



LA VIDA DE FIESTA!

Exotic home-grown spices add fiery flair to your party

Some people have large vegetable gardens in their yards, others prefer herb gardens or patio plantings. Why not have a salsa garden? There is nothing better than growing your own ingredients and then integrating them into a spectacular summer soiree in your own backyard.

Salsa gardening is really quite easy. The plants can be grown in a garden setting, or simply on the deck or patio in pots. Each year, start with a few cherry tomato plants, three or four types of chilies (jalapenos, firecracker and ancho), cucumbers, and your favorite varieties of onions. Add pots of herbs such as parsley, cilantro, basil, and spearmint. If you want to get really exotic, add a miniature lime tree. Most of these plants need high sun and daily watering to maximize their beauty and blossoming.

A salsa garden can be as beautiful during the winter as in the heat of the summer months and the same can be said of a salsa party. If there is a chill in the air, the heat of the salsa will be warm and comforting and offer a pleasant change of pace from heavy holiday foods or rich elaborate dinners. If it's a gorgeous summer day, it takes only an icy margarita and a crispy chip topped with our spicy salsa to put you in the mood for a festive party.

A salsa party begins by selecting the perfect social occasion. Pork tenderloin and a beautiful chilled salmon, both topped with different varieties of our homemade and home-grown salsa work well as main courses. Frozen or traditional margaritas, served in festive glasses, are a great way to kick off your event. They may be complemented by crispy pita chips and another zesty and colorful salsa.

Pots of fresh herbs can adorn each of your tables, which can be covered with bright jewel-toned tablecloths. These tablecloths can be made from fabrics gathered at a local fabric outlet. Remember, there's no need to match, just choose fun fabrics in a variety of colors and textures and let your imagination of Latino life run wild.

As a grand finale, and simple way to complete the party, serve cut up colorful seasonal fruit, giant chunky homemade cookies and big bowls of chocolate dipping sauce spiced with our homemade mint. This fun and very easy party is not only a festive way to entertain, but it's cost effective and doable for any domestic diva.

Wm. James Hanley
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Originally From
Upper Montclair
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U.M.D of New Jersey
Over 20 Yrs.

Gregory C. Prybis D.D.S.
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