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Start 2011 with a bang thanks to these ideas



Round festive lantern string lights, \$39.95, Rouge Living.

Party drink fountain with cups, \$15 for a set of eight, Kmart.



Summer Shangri-La cocktail umbrellas, \$6.95 for a pack of 20, Lark.



Noose champagne glass, \$7.95, SunnyLIFE.

Suck UK balloon animals, \$19.95, Until.



Logitech Pure-fi Express iPhone speaker dock, \$99, Officeworks.

STOCKISTS Kmart 1800 124 125
Lark larkmade.com.au Officeworks
officeworks.com.au Rouge Living
rougeliving.com SunnyLIFE sunnylife.
com.au Until until.com.au

Throw the best New Year's party

ever!

Celebrity party planner DAVID TUTERA suggests ways to welcome 2011

1 To get your guests ready for midnight, tie a small bag of confetti to each champagne glass that you pass out.

2 For an appetiser, serve cold or hot soup in shot glasses – and serve individual mini-bowls of chips and dip.

3 Create a signature cocktail using liquors that have the same colour scheme as your party.

4 A great New Year's Eve party playlist? I like to recap the year by playing the biggest hits of that year.

5 Dress up confetti by making your own. Cut paper scraps into small pieces. Add sequins or tiny bits of coordinating fabric and package it in bags or cones for guests to throw.



6 Start the year off right by hosting a BYO-D party and asking guests to Bring Your Own Donation. It might be old blankets for an animal shelter or a cheque to your favourite charity.

7 Ask guests to dress up. This will set the "party vibe" and ensure everyone kicks off the year in style.

8 Tealights add ambience. Right before the clock strikes 12, light dozens of candles and turn out the lights.

9 Everyone loves a good drink garnish. Freeze berries or small candies and drop them in glasses for colouring and flavour.

10 Decorating your home? Use a surprise palette of just one non-holiday colour – eg, all gold, silver or purple.

Compiled by Martine Allars. All prices given are recommended retail. Pictures: Getty Images.