



This Paris-themed event was a birthday party for Sally St. John. Below, an elephant adds a touch of realism to the Bob Hope Classic Road to Zanzibar event.

Shari Kelley's Top Seven Tips for Hostesses

1. The theme is important, so clearly define that first.
2. Get the guests to be a part of the decor by asking them to wear black and white, all red, or crazy decorated shoes. Then have a contest for best.
3. Greet the arriving guests with something special: A scarecrow for fall, a snowman for December, a glass of champagne for a festive note.
4. Hire a couple of people to set up and clean up. A bartender will free you to chat with your guests.
5. Candles and votives can be your ONLY lighting.
6. A DJ is reasonable and can mix for any theme.
7. Produce the party with surprises, but don't let all your ideas out in the first hour. Add "toys" later if there is dancing, such as hula hoops, bubbles and paddle balls.

