

Natural Preserved Boxwood Wreath, \$39.99, Homestead Gardens, Davidsonville



HOLIDAY READY: The well-stocked bar cart

By Becca Newell
Photography by Katie Martin,
Katie Martin Photography in Easton

Forget about your dress or the décor—even the hors d’oeuvres! The bar cart is *the* essential party piece of holiday entertaining. And we’ve got some tips and tricks to help you produce the perfect cocktail companion, with minimal effort and maximum elegance. We styled this bar cart as a classic martini station, stocked with gin, vermouth, chic stemware, and the usual cocktail-making accessories. Cheers!

Don’t forget to include cocktail picks, so your guests can easily add a second (or third!) olive.

1

2

1. Shaken or stirred? Keep both hardware on hand so you can whip up either martini style and garnish with a lemon twist or green olive, depending on preference.
2. Hang a chic bar towel on the cart and use to discretely clean up any spills!
3. Keep a few bottles of soda and sparkling water at the ready for those who prefer non-alcoholic libations—and, similarly, add a bottle of wine for any oenophiles in attendance.
4. Pre-party prep is the key for keeping guests happy and hydrated, particularly upon arrival. We suggest making a batch of cocktails beforehand and placing them on a tray that can be removed from the cart for easy distribution among parched guests.
5. Finish styling your bar cart with a little festive decoration. We opted for a gold-toned framed print and oversized floral arrangement, courtesy of Homestead Gardens in Davidsonville.

Our party picks? Boutique carbonated beverages (that double as cocktail mixers!), like Q Ginger Ale and Q Ginger Beer from Whole Foods Market in Annapolis, and a stunning bottle of Axios from Napa Valley. Bonus: A magnum bottle fills about 12 glasses!

5

3

4

We added a few evergreen sprigs to the bottom of the cart, too!

Looking to stock a full bar?

Visit Whatsupmag.com for an exhaustive shopping list of every liquor, mixer, and garnish you’ll need to satisfy any drink request!

Bar carts

By Becca Newell

The most important aspect of any party? The bar. And we've found a variety of soiree-approved carts that are sure to be the focal point of any celebration! With endless options in every style and finish, there's no excuse to not have one (or two!) on hand for all of your holiday festivities.

1.



2.



3.



4.



1. Audrey Butler Tray and Stand by Ave Home
\$549, Domino.com

2. Paloma Brass Bar Cart
\$449, Cb2.com

3. Monterey Bar Cart in Silver
\$2,250, Badgleymischka.com

4. Jacques Bar Cart in Brass
\$1,450, Jonathanadler.com



5. Bar Cart
\$1,447, Bradburnhome.com

6. Burwell Bar Cart
\$549, Potterybarn.com

7. Trolley Arezzo by Eichholtz
\$1,465, Oroa.com

8. Mid-Century Bar Cart in Walnut
\$349, Westelm.com