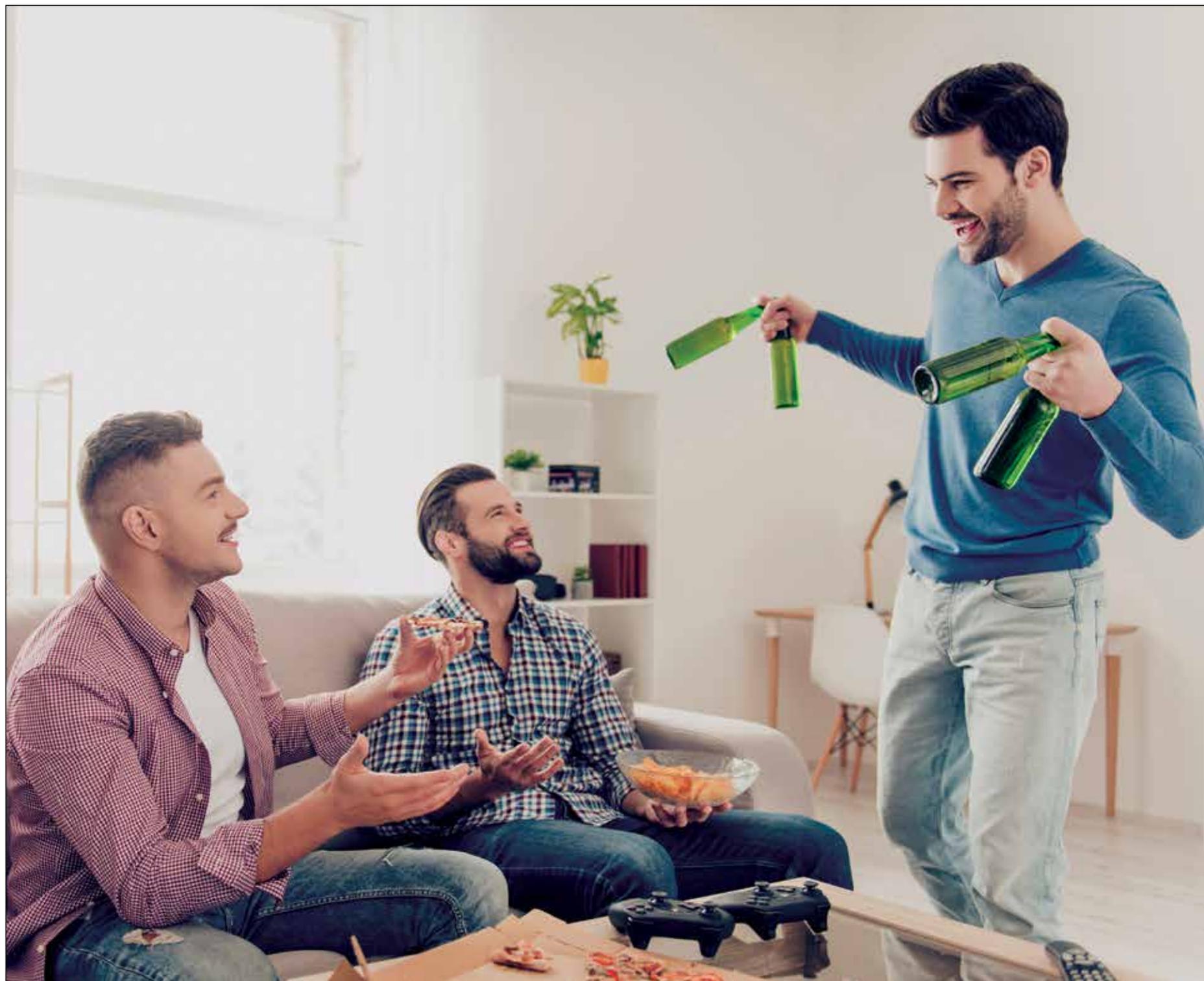
## **DON'T BE LATE**

You don't want to disrupt the party by showing up late. Ask your host what time the event begins and plan your day to ensure you arrive when they request. There is no room for fashionably late. If you need to miss the event, let the host know as soon as possible. Also ask if you may arrive early to help prepare.

## **BRING A SIDE**

You don't have to be a five-star chef to prepare an awesome dish that impresses. Finger foods and simple appetizers are typically the main course at Super Bowl parties.

When planning your contribution, consider bringing a cold dish or preparing a meal at home that can be quickly



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reheated. Your host won't appreciate you showing up and demanding full control of their kitchen while you whip together a dip or platter that should have been pre-

pared at home.

## **GREAT ETIQUETTE**

Ask if others are bringing alcoholic beverages or a party game.

Be respectful of other partygoers by not crowding the television if your favorite team is approaching the goal line or has a great play.

Before leaving, offer to help

your host clean up the mess that was made. Don't be afraid to chip in during the party by picking up dirty plates or empty cups throughout the night.

# Super Bowl Games

**W**hile the big game does a great job of entertaining from beginning to end, you can add even more enjoyment for your guests by planning fun games to play during the event. It's important to find a balance for the different types of people who will be attending.

Whether your friends are active, more relaxed or will be bringing along their little ones, ensure there is something for everyone.

## **FOR THE ACTIVE GUESTS**

Weather permitting, an outdoor party will help keep the mess down and give your guests plenty of room to wander and enjoy football-themed games. If you have the luxury of watching the Super Bowl outside, consider these activities to set your party up for success.

### **CORNHOLE**

This game goes by several different names but creates a competitive atmosphere as guests compete to dominate opposing teams. Consider decorating your boards or bags with football decor.

### **FLAG FOOTBALL**

If your backyard has the space, encourage guests to partake in a friendly game of flag football. It's a great way to burn off energy before the game begins and can include people of all ages.

### **BOTTLE BASH FRISBEE**

You may purchase a packaged version of this game or make one yourself with a few pieces of PVC, a frisbee and two bottles. Add a competitive



advantage by holding a tournament and allowing the winning team first dibs in the food line.

### **FOR THE RELAXED GUEST**

For those who don't want

to exert a lot of energy on Super Bowl Sunday, you can create activities that are

played on the couch.

### **COMMERCIAL BINGO**

Consider heavy-hitter commercial topics that are popular during the big game and create custom bingo cards for guests to mark. You can purchase a grand prize or encourage guests to drop a couple bucks in a football helmet to reward the first bingo.

### **BET ON THE GAMES**

Take a cue from Vegas and pick unique game situations for guests to bet on. Try a safety, a pick six or a trick play.

### **FOR THE KIDS**

Young children may not share the same enthusiasm about football as your adult visitors, so give them plenty to do.

### **FOOTBALL HELMET PINATA**

Create a paper-mâché version of a football helmet and fill it with delicious treats. Make sure each child has a turn by allowing younger children to swing first.

### **PIN THE FOOTBALL**

A football-themed version of Pin the Tail on the Donkey is a great idea to put a fun twist on a classic game.

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# Super Bowl Trivia

**A** fun way to entertain guests before and during the game is by creating a fun trivia experience.

Your questions should include a combination of common knowledge and little-known facts, so everyone can participate. Consider a football-themed prize for the participant who answers the most questions correctly.

If you aren't a football fanatic, here are some fun facts about the Super Bowl you can add to your competition.

Kurt Warner threw 414 yards in 2000, becoming the first quarterback in NFL history to throw more than 400 yards in a Super Bowl.

Jacoby Jones ran the longest play in Super Bowl history, a 108-yard kickoff return in Super Bowl XLVII.

Devin Hester of the Chicago Bears holds the fastest score in the game's history with an opening

kickoff return for a touchdown in Super Bowl XLI.

Roger Staubach holds the infamous record of most career Super Bowl fumbles at five.

Tom Brady has the record for most completions in Super Bowl history.

The first Super Bowl left 32,000 empty seats at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum as fans complained of the high ticket prices, \$12.

The Buffalo Bills appeared in four consecutive Super Bowls and

lost them all.

New Orleans has hosted more Super Bowl events than any other location, but Miami will tie it by hosting Super Bowl LIV.

Phil Sims was the first NFL player to say the famous line "I'm going to Disney World."

The Lombardi Trophy is given to the winner of the big game. It is created by Tiffany & Co. and is worth about \$25,000.

Super Bowl Sunday is the second largest day for food consumption, behind only Thanksgiving.

# Your Entertainment Space

If you are the lucky one tasked with throwing this year's Super Bowl extravaganza, make sure your space is set up for success. Impress your guests with an attractive entertainment area and of course, a dazzling television.

## THE BIG SCREEN

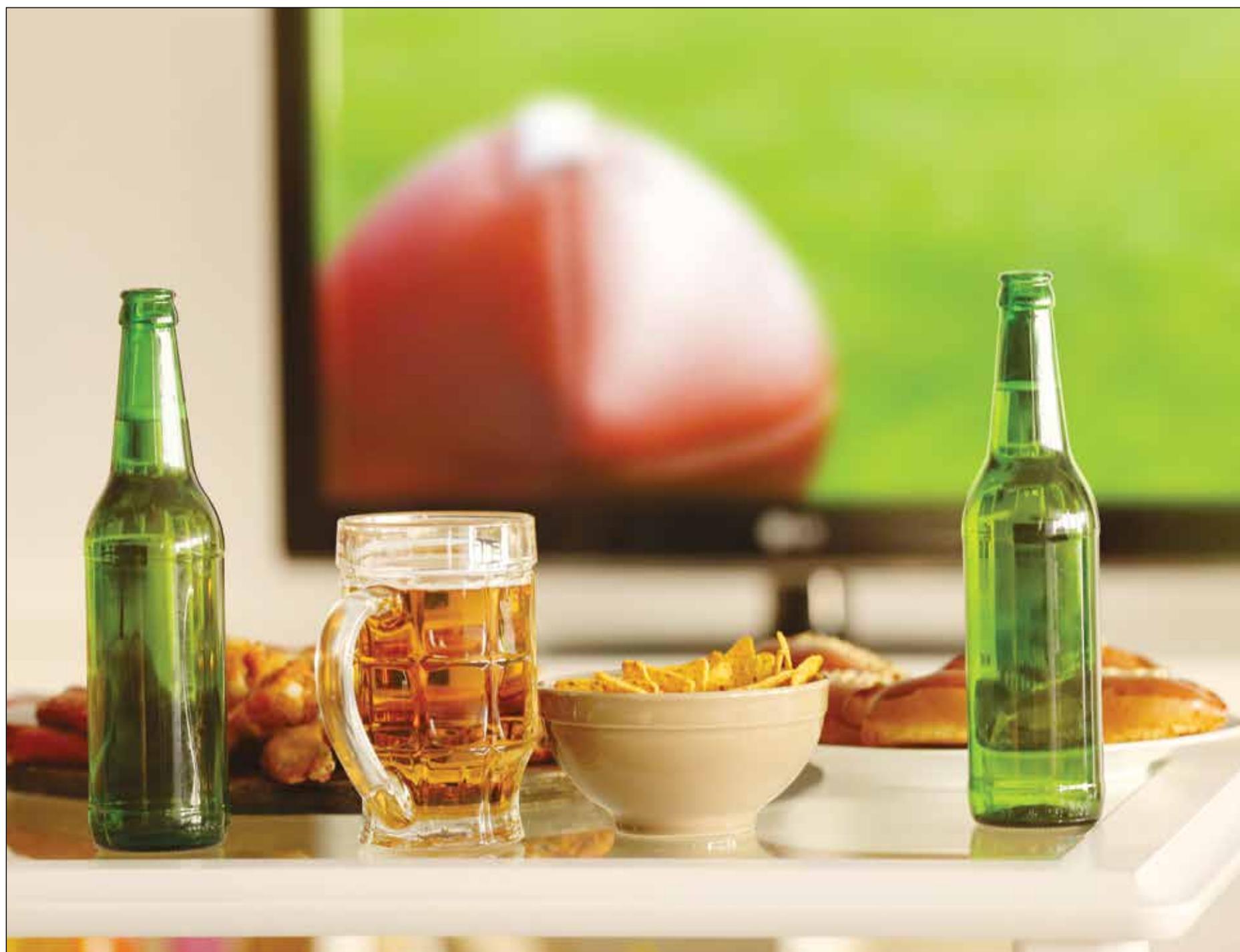
During the game, all eyes will be on the action on television. Make your party a big deal by upgrading to a big screen. Check out your local electronic store; retailers usually have big Super Bowl sales.

Consider how much entertainment space you have when deciding what size television to choose. How far do you and your guests sit from the TV? Will you use upgrades like 4K? Once you have the perfect screen picked, how are you going to display it? If you choose to hang it on your wall, make sure you use a mount that's suitable for the size and weight of the TV.

Don't forget to hide unsightly wires with cable concealers or running cords behind the walls.

## INVEST IN A SOUND BAR

Immerse your guests with rich sound-enhancing technology that doesn't require hiding wires throughout your living room. You can find affordable sound bars that mount under a television and provide an exceptional way to feel like you're a part of the game. For extra oomph, look for a model that includes a wireless subwoofer. Newer models feature wireless technology making setup simple for anyone. It's a great option for those in a hurry to get things up and run-



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ning in time for the game.

## ENOUGH SEATING

Does your room seem

cramped or have limited seating space? Now is the time to find the furniture set that welcomes large groups of guests

and works for your living area.

Check out your local furniture store for great deals, and

if cost is an issue, most offer exceptional lending programs, to lessen the immediate hit on your wallet.

# Party Proof your Home

**A**ccidents happen at parties. Drinks can be spilled and valuable items risk being bumped from shelves. The first step to party proofing is maximizing your space. Rearrange furniture and create clear walkways around and through your party area. Keep reading for more hints on hosting a successful party.

## **PROTECT YOUR CARPET**

Here's how to clean common some common party spills.

**Red wine:** Blot the spot from the outside in; don't rub. Keep blotting with cold water until the wine is gone or diluted. Pour salt over the spot while it's still wet and let the salt absorb the remaining wine.

**Barbecue sauce:** Mix a 1:1 ratio of warm water and dishwashing liquid. Blot the spot until it disappears. If it sets, mix a tablespoon of ammonia with a half cup of warm water and sponge it over the stain. Blot until it disappears and rinse with cold water. **Melted cheese:** Use the dull edge of a knife to pull as much cheese as you can out of the carpet fibers. Mix two cups of warm water with two tablespoons dishwashing detergent. Use a soft brush or sponge to dab solution, working from the outside in. Blot cheese away with a paper towel until it's all gone. Rinse with cold water and blot dry.

## **TABLECLOTHS**

Your tabletops will need to be protected from guests with drinks and crumbs. Avoid visitors damaging your furniture with dings or drink rings by covering them with disposable tablecloths.

They also make cleanup a breeze. Ensure only disposable items remain on the table, roll



the cloth up and find the trash can.

## **PREPARE YOUR PETS**

It's no surprise that Super

Bowl Sunday can be the loudest day of the year. People get wrapped up in the game and aren't afraid to show their enthusiasm or disdain

throughout. If you have a pet who is timid or nervous of loud noises, consider keeping them in an area of your home where people won't be

around.

Treat them with their favorite foods and remember to check on them during the night.



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# Partying on a Budget

**Y**our Super Bowl get together doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. If you are on a budget for this year's party, there are ways to save big bucks while hosting a memorable event.

## **AFFORDABLE FEASTING**

Super Bowl Sunday is traditionally a day where finger foods and casual drinks outweigh fancy feasting and sophisticated cocktails.

Go for inexpensive snacks like chips and dip, premade veggie and fruit trays, and barbecued meatballs. Ask your guests to bring their favorite appetizers and drinks, too.

## **RENTING EQUIPMENT**

If you feel your television setup needs an upgrade before guests arrive, but it doesn't make sense financially, consider using a rental service.

Keep in mind that others may have the same idea, so it's important to contact an electronic rental service several weeks prior to the big game.

Enquire about available sizes,

delivery and setup and return methods. In most cases, they will help in every step of the process for a small fee.

## **DISPOSABLE CUTLERY**

Don't worry about purchasing new silverware or dishes for your party. When using paper plates, disposable cups and plastic cutlery, you'll save a ton of money and time during cleanup.

# Healthy Snacks on the Table

**S**uper Bowl Sunday doesn't have to be an event where people break their New Year's resolutions of healthier eating. Sure, it can be a cheat day after a month of strict diet and exercise, but don't forget to add a few healthy options on the table amongst the high-calorie snacks the day is known for.

## **VEGETABLE TRAYS**

A classic appetizer at any get together is variety of vegetables paired with a delicious dip. Consider making your own by collecting foods from the organic section at your grocery store.

Create a festive centerpiece by using multiple colors of choices like yellow peppers, broccoli, carrots and tomatoes. For dip options, use a fat-free dressing or search for recipe to create a healthy sauce.

## **LEAN PROTEINS**

Are you planning to fire up the grill for Super Bowl Sunday? If burgers and brats are on the menu, consider including leaner proteins like ground chicken or turkey sausages. They will feature the familiar flame-cooked tastes while offering fewer calories.

Give your deep fryer a break and prepare classic meat dishes in the oven or an air fryer. Avoiding the use of high-fat oils will grant your guests a healthier way to enjoy traditional snacks.

## **SALAD BAR**

If you have the space in your home, offering a salad bar is a good way to create a healthy theme at your party. Fill a table with bowls of healthy greens, light dress-



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ings, nuts and vegetables. Encourage your invitees to bring along their healthiest suggestions to create a versatile salad.

## **DON'T FORGET THE CLASSICS**

You don't want to turn off your guests who consider Super Bowl Sunday a day to

indulge. Make sure to include a few staples at great parties like chicken wings, desserts and bacon-wrapped everything.

The final game of the NFL season should be an experience that is full of enjoyment, great food and the company of your closest friends and family.