

Thanksgiving Planning Guide:

One Week Before

Linens and décor at home

- ☐ Press tablecloths and napkins. Light starch if you like a crisp fold.
- ☐ Hang pressed linens on wide hangers or roll around a tube to avoid creases.
- ☐ Pre-fold napkins and band each place setting together so the table goes down fast.
- ☐ Pull chargers, place cards, candleholders, and votives. Wipe and polish.
- ☐ Test candle count and burn time. Keep them unscented so they don't compete with the food, or use LED candles for safety and convenience.
- ☐ If kids or pets are around, keep fragile pieces boxed until the morning.

Tabletop dry run

- ☐ Stage stacks on a tray: dinner plates, salad plates, napkins, flatware.
- ☐ Label bundles by table or room so anyone can jump in and help.
- ☐ Check glassware for water, wine, and something sparkling.
- ☐ Line up platters in order of service with a small sticky note on each. Match each dish to its utensil now.

Light décor

- ☐ For table or wall vases: trim stems, remove lower leaves, and keep in water. Eucalyptus, rosemary, or simple greenery work.
- ☐ Gather floral shears, extra votives, matches, and sticky wax (to steady candles and small décor) in a small bin.
- ☐ Confirm wine, mixers, sparkling water, and how much ice you'll need and when to get it.

Bar and beverages

- ☐ Confirm wine, mixers, sparkling water, and an ice plan.
- ☐ Wash and dry barware. Set out a small tray with an opener, jigger, bar spoon, and a towel.
- ☐ Pre-slice citrus wedges and keep sealed in the fridge.

