

Magical Afternoon Tea Party Checklist

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Here's a practical checklist for hosting either a Hogwarts Magical Tea Party or an Alice in Wonderland Mad Tea Party. Includes essential materials, budget-friendly alternatives, and tea substitutions when specific teas are not available.

- **Invitations:** Owl letters (Harry Potter) / Rabbit Hole cards (Alice). Alternative: digital Canva invitations.
- **Tableware:** Dark cloth + candle lights (HP) / Checkered cloth + colorful teapots (Alice). Alternative: plain white cloth with DIY cutouts.
- **Lighting & Music:** LED string lights, themed soundtracks. Alternative: Spotify fantasy playlist.
- **Props & Decor:** House banners, magic wands, hats, giant cards, mushrooms. Alternative: printed A4 paper cutouts.
- **Tea - Raw Pu-erh:** 'Forest Mist' cold brew. Alternative: Green tea or lightly oxidized Oolong for freshness.
- **Tea - Ripe Pu-erh:** 'Ancient Depth' rich brew. Alternative: Aged black tea (like Lapsang Souchong) for earthy depth.
- **Tea - Yunnan Black:** 'Sunset Red' bold black tea. Alternative: Assam or Darjeeling.
- **Snacks:** Finger sandwiches, scones, chocolate frogs, cookies. Alternative: supermarket pastries or homemade biscuits.
- **Games:** Sorting Hat ceremony / Hat parade. Alternative: trivia quiz with tea themes.
- **Photo Corner:** Castle backdrop / Cheshire Cat smile wall. Alternative: plain background + printed props.
- **Party Favors:** Mini tea packs for each guest. Alternative: wrapped candies or bookmarks.

Remember: the heart of a themed tea party is not perfection but immersion. With creativity, you can replace specialty teas or props and still deliver a magical, memorable experience.