

## PREVIEW OF OUR SPRING GUIDE

### An Easy Guide to Outdoor Decorating and event PLANNING

It's that time of year again when outdoor events are starting to happen. In a few short weeks many students will be taking their walk with a grand celebration to follow. Spring is just the beginning of baby showers, bridal showers, family reunions, and so much more. While outdoor entertaining hasn't changed all that much, how you decorate your outdoor living spaces has!

Have you started preparing your "to do" list yet? Have you started your patio/garden clean up? What about the invitations? Don't have a clue how to whip that patio/backyard space into a fun and inviting atmosphere? This can be an overwhelming process, but DON'T PANIC! Looking Fine by Redesign has created this guide to help you get organized...and fast!

### STARTING with the basics

#### 1. EVENT PLANNING

*Who* - Think about the person or group of people that this outdoor event is for. Is this a graduation, baby shower, bridal shower, etc. What, if any, will be the "theme" for this event? Is this a formal or informal gathering?

*When* - Choose a date, time, number and average age range of guests. (*Hint:* Teenagers generally like music and being able to move around to socialize where older guests may be more content to sit in one place with soft or no music at all).

*What* - Start thinking about the menu. Use a small notebook or binder to keep your thoughts and ideas together. The final menu can be determined later using some suggestions included in the following sections of this guide.

If you do not have a covered patio, consider renting a canopy or tent. Don't let unexpected inclement weather hinder the big day! Will this event be during the daytime or will it be after the sun goes down? (*Hint:* Using strings of white Christmas lights work very well to illuminate certain areas as well as adding decorative style to tents or canopies. They are an inexpensive solution too!)

**Tip:** Since there are many outdoor events during the Spring and Summer months, don't delay calling your local rental stores to reserve tents, tables, chairs, etc. Many of these items are reserved well in advance of the date needed.