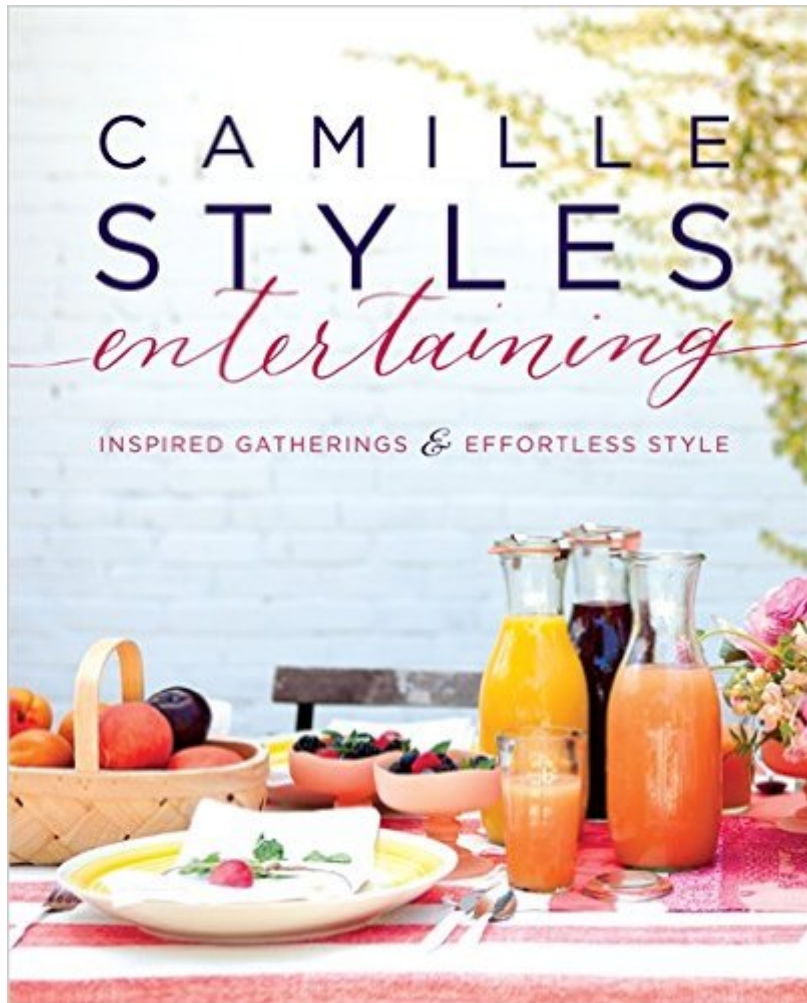


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Camille Styles Entertaining: Inspired Gatherings And Effortless Style



Synopsis

A gorgeous, full-color guide filled with more than 150 color photos, 75 stress-free recipes, and creative entertaining ideas from a celebrated Austin-based blogger, event stylist, and lifestyle expert, offering inspired ideas and step-by-step instructions to help readers plan unforgettable gatherings and live stylishly every day. Infused with the youthful spirit of popular lifestyle blogger and event stylist Camille Styles, this lush how-to for entertaining features fresh, inspirational party ideas for every season. Filled with her easygoing elegance and effortless, stress-free philosophy, Camille Styles Entertaining offers step-by-step instructions and affordable tips covering every aspect of entertaining to inspire memorable gatherings and celebrate everyday moments. Filled with dozens of delicious recipes, approachable DIY projects, and tried-and-true tips for menu planning, creating a playlist, table and bar settings, the perfect wardrobe, and most important, staying stress-free, Camille Styles Entertaining helps you celebrate major holidays, milestones, and even everyday moments in a fun, stylish, and creative way. Each gathering featured in this gorgeously designed and photographed entertaining guide draws inspiration from up-and-coming trends and Camille's own experiences. In addition to creative hors d'oeuvres and cocktail ideas, floral design tips and inspiring table designs, here are parties for: • Fall Celebrations: Picnic at the Farm, Thanksgiving Dinner • Winter Celebrations: At-Home Game Night, Holiday Cookie Swap • Spring Celebrations: Springtime Brunch, Fiesta Dinner Party • Summer Celebrations: Mediterranean Anniversary Dinner, Grilled Pizza Party With Camille Styles Entertaining, you can transform a normal day into a fun gathering, engage the senses with beauty, and create unforgettable memories with family and friends.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've read Camille Styles' blog for years now (back when it was first "Style Notes"). I love how the website evolved and continued to improve over time with fresh ideas and content, and different voices contributing to a variety of series. Naturally, I was excited about the book. My first impressions - the layout and photographs are beautiful, and the writing is easy to follow. When the author was promoting the book on a video, she described it as "original content that has never been seen before" - while some of the ideas are innovative (e.g., setting a fall table in shades of amethyst and ivy, which are not your typical fall shades, but it works - I would have liked to see more ideas like this), some of the tips are common sense (e.g., toasting nuts before using, cleaning up the guest room!). I wish she could have extended on her ideas by providing step-by-step pictures to go along with the tips on floral arrangements, for example, like the use of chicken wire and floral tape that she mentions on p. 30. It's not that the instructions aren't described clearly, but visuals do help; these could have easily taken the place of the many pictures of the author and/or her child (who in fairness is adorable). This could have made the chapters more "meaty", considering that many of the chapters are just 3-4 pages long. I found some of the information unnecessary, e.g. the chapters ("chapters" meaning 1-2 pages) devoted to "connecting with all the senses to usher in each season", which, for lack of better words, are your typical seasonal cliches. As the author uses the seasons as an organizer for the book, perhaps bulleted lists of produce, foliage, or flowers that are typical for the season would be helpful for the reader to know what to look out for during that season (though I understand some might be obvious, others may not be). I didn't quite care for the makeup and style tips much (again, some are common sense, e.g., dressing comfortably, planning outfit in advance); I suppose that is just my personal preference as I am more focused on the food and things going smoothly when entertaining. I like the different "themes" for parties with menus already thought out. The recipes are fairly straightforward, and a number of them also add a little twist to everyday staples using less-common ingredients. Some examples are the chicken with a dipping sauce of yogurt and harissa, popcorn with ras el hanout - both of which are spices/condiments I enjoy using and experimenting with. Other new-to-me combinations are the thyme popovers with ginger-pear butter, fennel in marinated olives (not my usual go-to spice), and the addition of green apple in tabbouleh, for example. Her salad combinations seem to be her strength. The storytelling adds a personal touch and gives the reader more insight into the author's point of view and life

experiences (the story about the burnt turkey and plumbing problem on Thanksgiving dinner was unforgettable). The writing is mostly enjoyable but perhaps the editor could have caught on to the overuse of some words such as "brimming", i.e., "CSA box brimming with produce" - this may be a little nitpicky but I do a lot of writing and proofreading for my job, and after reading the book cover to cover in one sitting, it tends to sound repetitive. I also would have liked to see more "practical" tips from her experience in event planning/catering and translated these into the context of entertaining at home. For example, one of her appetizer recipes requires endive leaves as a "holder" for figs and blue cheese because they hold up well at room temperature. As another example, she laid out a Thanksgiving prep timeline in one of her chapters; it would have been nice to see similar tips in her other themed celebrations for consistency - these can be helpful for the entertainer who tends to prepare by himself or herself and isn't adept at multi-tasking. I understand this may go against the whole "low-key" and "effortless" entertaining premise of the book, but it has to be said that there IS effort and thoughtful preparation that goes into making gatherings APPEAR effortless! I do appreciate how she gave credit to each individual who contributed to the book - various persons/companies are credited within the chapters and not just at the end, which appears to demonstrate the collaborative effort towards the book. I will admit that it's not the first book I reach for when I want to try a new recipe, but I kept the book more for inspiration. Overall, the book is visually beautiful, many of the recipes and other content are interesting and engaging enough, but there is some room for improvement.

This book has gorgeous photography that will make you want to entertain immediately. It has recipes that will make you wanna jump up & get cookin. Lastly, it's perfect that Camille's writing style makes you feel like y'all are chatting over tea, & you're she's giving you inspirational tips on how to have a stress-free get-together! Buy it. It's fun, & you'll be inspired!

I just moved into a brand new house and wish to start entertaining now that we have room. I really enjoyed reading this book as it gives ideas for each season, and the recipes sound great. I think my favorite (and it might be my first get together) is the pizza party. I love that idea! The picnic tips are fun too. While I am not into flower arranging, I thought her simple ideas on using herbs were great, and I plan on actually using herbs for decorating, as she makes them appealing, and they seem to go with anything! I also enjoyed her pantry tips and what to have always on stock (for drinks and food). Overall, I would recommend this for anyone wishing to hold a casual party with some style and a little elegance without going crazy. I am looking forward to trying many of these ideas out!

Oh, Camille Styles. Girl, you've done it again. As if her blog, CamilleStyles.com wasn't enough, this book exceeded all my expectations. I'm one of those people who could flip through entertaining books and cookbooks with vibrant colors all day long, but Camille Styles Entertaining is something else entirely.... a how to for the every-girl-- everything from make-up instructions for getting ready in a flash and making three ingredient cocktails something special and thoughtful before a group of girlfriends comes over. This book is approachable entertaining at its best. I was already a devotee of the blog, and now I'll be giving away this gorgeous book for the holidays to everyone from my BFF to my mom. Thanks, lady!

I ordered this book the moment I heard of it, because I love the camillestyles.com website. Just as I'd hoped, the book is full of easy but elegant ideas on every aspect of entertaining, from flowers to table settings and great recipes, and I love the way it's divided by seasons. There are a lot of entertaining books out there, but this one makes me want to plan a party right away! The photos are plentiful and gorgeous. I'll be buying this book for Christmas presents this year.

Simple ...thoughtful...makes the reader feel like she can accomplish all of these entertaining ideas and welcome family and friends to her home

beautiful book, beautifully written, full of excellence!

This book is packed with lots of info however the tiny images are really disappointing - mainly because the store really presents it as a very visual guide to entertaining. I find it a bit text heavy - definitely not a coffee table type book, more of a useful when you need it scenario.

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