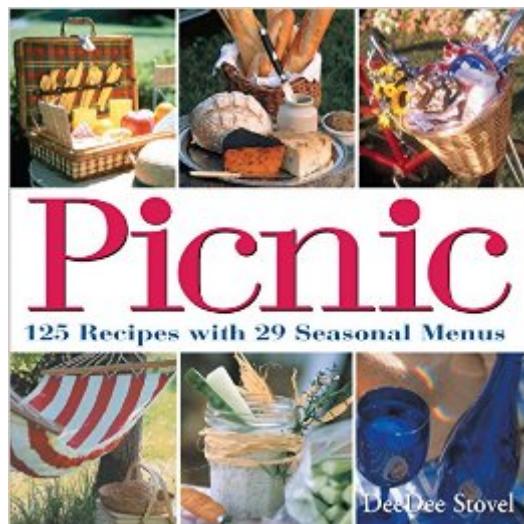


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# Picnic: 125 Recipes With 29 Seasonal Menus



## Synopsis

Create delicious and portable feasts for any occasion. Whether you're headed to a neighborhood park, an elegant music festival, or the top of a mountain, DeeDee Stovel shows you how to create a tasty outdoor dining experience. With 125 recipes that include dishes like cucumber soup, lobster rolls, fried chicken, and apple cake, you'll be amazed at the variety of foods that are well-suited for outdoor eating. Call up your friends, grab a blanket, and fill up your picnic basket!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

First off, it is nigh impossible to find a decent cookbook for less than \$..., but to find a great cookbook for under \$... (it's price), is a true discovery. But we need to beg the question: even if it is a bargain, do you need another book just for picnics? I mean, picnics are simple, right? Chicken, potato salad, wine, salt, pepper and some napkins. Well, if you have picnic atrophy and go only once a year, then you're fine with the it's Colonel. However, if you, by chance, plan to cultivate the cultured outdoor dining side of you, Stovel is your mentor. Stovel breaks up the book into the four seasons, and within each season she gives multiple menus (Spring 6, Summer 12, Fall 7 and Winter 4 menus). Each menu normally has five items. For example: Stovel's, it's Spring Day-Hike Picnic's menu has: grilled chicken fillets in a spinach wrap, artichoke salad, carrot sticks, gingerbread and fruit, with herbal iced tea. Her menus are thoughtful, flavorful, and balanced by having only one or two unique items out of the five. Her recipes are easy to follow and very tasty. This is a text only, there are no photos of the plates. I thought Picnics were fun, kinda fast, intimate

(like for two) and cheap. But the recipes here are for eight people! I have never had a picnic with eight people. I have had a church gathering and a Super Bowl sporting event, but not a picnic with eight people. Perhaps Stovel comes from a large family and see her readers bringing mom, dad, grandma and the five kids along; but in today's world of virtual families, recipes for eight are an overkill. Thus, because my picnics are for two, every recipe has to be cut in half and then I still have a picnic basket of left overs. Also, sometimes, the ingredients for these recipes doubled my weekly grocery budget.

There is really only one thing I want from a cookbook: recipes. I don't care about the preaching on food safety or environmental concerns. Really. I don't. If I wanted a book on that, I'd buy it. What I want are recipes and just get to the recipes! This book resorts to this very fluff in order to fill the book. As for the recipes, I was very excited to see that this boasts recipes for all seasons. I was buying this because I'm taking a winter trip and would like to have a romantic winter picnic. I used to live in Alaska, so I'm not talking that kind, but this time it'll be in Socal and I live along the Gulf Coast. You see that winter weather here is more like Autumn for most. Anyway, I selected this book for its winter ideas. I was really disappointed to find that though this book does have a few all seasons recipes, they are very few. Summer has only 7% less than what Spring, Autumn and Winter have combined. I'm not talking about number of pages or recipes, but Kindle gives us percentages, so I'm talking percentage wise of each of those chapters. If you're wanting a frugal picnicking cookbook, then this is not the one for you. From Grilled Salmon Fillets to Artichoke Salad to Barbecued Butterflied Lamb, these are not for budget households. The foods are expensive, but they are also very elegant and upscale. As far as that is concerned, you have to decide for yourself which you prefer. Another thing is the amount of alcoholic drinks without substitutions is a problem for many. My ex couldn't drink any alcohol (he was an alcoholic) and I think because of my many years him, I just don't have a taste for it. Either way, it is disappointing that there were not some creative suggestions for drinks that didn't have alcohol.

"A picnic evokes thoughts of leisure, relaxation, and enjoyment of the outdoors. It can be a still life in the open air or a boisterous frolic on the beach. Some picnics celebrate a special occasion, some offer the opportunity for friends to gather, and others provide an excuse for breaking the routine of daily life." ~DeeDee Stovel Are you dreaming of sipping hot chocolate out in the snow or nibbling on brownies after skiing, then there is a lot to offer even in the winter. DeeDee Stovel is a caterer and cooking teacher who is also the author of "Weekend! A Menu Cookbook for Relaxed Entertaining."

The recipes in this cookbook are family favorites so most are for eight people. You can easily cut the recipes in half or plan to have leftovers. The picnics for Romantic outings are designed for smaller quantities. In this creative work, you can find picnic ideas for every season. This would be perfect as a gift with a basket filled with items needed for some of the recipes. The recipes are a reflection of the favorites on the East Coast, but they will appeal to anyone who loves to go on a picnic. You will find information on: Picnic Planning Spring Flings Summer Spreads Autumn Outings Winter Wanderings. DeeDee Stovel loves art and introduces the reader to famous artists who loved to paint picnic scenes. She briefly introduces picnic history and includes information on portable meals from the past. The useful information includes ideas on how to keep food safe, how to prepare meals to go and how to keep food cold or hot. If you are looking to create "ambience" then she gives recommendations for flowers, mints, candy and other items to add to your checklist. There are two ready-to-go checklists for "Baskets at the Ready."

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