

# How to Prepare Your Home for Guests

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When having guests over, it could be quite a challenge because you would want to give them the same, warm and cozy feeling as if they were in their own home. Olescia Hanson, Public Relations Manager of The Container Store, shares her tips on how to make your home the most inviting and comfiest place for your future guests.

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## 1. Identify and anticipate needs

Stay in your guest room overnight to identify what's missing. Did you find if you needed an extra blanket, pillows, clock, radio or reading materials? By staying overnight in the room, you can best identify the amenities your guests will appreciate. If you have a TV set or clock radio, create a guide with popular channels and stations, as well as programming instructions for the clock.

## 2. Pamper them

Your thoughtfulness will be remembered. Pamper house guests by placing fragrant liners in drawers and on shelving. Providing them with padded hangers and using room sprays add the finishing touch. Incorporate bottled water, fresh flowers and meaningful framed photographs for an extra-special touch.

## 3. A warm welcome

Providing a luggage rack in your guest room allows guests to unpack their belongings after they arrive. If they choose to keep items in their suitcase, a luggage rack makes the contents easier to access.

## 4. Clear the clutter

Guest rooms can become a dumping ground for items around your house. Take some time before guests arrive to clear the clutter. Look for often-overlooked storage space under the bed and over doors. Utilize stacking boxes and bins to maximize space in the closet.

## 5. Make room for guests' clothes

If you need to create a place for guests to hang their clothes, consider using a freestanding clothing rack that fold compactly when not in use for easy storage. These racks also are ideal for accommodating guests' coats during gatherings. Consider storage space for folded garments as well. If you don't have a spare drawer, add a hanging organizer to a closet or garment rack.

## 6. Thoughtful touches

Don't forget items such as a small wastebasket, facial tissue, spare bath tissue, a jewelry tray, hamper and a basket full of fine toiletries to really make your guests feel at home!