

ULTIMATE TAILGATING GUIDE

Is there anything better than cracking open a cold one while burgers sizzle on the grill outside the stadium before a big game? Whether you're a seasoned tailgater who claims their spot when the gates open at 6am, or a rookie looking to step up your game this season, we've got you covered.

A little planning will make sure your pre-game is the talk of the parking lot. Our tailgating toolkit has all of the tips, recipes and reminders you need to pull off an unforgettable tailgate party — including a comprehensive checklist that you'll want to print out.

A WEEK+ BEFORE THE BIG GAME:

Make a Game Plan

First time tailgating at the stadium? Make sure you know the rules, so there are no big surprises on game day:

- Can you reserve a spot?
- What time do the gates open?
- Is there a lottery system, or first come, first served?
- Can you bring alcohol? Music? A charcoal grill?

Rally Your Crew

Now that you know what to expect, it's time to get your crew onboard. From picking a time and place to meet up, to deciding who's bringing what, this is a conversation you want to have in advance.

★ PRO TIP

If meat is going to be the centerpiece of your pre-game feast, consider branching out from the grocery store. We've got you covered with a variety of high-quality cuts at a fair price.

For the ultimate spread, [The Tailgate Box](#) sets you up with pork chops, New York strips, chicken breasts, and hamburger steaks.



Plan Your Menu

This is the fun part, and if you're like us, you've probably been thinking about the menu for weeks. Here at Prime House Direct, we're partial to steak, burgers and barbecue, but the options are truly unlimited. Don't forget the snacks, sides, appetizers and sweets — which you can make ahead.

Need a little inspiration? Start here:

- ❑ The Kansas Beef Council's got you covered with: [tailgating classics](#), [fan favorites](#) and [easy prep recipes](#)
- ❑ [51 Tailgating Sides & Sweets](#) from Southern Living
- ❑ [Top-rated tailgating recipes](#) from Allrecipes

Stock up on Supplies

As the game approaches, it's time to go shopping. Beyond the ingredients you'll need for your snacks, sides and sweets, don't forget to stock up on paper plates, cups, utensils — and chips and dips. Print out the handy checklist at the end of this guide so you don't forget anything.

DAY BEFORE THE BIG GAME:

Gather Your Gear & Pack Your Car

Save time by loading up your car with gear and non-perishables in advance (see: The Set Up, Grilling Essentials and Supplies on the checklist). Don't forget all of your grilling supplies, seating, games, fan gear and a bluetooth speaker for your tunes.

Games like cornhole, ladder golf and spikeball will keep your crew entertained while you cook. And don't forget a football to toss around! Get more ideas for pre-game fun with the [15 best tailgating games](#) from Southern Living.

★ PRO TIP

Frequent tailgater? Fill up a plastic bin that lives in your garage with all of your non-perishable supplies.

Think: paper plates, utensils, salt and pepper, cups, trash bags, matches, koozies, etc.

Keep it well stocked and you'll save a ton of time sorting and gathering — just throw the bin in your car the day before the game.



Make Your Sweets & Sides

From mixing dips and cutting up fruit to baking brownies and cupcakes, you can knock out a lot of the food prep a day or two before the game. While you're at it, go ahead and slice up the tomatoes, onions, and lettuce for the burgers so you don't have to fool with it in the parking lot.

Prep Your Meats

The night before a big game is the ideal time to marinate your meats. As a rule of thumb, it's best not to marinate your beef, pork or chicken for over 24 hours. This is also a good time to pack up all of the seasonings, rubs and spices you'll need for steaks and burgers.

• GAME DAY!

Load Up Your Food / Drinks

Time to pack those coolers, load up your food, and make one last stop for ice on your way to the stadium. Did the weather change overnight? Grab some rain gear or extra blankets if you're expecting extreme weather.

Don't forget your tickets and parking pass!

Have Fun!



ULTIMATE TAILGATING CHECKLIST

SET-UP

- Pop-up tent
- Collapsible chairs
- Folding table
- Speaker
- Fan gear
- Games (cornhole, ladder golf, spikeball)
- Football
- Blankets

CONDIMENTS

- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Mayo
- Relish
- Salt and pepper
- BBQ sauce
- Spices / rubs / seasonings
- Ranch / blue cheese

DRINKS

- Cooler
- Ice
- Water
- Sodas
- Sports drinks
- Beer
- Wine
- Coffee
- Hot chocolate
- Apple cider

SUPPLIES

- Garbage bags
- Paper towels
- Paper plates / bowls
- Plastic utensils
- Cups
- Napkins
- Koozies
- Bottle opener
- Corkscrew
- Serving platters
- Serving spoons / tongs
- Cutting board
- Knife
- Mixing bowls
- Tupperware
- Large Ziploc bags
- Hand sanitizer / wet wipes

GRILLING ESSENTIALS

- Portable grill
- Charcoal / propane tank
- Matches
- Lighter fluid
- Grill utensils (tongs, spatula, brush)
- Oven mitt
- Aluminum foil
- Cooking spray

FOOD

- Meat to grill
- Veggies
- Side dishes
- Chips
- Dips
- Buns
- Cheese
- Onions / lettuce / tomato/pickles
- Desserts

OTHER STUFF

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