



Ms. President NOW

House Party Guide

If you want to help Hillary Clinton become the next President of the United States, having a house party is a great way to connect with chapter members, other activists, neighbors, coworkers, and friends about why this election is so important. As we work together to elect the first feminist woman president from the ground up, one of the most effective ways you can get involved is by throwing a house party for Hillary.

What is a house party?

House parties are gatherings of people who come together to learn more about Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and how she will work to build a better life for women and their families. What you do at your house party is up to you, but the most important thing is to have fun and get everyone to sign up to be a supporter of Hillary Clinton and volunteer for the campaign.

Anyone can act as host—you don't need any special skills. All it takes is a little planning and organization, and an excitement to support Hillary. Your party doesn't need to be complicated—the best ones are often the simplest! Members of your NOW chapter, some friends, snacks, and signup sheets to collect everyone's information are all you need for a successful event.

Why host a party?

House parties are important because a supporter like you talking to the people in your life is the single most effective way to build the campaign. People are more likely to vote for Hillary when friends, family members, and neighbors explain the issues and Hillary's desire to be a champion for everyday women and Americans. These parties provide an opportunity for attendees to sign up to work with your chapter to elect Hillary and have fun.

How do I host a house party?

Select a date

- Check the campaign calendar to see if there are any big events coming up that might make your friends more excited to attend your house party, as well as potential conflicts.

Adapted from the Hillary for America "House Party Host Guide" for use by NOW PAC.

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Choose your venue

- Most house parties will take place in someone's house—this will help determine how many people to invite. You can invite 5 people or 500; whatever makes you feel the most comfortable is the right number.

Invite your guests

- Set a goal for how many people you want to attend. Remember that not everyone you invite will be able to attend, so invite about double the number of attendees you actually want to show up to be sure to hit your goal.
- You can invite NOW chapter members, other activists, your family, friends, coworkers, people you know through civic or community groups, members of your religious community, and your neighbors. Cast a wide net to ensure you get anyone who might be a supporter.
- The best way to get people to attend your event is to pick up the phone and call them. There's just no substitute for a personal phone call. But definitely use email, social media, and any other method you can think of to reach out to your networks.
- Ask them to RSVP so you can get a firm headcount for your event. You definitely want to re-confirm everyone's attendance a few days before the event, and remind them you're getting ready for them. That will make every attendee feel special and more likely to attend your house party.
- If you like, identify a few friends to act as co-hosts—for example, other NOW members—to help you spread the word and invite others to attend if you've got space to fill.

Preparation

- Plan your agenda. Here's a possible agenda for your party. But don't worry, these are just suggestions—you know your attendees best, so customize until it works for you.
 - Introduce yourself, and share some reasons why you're convinced Hillary is the right person to be our next president. For her positions on NOW's issues, check out the MsPresidentNOW talking points on the NOW PAC page < <http://nowpac.org/>> or the MsPresidentNOW Facebook group. (Sign up on the NOW PAC page <https://nationalnow.wufoo.com/forms/mspresidentnow/> to be invited to join the Facebook group.)
 - If you have good internet access and a place to show it, you might show the latest video from the Hillary campaign (www.youtube.com/hillaryclinton).
 - Brainstorm how you and the attendees can work as part of MsPresidentNOW to help Hillary's campaign. Work together to set goals and responsibilities for what you can do.

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- Make your ask. You want as many people as possible to agree to host a meeting or volunteer for specific tasks in your area. Don't be afraid to be direct and ask people to help. You'll be surprised at how eager people are to volunteer when given the opportunity.
- Use a signup sheet <link> to get information or print copies of the MsPresidentNOW sign up form ahead of time and have your guests fill it out to collect more information (<https://nationalnow.wufoo.com/forms/mspresidentnow/>) The most important goal from your party is making sure you can get in touch with your team, so be sure every guest signs up.
- If it makes sense for your party, feel free to ask your guests to support Hillary's campaign. Online donations directly to Hillary's campaign can be made by both NOW members and non-NOW members at <https://secure.actblue.com/contribute/page/mspresidentnow>. NOW members can contribute to NOW PAC to support our election work.
- Finally, make sure that there's plenty of food and drink so that your guests will have a great time.
- Remember that the costs associated with the party must come from donations or your personal funds. No chapter funds can be expended to support federal candidates.

After the party

- It's not over! Make sure you send thank you notes to everyone who attended.
- Don't forget to make an "ask" to your guests, whether hosting an event, donating, or volunteering. If your guest made the commitment to come to your event, they might be willing to make more commitments to you, the campaign, and your chapters organizing projects. Make the ask, because chances are, your friends will say yes.
- Report back to your state MsPresidentNOW coordinator about your volunteers and plans.

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