Holiday Hosting Checklist

4 Weeks Before
- Purchase all non-perishable groceries needed.
- Begin decorating the home. Check out our Christmas Decorations page for tips and tricks for decorating your home on a budget!
- Finalize menus.

3 Weeks Before
- Decorate for Christmas.
- Prepare bread for stuffing and freeze.
- Prepare cranberry sauce and freeze.

2 Weeks Before
- Order fresh turkey or estimate thawing time of frozen turkey. See our Turkey and the Trimming page for information on purchasing to carving and everything in between.
- Sharpen knives. Learn how to safely sharpen a knife on our YouTube Channel.
- Prepare and freeze make ahead dishes including dessert. Need some ideas? Check out our Planning Ahead: Holiday Entertaining Ideas page.
- Decorate tree if it has not been done already. For decorating tips and ideas, visit our Christmas Decoration page.
- Clean house.
- Bring out serving pieces, china, glassware, etc.
- Reorganize refrigerator for extra space.

A Week Before
- Buy perishables.
- Do a final housecleaning.
- Put nuts and candy into serving dishes. Cover and store.

Two Days Before
- Put condiments into serving dishes. Refrigerate.
- Wash and prepare salad greens.
- Thaw frozen food for Christmas menu in refrigerator.
- Set table with flatware, napkins, wine glasses, water

The Day Before
- Prepare dressing ingredients in separate packets and keep refrigerated.
- Combine punch ingredients except for carbonated ingredients.
- Prepare soup or other starters and refrigerate.
- Combine and refrigerate any overnight breakfast dishes or stratas, coffee cakes or sweet rolls.
- Touch up the house.