

Easy ideas for better living

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## Dramatic Tablescape



The setting illustrates how to combine a buffet service with a seated dinner. For an extra touch, try a buffet only by having the plates on the table or buffet. You really will want to be seated around for an evening dinner for a holiday buffet, or an event banquet only.

### How to do it...

There are no rules for creating the perfect table. Get creative with whatever you have around the house! The setting includes advice on a variety of table and chair sets, as well as table and chair set combinations.

An old-fashioned centerpiece makes a perfect centerpiece.

A mix-and-match, jewel-tone color scheme helps create a truly original atmosphere. It's done with various patterned fabrics, trivets, and drapes.

The unique and elegant tableware was created with elegant fabric arranged around the table and set against a backdrop with dark tones or patterned fabric.

Lift and look create interest and drama—create them easily with simple clean pots and pans. They're simple, clean, shiny, or interesting fabric over the pots and pans.

A few more unusual items make the look sophisticated.

• Potpourri  
• Tea light holders  
• Mix and match centerpieces  
• Artificial flowers

Don't be afraid to get creative. Just have fun with it! —Adapted from Christopher Lowell, The House, Floor, and More

**Expert tip:** Fill individual drinking glasses with jewel-toned flowers and place them around the table for additional splashes of color.

—Christopher Lowell

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