HOST THOUGHTFULLY 051

Let Guests Know You Enjoyed Them



THE COMPANY IS PART OF THE EVENING.

Make room to enjoy the people you invited, not only the work of feeding them. A relaxed conversation and a sincere thank-you can be part of the dinner's final course.

1 Come back to the group

Once the essential tasks are done, sit down and join the conversation. Let the kitchen wait where it can.

Why: Guests get to spend time with the person who invited them.

2 Thank people specifically

Acknowledge their company or a contribution that helped the evening. Keep the thanks natural and brief.

Why: The appreciation can feel personal without becoming a speech.

3 Let the evening settle

Enjoy the last conversation without feeling obliged to add another activity, course or bottle.

Why: A comfortable finish does not need more things to serve.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Mention a shared moment

A story, a laugh or a useful suggestion can be a simple way to say what you enjoyed.

Welcome the conversation

Ask about something you wanted to hear more about earlier, then give people room to talk.

Keep future invitations relaxed

If you would like to do it again, say so warmly. There is no need to organize the next dinner on the spot.

Let enough be enough

A thoughtful meal and good company can stand on their own. Finish with the same ease you hoped to create at arrival.

THE PLATING MINDSET

The dinner is for the people around the table. Make sure they get to enjoy your company too.