



# something red something blue...

BEYOND BASIC BASICS

It's great to have you at our table! Longer days, sun, and flowers make a special time of year for outdoor celebrations. From Memorial Day through the Fourth of July to Labor Day, we're sharing table setting inspiration for memorable get-togethers. Holiday or every day, you'll love finding excuses to add these stellar pieces to your collection. Read on for advice on hosting and coordinating a beautiful backyard scene.

**POOL** If you're lucky enough to have pool access, incorporating your swimming pool with beautiful flowers or balloons is a great way to add color and cheer to your backyard or clubhouse. From streamers and bunting to an American flag or tropical fruit wedges, pick a theme to keep your space looking coordinated.

**GAMES** For outdoor entertainment that's fun for all, games are a great way to set a relaxed vibe. Sets of corn hole, backgammon, and board ball are a lovely way to get the party started and keep one little occupied until food is ready. Try something new like a red, white, and blue water balloon race or a potato sack race.

**texture** Outdoor entertaining isn't just about moisture and alyric. Natural textures such as raffia, burlap, and even craft paper are an elegant way to bring the textures of the outdoors to your table. The mix between the sleek and shiny with the rough and organic is a beautiful way to layer. Craft paper or paper runners are also nice additions for a holiday charcuterie and make them up a bit easier.

**DECOR** Another way to bring the outdoors to your table and subtly incorporate a theme is to use food and garden elements as decor. For a Fourth of July or Memorial Day party use a flag cake or red roses in baskets as centerpieces. Consider using printed mason, apothecary,

Rugs, and bins to incorporate your theme into your tablescapes. Painted herbs, baskets of vegetables, a crocheted placemat, bowls of bright fruits, and centerpieces of flowers are all gorgeous and unexpected ways to make a statement for a summertime event. Shells and stones can also add natural elements.

**ITEMS** When planning your event, consider the weather. As the temperature rises, fresh light dishes like chorizo con queso, thick wedges of watermelon, and crisp, cold vegetable platters and salads are just the thing to pair with your barbecue. Nothing's more welcome than a pitcher of iced tea, fruit infused water, or Arnold Palmer. Kick yours up notch with decorative ice cubes. Mint leaves, edible flowers, and even raspberries can be frozen in ice cube trays to make your club soda extra special. For a Fourth of July party, freeze cubes with blueberries and raspberries to keep all your key beverage patrons.

**outdoor ready** Entertaining outdoors can be extra tricky, so always have mosquito coils and citronella candles ready to burn or essential to keep pesky bugs off the food. Collect an array of insect repellent, sunscreen, hats, and fans to make available for your guests. On the flip side, things can get messy after the sun sets, so be prepared with sheets, blankets, or towels for guests to wrap up in — that's the kind of thing that can really set your party apart.



Alexandra and Nicole are an interior design and tableware accessible to everyone while promoting artisans from around the world. Through Carolina's inspired settings, they're done just that. Based between Miami and Columbia, the sisters have deep roots in art and design along with the creative credentials to support. They've worked with designers like Tessa Lander, Katherine Hester, and Ana Hester, and have done their international design sensibility with the world through regality custom, gift wrapping, party styling, and home accessorizing.

Photography: Holly Huffer

**lighting** When setting the table for dinner in the backyard, opt for lanterns over votives so you're prepared for anything. Electric candles are also a great choice for windy nights. As it gets dark, it's important to have enough lighting for your get-together. Tiki torches and twinkle lights are smart ways to make sure your guests can safely navigate your backyard after sunset.

**a versatile table**

For this hosting table, reach for red, white, and blue basics that are picture ready, with a few select themed pieces to complement the occasion. Incorporate these unique and practical elements in your place settings all season long. So many of these items also make for a generous hostess gift!

- Modern Jug Splatter** Carolina Irving & Daughters \$35 [ci-daughters.com](http://ci-daughters.com)
- Single Wish Sparkler 4th of July** Tops Malibu \$2 [topsmalibu.com](http://topsmalibu.com)
- Beatrice Berry Red Napkins, Set of 4** Mrs. Alice \$91 [mrsalice.com](http://mrsalice.com)
- Resin Stone Servers** Dinosaur Designs \$125 [dinosaurdesigns.com](http://dinosaurdesigns.com)
- USA Candle** homesick \$34 [homesick.com](http://homesick.com)
- Woven Flower Placemat** Klatta \$22 [klatta.com](http://klatta.com)
- Terra Dark Blue Dinner Plate** Le Cordon \$24 [lecordons.com](http://lecordons.com)
- White Stripe, Lapis Blue Silverware, Set of 4** Sabre Paris \$61 [sabre.fr](http://sabre.fr)
- Centerpiece Grace** Gutzwiller \$74 [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)
- French Lattice Red Tablecloth** Heather Taylor Home \$228 [heatherthaylorhome.com](http://heatherthaylorhome.com)
- Boice Vita Acrylic Wine Goblet White 6.5" H, Set of 6** Marie Luce Goods \$298 [graciousstyle.com](http://graciousstyle.com)
- Diamante Acrylic Tumbler Royal Blue 4.5" H, Set of 6** Marie Luce Goods \$132 [graciousstyle.com](http://graciousstyle.com)
- Navy Stars Napkin Rings** Weston Table \$18 [westontable.com](http://westontable.com)

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check out

our article in the summer 2022 issue of Molly My Mag!