Table Spacing & Layering Cheat Sheet

Confidently measure, layer, and style a breathtaking dinner party setup.

Master the art of hosting with professional spacing guidelines that guarantee guest comfort. Build a flawless foundation from linens to lighting for a breathtaking event.



Key Table Dimensions

Max 12 in
Floral height for clear sightlines

3 or 5
Tapers per asymmetrical candle cluster

10-12 in
Linen overhang covering table pads

1 in
Glassware clearance above the knives

4x8 in
Menu card size for pockets

10 in
Twine length for napkin bundles

3 in
Shift distance to avoid table legs

Chill Your Taper Candles

Always chill your tapers in the refrigerator for a few hours before lighting. This significantly slows the melting process and prevents wax from dripping onto your pristine linens.

Layering & Styling Sequence

1. **Linen under ceramic** Layer natural tablecloth beneath heavy plates to protect surfaces and soften acoustics.
2. **Menu pocket fold** Iron napkin flat, fold into a pocket, and secure the printed cardstock.
3. **Structure the florals** Use a floral frog inside a shallow compote bowl to angle stems outward.
4. **Arrange the tapers** Position tallest candles near the center and shorter ones toward the outer edges.
5. **Balance the glassware** Place water glass closest to the plate, with wine glass behind and right.

Find Your Seating Spacing

Find your row: **Your seating style**

Your seating style	Your pick	Why
Shared dining bench	22 in per person	Mark centers with masking tape
18-20 in side chair	24 in per seat	Prevents bumping arms while cutting
25-27 in wingback	30 in per seat	Accommodates wider upholstered seat profiles

Pre-Party Table Checks

- ◯ Steam the tablecloth directly on the table to effortlessly remove creases.
- ◯ Test floral sightlines from a seated posture to ensure unobstructed views.
- ◯ Locate structural table legs to avoid awkward place setting straddling.
- ◯ Polish flatware with a microfiber cloth to remove spots before setting.

Party Planning Notes

Enjoy the beautiful ambiance and effortless flow of your perfectly proportioned dinner party!