

## Menu

[Devils on Horseback](#)

Garden Salad • [Drop Biscuits](#)

[Lazy Man's Lobster](#)

[Blueberry Cheesecake](#)

## The Game Plan

The day before or early in the day (at least 9 hours before dinner):

*(45 minutes hands on, plus baking and cooling time of about 3 hours, and chilling for 6 hours or more)*

- Bake the cheesecake, cool and chill it for at least 6 hours, or overnight.
- Make the blueberry topping for the cheesecake, let it cool, then chill.

Early in the day:

*(1 hour)*

- Heat the oven for the biscuits. While the oven heats, cook the lobsters.
- Let the lobsters cool while you assemble and bake the biscuits.
- If you're making your own salad dressing, make it now. (If you're looking for inspiration, try one of the variations on this [Basic Vinaigrette](#).)
- When the lobsters are cool, crack the shells, remove and slice the meat. Transfer the meat to a storage container and chill.
- Clean up the kitchen, load and run the dishwasher.

3 hours before dinner:

*(45 minutes)*

- Make the Devils on Horseback.
- In the middle of making the devils there's a lull with nothing to do while waiting for the bacon to cool. Use this time to unload the dishwasher and set the table.

About 2 hours before dinner, enjoy the Devils on Horseback.

35 minutes before dinner:

*(35 minutes)*

- Heat the oven for reheating the biscuits.
- Clean up the appetizer dishes.
- Remove the springform pan from around the cheesecake, transfer it to a serving plate, and keep it chilled.
- Make a tossed salad using whatever greens, vegetables, toppings and dressing you like.
- Reheat the biscuits.
- Finish making the Lazy Man's Lobster.
- Start the dinner music.
- Light the candles.
- Pour the wine.

After dinner:

*(5 minutes)*

- While your partner clears the table, slice the cheesecake and serve it with the blueberry topping.

*Notes:*

- *Several of the dishes in the menu have make-ahead steps, and you have options for how far ahead to do some of these steps. This game plan represents one option that would work well but you can adapt the prep to fit your schedule.*
- *We like to enjoy an appetizer about 2 hours before dinner, and then relax for a little while before proceeding with making and eating dinner. If you prefer to have the appetizer closer to serving, adjust the timing accordingly.*
- *The hands-on work time estimates (in parentheses below the start times) are for one person doing it all, but some of these tasks can be shared or delegated, shortening the prep time.*