

How to host your own orgy

If you still think it's car keys and punchbowls, hide your fondue set and read on



The reinvention of swinging is *the Luxury Sex* happening of the last year, so you'd better start expanding your reputation as the consummate host by throwing an orgy of VE Day "fucking in the streets" proportions.

Potentially, this is the most risky night of your entire social life. If it goes really wrong, the repercussions could be dire. Imagine an appalling one-night stand, and how quickly you want to get shot of that person. Now replicate this feeling across your whole address book. For this reason, it's absolutely crucial that everything goes right.

Getting them there

Less is definitely more in this case, and invitations that are overly explicit, wacky or self-important will make you look like a teacher trying to jolly along a load of reluctant schoolkids. Similarly, people don't want to be carrying anything around in their wallet that's going to turn them into a walking obscene publication. And at the risk of stating the obvious, a phone number or email will suffice as a point of contact – if you put your address down you're practically begging for the local "Fred and Rose" to get wind of proceedings and turn up claiming that "Mark said it would be okay".

The Temple of Love

Just because there's a bit of action on offer, your guests' concepts of taste and decency aren't going to go out of the window. Either keep your pad in its usual style, or if you are going to make the effort to redecorate for the evening – really pull all the stops out. Orgies, by their very nature, are dogged by a constant threat of looking a bit tacky, and a few misplaced throws and lava lamps could well tip the balance the wrong way.

The people

Because of the aforementioned risk of annihilating your social circle, it's best to avoid people you know too well – social strictures will probably lead to everyone feeling a bit awkward and self-conscious. Better to stick to people you know vaguely (but well enough to vet their suitability), and couples recommended by them. In terms of numbers, upper-class orgy organiser Fever recommends 15 couples per loo and five couples per bed.

Ambience

Not everyone will live up to your own Herculean physique, so bear in mind that we all look better in candlelight. Similarly, nothing sums up the horror of *Readers' Wives* more quickly than goosepimpled flesh, so make sure the heating's up nice and high to start with. However, as things kick off you'll need to gradually turn it down to avoid that "teenage boy's bedroom" smell developing. Don't bother with porn playing in the background – it suggests you don't trust your guests to know what to do.

Music

Music that people don't like can put them right off their stroke, so it's better to err on the side of slightly bland, "style bar" selections. Put your normal exacting standards (Add N To X rarities etc) to one side and opt for Ibiza chill-out compilations, Buddha Bar mixes and Gilles Peterson selections.

Potential nightmares

Given the amount of hormones coursing around the house, you're surprisingly unlikely to get any trouble – mainly because nobody wants to be the idiot nursing bruised knuckles in the front garden while his victim mops up all the sympathy from loads of pliant birds inside. Make it clear that any couples who start having a domestic midway through a pile-up will be told to leave – and enforce this decree ruthlessly. Otherwise a domino effect may trigger off all your guests.