



State Fair

EVENT EXPERIENCE

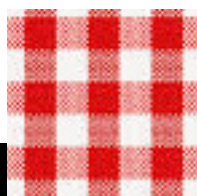
A blue ribbon event is your challenge and you will win the blue ribbon for your amazing event using the plan below. A state fair themed event is a beloved one. One that feels like summer, smells like amazing home-cooked pies, cakes, and other phenomenal aromas. There are an array of rides, animals, and unusual sites to be taken in.

COLORS & TEXTURES

This event calls for bright, cheery colors that grab your guests' attention. Red, green, yellow, and blue will be used as primary colors. Red and white checkered and striped accents will tie everything together into the State Fair theme.



Delight your guests as they are transported back “home” and reminded of youthful activities with State Fair Theme. This theme package is perfect for celebrating success, inspiring employees and even for family parties and reunions.





State Fair

SETTING THE MOOD

INVITATIONS

We are taking it back several decades and suggesting these unique invitations:

- An oversized red and white ticket for your guests' entrance into the fair
- Blue ribbon invitations or add a blue ribbon to your graphic
- A square invite with gingham check borders and a silhouette of a cow and pig

- A balloon archway in red, white, and blue
- Trussing that creates an arch with custom signage on top
- A ticket booth where guests can pick up their tickets and head off to the "midway"

Have a man dressed in white pants and hat with a red and white striped jacket stand at the entryway to invite guests into the fair, take their tickets, and answer any questions they may have.

ENTRYWAY

Create an entryway or archway that states "STATE FAIR" in bold letters for guests to walk under. This can be created one of several ways:

PRE-FUNCTION AREA

As guests gather, offer lemonade or a stronger drink of choosing in mason jars. Keep guests occupied prior to the event with fair themed entertainment options. Have pickle sampling from a "blue ribbon pickle competition" or a "guess my age" booth.





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DETAILS AND ACCENTS

Incorporate entertainers like stilt walkers, “carnies”, and face painters to help your guests break the ice. For this theme having a mime, caricature artists, and person handing out balloons or judges handing out blue ribbon name badges can serve as part of your pre-function activities.

Look into a digital caricature artist that can incorporate a company logo into the background of their drawings

Cocktail tables wrapped in red and white checkered table linens will dress the area for guests to free up their hands while socializing.

MAIN ROOM

Place cut outs of a butter cow [see the Iowa State Fair], the world’s largest pig, and giant pumpkins around the room. Have several small booths

with various games such as ring toss, fake tattoos, dunk tank for the CEO, a shooting gallery, or other games that are scattered around the room.

You may choose to wrap the room in backdrops to create separate spaces and places for guests to visit. These spaces can be the midway, the cattle barns, or food booths.

Have red, white, and blue buntings that will hang from the ceiling, be wrapped around the bar and the stage to further advance this theme. If the ceiling allows, a “sky ride” across the ceiling with large cut-outs of the cars on the cable would serve as a fun spectacle.





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DETAILS AND ACCENTS

STAGE AREA

Your stage area might be a grandstand gazebo with red, white, and blue bunting around the top or the edges.

This will be a wonderful place to have the man in the white pants and red and white jacket introduce your keynote or serve as the MC for the evening. Have him do the introductions in a Barker Style and make sure he has his cane with him that he swings back and forth - inviting guests to settle down and pay attention to the stage.

DÉCOR

As stated earlier, it's all about the Red, White and Blue! - Use buntings and flags as well as red, white, and blue drape around the space to be defined.

For other decor elements set up tents, offer food trucks with bright signage, and make it a little gaudy.

For fun, have mannequins dressed in overalls with a fake pig under their arm. Find sheep, cows, horses, or other farm animals (real or fake) to fill your corners and announce them as the world's heaviest pig, largest bull, best of show horse, or blue ribbon bunny.

Remember to have the table with all the pies, oversized pumpkins, and produce on display. Make sure you have the blue, red, and yellow ribbons to place at each display.

FURNITURE ACCENTS

Place food tables around the room, such as picnic tables and benches to relax on. Use red and white checkered





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DETAILS AND ACCENTS

linen to accent. If you aren't worried about a little bit of a mess, use hay bales as seating areas. This theme is more relaxed and casual.

CENTERPIECES

There are a several centerpiece options that can be used for this event:

- Simple centerpieces of milk bottles with prairie flowers or large Peonies and Hydrangeas
- Small pies
- Different sized mason jars of pickles with blue ribbons
- Mason jars containing candles placed in groups of three
- Baskets of fresh fruit and vegetables

DINNER SET UP

For this event, picnic tables would be the obvious choice for dinner arrangements. Tables with red and white umbrellas or round tables with red and white checkered linens would be my suggestions.

Table settings of condiments in wooden boxes in the center of each table and silverware wrapped in a red napkin either placed at each setting or rolled and placed in the center of the table with the condiments.

At the fair, food needs to be easy to eat. Anything on a stick will work; especially if you are having a cocktail event. For higher end food options try lobster corn dogs, oyster shooters, and pork chops on a stick.





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ENTERTAINMENT

Make sure you don't forget the cotton candy, saltwater taffy, funnel cakes, and blooming onions.

BAR AND CUSTOM DRINK

For a special drink try cotton candy martinis or a twist on the famous root beer float.

ENTERTAINMENT

The fair always lends itself to great entertainment. This can vary from balloon artists tying all sorts of shapes to face painters creating fun designs or large bands and barbershop quartets. Carnival bakers, pie eating contests, pig callers and husband calling contests along with ring and bean bag tosses are a few of the elements of entertainment you might find as great ice breakers.

Also consider the following:

- A talent show for guests boasting specific talents can be held, a band that motivates dancing, or a barbershop quartet to entertain your guests
- A pig in a pin with the heading "guess my weight" would be a great crowd pleaser, along with any cows, sheep, or rabbits you can add
- You could have a drawing for who can guess the correct amount of corn kernels in the jar
- A marching band could precede your main entertainment or indicate the start of the event
- Carnival games of all sorts
- A cow milking contest
- Face painting and spin art for all ages





CHARACTERS

The following characters can be incorporated into the theme with costuming:

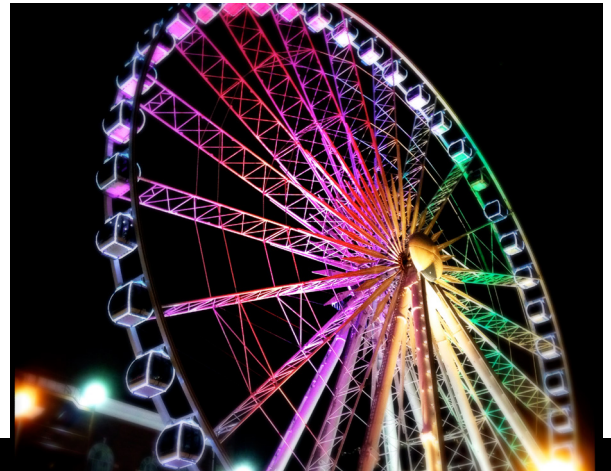
- Farmer in overalls
- Clowns
- Face painters
- Anyone with a mullet
- Fair barker
- Stilt walker
- Carny to pitch games
- Man/woman handing out balloons or inflatables

PHOTO OPS

Have the following spaces set up for picture opportunities for guests.

The following are options you could have for a photo opportunity:

- Have guests take picture with the animals you provide
- A backdrop with fireworks or giant ferris wheel for guests to stand in front of
- A fake dunk tank setup
- Old fashion clothing photo booth





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supply list

How to determine which elements in each theme packages is right for you and your client:

- \$-\$\$\$\$ Some of the theme elements require a very small investment while others require a higher spend. You can guide your client and help them determine how to use their budget to achieve their desired result.
- Star ratings: Determine the impact your client wants to make. A one-star element in a theme package works well for simple and professional events, whereas a five-star element will leave your client and their guests in complete awe! There are many options in between, so you'll always have a way to meet your client's needs and goals.

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Invitations:			
Invitations	Create your own with items purchased at your local craft store or use a local print shop or advertising agency	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	****
Entryway:			
Balloon archway (red, white, blue)	Oriental Trading http://www.orientaltrading.com/party-supplies/party-decorations/balloons-a1-551268-1.fltr	\$\$	***
PVC for balloon arch	Home Depot http://thd.co/1FcniwLw	\$	***
Trussing	Your local lighting company	\$\$\$	***
Custom signage	Your local sign company	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	*****
Ticket booth	Your local tent company	\$-\$\$\$	*****



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SUPPLY LIST

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Pre-Function Area:			
Mason jars	Hobby Lobby shop.hobbylobby.com/crafts-hobbies-and-fabric-crafts/painting-surfaces/glass-jars-and-containers	\$\$	****
Blue ribbon competition	Crown Awards www.crownawards.com/StoreFront/H6F.Insert_Rosette_Ribbons.cat	\$	****
Guess my age booth	Fun Rental funrental.com/carnival-games/game-booth-2.html	\$\$-\$\$\$	****
Fair themed entertainers	Your local talent agency	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	*****
Digital caricature artist	Your local talent agency	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	****
Cocktail tables	Your local table renting company	\$\$	**
Red and white checkered linens	Rent from your decor company or A1 Table Linens (specialty linens) www.a1tablecloth.com/	\$\$	****
Main Room:			
Animal cut outs	Your sign shop or The Interior Gallery www.theinteriorgallery.com/cat-animal-statues.cfm	\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	*****
Small booths	Uline White 10 x 10 Tents http://bit.ly/1QwhzQH	\$-\$\$	***
Themed backdrops	Backdrop Fantastic www.backdropsfantastic.com/backdrop_themes/Theme_Backdrops_USA.htm	\$\$	*****



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SUPPLY LIST

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Main Room (continued):			
Buntings	Flag and Banner www.flagandbanner.com/Products/red-white-blue-stripes-full-fan.asp	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	*****
Sky ride cutouts & cable	Your local sign company	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	***
Stage Area:			
Grandstand gazebo décor	Flag and Banner www.flagandbanner.com/Products/red-white-blue-stripes-full-fan.asp	\$\$-\$\$\$	***
Bunting	Flag and Banner www.flagandbanner.com/Products/red-white-blue-stripes-full-fan.asp	\$\$-\$\$\$	***
Décor:			
Bunting	Flag and Banner www.flagandbanner.com/Products/red-white-blue-stripes-full-fan.asp	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	***
Flags	Flag and Banner www.flagandbanner.com/Products/red-white-blue-stripes-full-fan.asp	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	***
Drape	Check with your local decor company	\$\$-\$\$\$	****
Tents	Check with your local decor company	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	***
Bright signage	Check with your local sign company	\$\$-\$\$\$	***



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SUPPLY LIST

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Décor (continued):			
Mannequins	Mannequin Madness or rent from your decor company www.mannequinmadness.com/	\$\$-\$\$\$	**
Animal statues	Your local sign shop or Interior Gallery www.theinteriorgallery.com/cat-animal-statues.cfm	\$\$\$\$	****
State fair ribbons	Crown Awards www.crownawards.com/StoreFront/H6F.Insert_Rosette_Ribbons.cat	\$	***
Furniture Accents:			
Picnic tables	Check with your catering company or local event rental company	\$-\$\$	***
Benches	Check with your catering company or local event rental company	\$-\$\$	***
Checkered linens	Check with your catering company or A1 Table www.a1tablecloth.com/	\$\$	****
Hay bales	Shindigz http://bit.ly/1OOFQDd	\$-\$\$	***
Centerpieces:			
Milk bottles & flowers	Check with your local florist	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	**
Small pies	Check with your local bakery	\$\$-\$\$\$\$	**
Mason jars of various sizes	Hobby Lobby shop.hobbylobby.com/crafts-hobbies-and-fabric-crafts/painting-surfaces/glass-jars-and-containers/?sort=bestsellerasc&qclid=Cj0KEQjwr-detBRCJg92s44SB77IBEiQAEIWmVTKBhkZJ-2gfCMVnLH7Ola1tmDrCBnrJhQneLLs-vAaArWr8P8HAQ	\$-\$\$	**



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SUPPLY LIST

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Centerpieces (continued):			
Candles	Quick Candles	\$-\$\$\$	**
Baskets	Lucky Clover Trading Company www.luckyclovertrading.com/handle-baskets-c-1_415_416.html	\$-\$\$	**
Dinner Set-up:			
Picnic tables	Check with your catering company or local event rental company	\$-\$\$	***
Tables with umbrella in center	Check with your catering company or local event rental company	\$-\$\$	***
Checkered linens	Rent From your decor company or A1 Table Linens www.a1tablecloth.com/	\$\$	****
Wooden boxes for condiments	World Market www.worldmarket.com/product/wood+and+metal+sebastian+tote+baskets.do?&from=fn	\$\$-\$\$\$	***
Bar & Custom Drinks:			
Custom drinks	Check with your local bartender	\$\$	***



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SUPPLY LIST

Supplies	Source/Notes Vendor Suggestions	Price Range	Value
Entertainment:			
Fair themed entertainers	Check with your local talent agency	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	*****
Bag toss	Dick's Sporting Goods http://www.dickssportinggoods.com/family/index.jsp?categoryId=52416616&sr=1&origkw=bag+toss	\$\$\$	**
Band/barbershop quartet	Local Barbershop Quartet	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	****
Corn kernels	Local grocery store	\$	**
Guess my age sign	Local sign company	\$\$	***
Marching band	Check with your local high school/ college	\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	****
Carnival games	Carnival Depot www.carnivaldepot.com/carnivalgames.html	\$\$\$\$	****
Cow Milking Game	Carnival Depot http://carnivaldepot.com/cowmilkingcontest.html	\$\$	***
Face painters	Local face painters	\$\$\$	****
Photo Ops:			
Cut out animals	Local sign company	\$\$-\$\$\$	****
Firework/Ferris wheel backdrop	Backdrops Beautiful www.backdropsbeautiful.com/carnival-backdrops/	\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$	****
Fake dunk tank	Gig Masters www.gigmasters.com/services/dunk-tank	\$\$	***
Old fashioned photo booth	BizBash www.bizbash.com/just-looking-old-fashioned-photo-booth-bells-whistles-majestic-photobooth/gallery/101343#.VbZpqPIVhBc	\$\$\$	****