

# hosting a theme party

By Lori Lepage

Hosting a theme get together with games and costumes brings the fun and excitement back to dinner parties and home entertaining. Whether you choose to host the event inside or outside, your guests are sure to have a great time if everything is well planned out.

Holiday parties are fun but preparing everything can be a handful if you are not organized. Keep these things in mind when planning your masquerade:

## Decor and Amenities:

Holiday gala decorations for a masquerade ball should follow the theme of the event and match from beginning to end. There will be many types of specialty fabrics needed, but floor length damask fabric with multiple over-lay's is what you'd want for this type of event and season.

The entertainment should be organized with games and costume contests while the photographer is set up in the back corner of the space.

## Professional entertainers make your party a success:

String Quartets

Themed Bands

Tribute Artists

Pianists

Comedians

## Scenery, Staging and Production:

Instantly create the right atmosphere for any special occasion. Make a big impact right from the start with Room Theming and Lighting.

Make your next party really stand out by adding a few simple personal touches. Remember, with just a few simple but creative ideas, you can turn your next party into a an event everyone will enjoy. You will be the toast of the party!

**Living Out Loud Inc.** can be your local decorating and design service. Let us assist you with the in-home decorating, entertaining, and special event planning. We specialize in parties and home makeovers. For more information, find us at [livingoutloudinc.com](http://livingoutloudinc.com) or call toll free at (866) 249-8272.



## history of the masquerade ball:

The Masquerade Ball has its origins in the elaborate, allegorical pageants and processions that celebrated the marriages and other dynastic events of late-Medieval court life. Beginning in the Ducal Court of Burgundy in the 14th century, Masquerade balls were expanded into costumed public festivities in Italy during the 15th century Renaissance. They were generally elaborate dances held for members of the Upper Classes, and were particularly popular in Venice. Masquerade Balls eventually became popular throughout mainland Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries and then throughout the world.