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College showers are FUN

by Carol Krebill

Home Economics sophomore



Mary Alice Lesko, Jane Brintlinger, Arlene Knupp and Joyce DeButts, left to right, admire a slotted spoon that is just right for a kitchen shower. They like the accent of flowers tucked in yards of curled ribbon on the gifts.

A BRIDAL SHOWER at college can be much more fun than one at home. You have a simple informal setting for what can be a unique party.

When you plan the theme of the shower, think about the budgets of your guests. A kitchen shower's perfect for a college party since the variety and hardware stores are gold mines for gifts. You might want to do a little planning before and be sure that the bride will receive the things she'll need when she becomes chief cook. Remember your classroom experience and select the right type of measuring cup, mixing spoons and such.

Try a cook-out

Since you'll want to make your shower different, try an outdoor breakfast. For spring quarter, frying bacon and eggs over an open fire at Brookside Park will appeal to your guests. Add to the menu orange halves, rolls and coffee for really different "shower food." And for this shower, count on "outdoor appetites."

If the bride-to-be is no longer in school, you can turn a kitchen shower into a "mailable shower." Specify non-breakable items, pack carefully in a sturdy, well-wrapped box and make the mailman your envoy after the party's over.

After-hours showers can be easy and as much fun as the fanciest luncheon. Dixie cups are refreshments which you can buy all ready to serve. For a surprise shower, guests carrying small gifts walk in on the bride-to-be (warn her roommate), and the hostess follows with a box of dixie cups. This time you might build up her pocket book library. Cookbooks, biographies or nature books, and "how-to-do-it" books for the homemaker or handyman will serve both bride and groom well.

A tree-trimming shower can be easily adapted for a spring bride. Clip a large branch and stand it in wet sand or clay. As guests arrive, have them "trim

the tree" with their gifts of bright scarves and handkerchiefs. Then the bride-to-be can untrim the tree as she reads the lines of poetry attached to each item.

Hostessing between classes

When a good friend gets married, you certainly want your party to be one she'll long remember. But since you're sandwiching hostessing between classes, cleverness will have to make up for elaborateness. To relieve hostess-strain, let the guests contribute, too. Four line poems with each gift seem designed for the bride's "memory book." Also take some candid shots of the bride and guests. Of course you'll want to save all the perky bows to tie into the ribbon bouquet the bride carries for the wedding rehearsal.

Your guest list will vary, but try not to include the same girls who have been invited to all the other showers for the bride. If the shower isn't a surprise, ask the bride to approve the list. Or invite a certain group of her friends, like her freshman corridor-mates, those in her major who are in her graduating class, maybe fellow officers in a club. A shower is not the time for you, the hostess, to repay your social obligations — but to gather close friends to honor the bride-to-be.

What could be better for home economics students than a recipe shower? Each guest contributes a nickel towards a gay, sturdy recipe file. But more important is the "favorite recipe" each guest brings with helpful hints and short cuts for the bride added to the standard procedure. Or condense your suggestions into a sentence on the recipe card — but include a personal note to the bride so she'll remember you each time she prepares your recipe.

For your at-school shower, plan simply, but completely. Then forget yourself and enjoy the party because successful showers are those that are fun for the bride and guests as well as for the hostess.