



Inspire



Design



Create

April 13, 2014

As we get closer to a busy summer entertaining season, I thought I would reiterate my party planning basics using my IDC (Inspire.Design.Create) concept. This allows for a methodical system in bringing to life your party inspiration. Here are the 3 simple steps to follow for stress free party planning. My most recent event a 1940's Vintage Birthday Party was put together using this method.

1. Find your Inspiration

I think every idea regardless how big or small starts with some kind of Inspiration. Often times you're inspiration isn't even tangible. For instance, a feeling or sensation can definitely cause inspiration, like the first day of Spring or a childhood memory. Inspiration can also be evoked by a place, a color combination, a visual or in most cases your imagination! Bringing that feeling to life is the best part of creating any event. I always try to convey that inspiration into a visual by using a photograph or a collage so I can reference it through the design process.

2. Design your project

I think this step is crucial, however a lot of people move from step one and go directly to step three of creating an event and that's where a project can go from fun and exciting to disastrous and way over budget! Completing this step truly makes the day of the event smooth and anxiety free. You'll know exactly what you have to do and know exactly how it will look! Honestly, this is not as hard as sounds. Once you've found your inspiration this part comes naturally, remember this is where you set your imagination free! I design my work electronically, but this can be done just as easily on paper. Once this part is complete and you're happy with the layout you can start purchasing and creating items for the event. In addition to the physical layout it's important that you also have your menus and recipes planned out as well.

You now have a defined Roadmap for the big day!

3. Create your event

As the event day approaches you can relax because you know exactly what you're doing; you have a road map with visuals, directions and a picture of your final destination! You've purchased everything and you know where everything will go! At this point it's kind of like a painting by numbers project. But the best part is that you're the original creator of this project, that's a one of a kind. Totally created using your imagination and custom designed by you!