

How to Host a Swap Party

❖ What's a swap party?

- **Gather friends**—and their excess stuff—for this thrifty get-together, and start trading.
- Beyond being **economical, eco-friendly, and an excuse to clean out your closet**, a swap party with friends is far more fun than a yard sale with strangers.
- A swap party can be for clothing, toys, housewares, pet supplies, books, DVDs – anything you can think of!

❖ How to start

- **Invite enough friends for a good variety** – if you have the space, encourage guests to bring new friends to ensure there are plenty of quality things to trade
- **Send out e-invitations!** There are plenty of services for electronic invitations that are still an upgrade from sending a text. Check out [Paperless Post](#), [Green Envelope](#), and [eVite](#).
- **Host your swap at the end of the season** when people are cleaning out their closets and looking for new pieces to freshen up their wardrobes.

❖ Tricks of the Trade

- **Be clear about what's swap-worthy.** Ask friends to bring clean goods in gently used condition. Guests should also come with an extra tote bag for carting home their finds.
- **Set up the swap.** To help people find what they want, sort items into areas based on type.
- **After the party, take the leftover goods to your local donation center.** Goodwill, schools, theatre groups, and pet adoption centers would love your excess items.

