



Tiki Time!

BANISH WINTER-WEATHER BLUES WITH A TIKI-THEMED BASH.

BY KELLEY L. MOORE



PHOTOGRAPHY
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WHEN THE NORTHWEST'S WINTER weather begins to pound at our psyches like rain beating against the windowpanes, it's time to shake things up. Throwing a tiki-themed party will transport family and friends to the tropics at least for a night. ✱ Tiki culture hit in 1934 when restaurateur Don "The Beachcomber" Beach (Ernest Raymond Beaumont Gantt) dressed up his Hollywood bar in Polynesian bamboo, rattan furniture and, of course, a few torches. A decade later, Victor "Trader Vic" Bergeron turned tiki mainstream with his chain of Polynesian-style restaurants. (In March, a new **Trader Vic's** restaurant comes to the Eastside's Lincoln Square, 700 Bellevue Way, Suite 50, Bellevue; 425.455.4483; trader-vics.com/rest-bellevue.html). Tiki persisted until disco blew the 30-year fad off the beach. ✱ But tiki is back, and creating that tiki-bar atmosphere at home is a breeze. Simply wrap your bar front (check out the **Ashland Bar Set** home bar at Target.com, \$1,299.99 for cherry veneer) in burlap trimmed in a tropical tone, line surrounding walls in woven wallpaper or a flat-panel bamboo screen and frame the bar in a hut formed of bamboo poles and topped by a thatched rain cape. On the bartop, fashion a tableau of tiki mugs fronted by lighted votive candle and gatherings of tropical flowers. A tiki-style cocktail set is a must, as are garnishes of cheery paper umbrellas and colorful cocktail stirrers to adorn your exotic libations. To put the tropical mood fully in motion, just add hip tiki lounge music. ✱

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the goods ✱ **Opposite page:** *NWH+G* columnist Kelley L. Moore in prime tiki-party form. ✱ **This page, clockwise from below:** Don't take your Tiki bar décor too seriously; pop a pink elephant cocktail buddy in a drink or two. ✱ **Color, color, everywhere!** Choose brightly colored bar appliances and utensils, such as this mango orange cutting board. ✱ **A signature drink is a must, as is a signature glass, such as this Trader Vic's collectible mug topped by a colorful umbrella straw.** (Visit the Hawaii General Store, 258 NE 45th St.; 206.633.5233, hawaiigeneralstore.net, for all manner of Tiki paraphrenalia). ✱ **A steady supply of carefully selected music will seal your tiki-lounge tempo.** ✱ **Have a ukulele at the ready for a late-night concert.**

i FOR COMPLETE DETAILS, SEE FIND IT, PAGE 76.

