

## Star Spangled Style

Who doesn't love The 4th of July? Picnics, parties and fireworks. Not every picnic has to consist of paper plates and plastic forks. Be kind to the environment and easy on your wallet and set a patriotic table with found objects.



Decorating with red, white and blue is easy. I started with denim placemats (a bargain at Goodwill for 99¢ each!). And you can't get any more country than red bandanas.



I certainly don't change my seat covers every time I set a table, but this simple trick allows you to match the décor to your table theme! No sewing or stapling necessary just lay the bandana on the chair!



They're also easy to wash and iron and are perfect as napkins. I pleated the bandana and used an old clothes pin to keep the shape. Write your guest's name and stick in a couple of mini flags. It's all about layering.



I like to collect old enamel dishes from Sweden, but you can use any white plates and coffee cups.



The centerpiece is whatever you have on hand that shows your patriotism. I found star candles, flag ribbon and an Uncle Sam tin. Flowers would work or line up little flags down the center of the table.



I invite friends over for brunch before heading out to a local parade. Tell me how you celebrate America's Independence Day! Email me at [askmerri@goodwillsew.com](mailto:askmerri@goodwillsew.com).

