

Thanksgiving Dinner Timeline



- Determine the timing of your Thanksgiving feast.
- Plan your guest list.
- Finalize your Thanksgiving menu planning.

2 Weeks Before Thanksgiving

- Clean out your freezer and fridge.
- Take inventory of house items & write a shopping list.
- Order your turkey.
- Buy non-perishable food items.
- Stock up on food storage items.



One Week Before Thanksgiving

- Clean up & prep the guest room & guest bathroom.
- Write out the full Thanksgiving shopping list.
- Make ahead dishes like pies, casseroles, and gravy and freeze.
- Pick up your turkey.

The Weekend Before Thanksgiving

- If you have a 16-20 pound turkey, move it to the refrigerator to thaw.
- Shop for beverages.



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Monday Before Thanksgiving

- Shop for produce and remaining perishable items.
- Prep veggies.
- If you have a 12-16 pound turkey, move it to the fridge.

Tuesday Before Thanksgiving

- Final grocery shopping day for last minute items.
- If you have a 4 to 12 pound turkey, move it to the refrigerator.





- Transfer any frozen items to the refrigerator.
- Arrange the table(s) and chairs.
- Prep the turkey.
- Make the desserts and refrigerate as needed.
- Prep the fruit and remaining vegetables.
- Prep the bar & beverages.
- Clean the house.
- Set the Thanksgiving table.

Thanksgiving Day

- Make the turkey.
- Make any remaining sides.
- Add any remaining garnishes & decorations.
- Relax & enjoy!



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HOW LONG TO THAW A TURKEY

Turkey size	Thaw in fridge	Thaw in cold water
4 to 12 pounds	1 to 3 days	2 to 6 hours
12 to 16 pounds	3 to 4 days	6 to 8 hours
16 to 20 pounds	4 to 5 days	8 to 10 hours
20 to 24 pounds	5 to 6 days	10 to 12 hours

To thaw in the refrigerator

Place the turkey in its original packaging on a roasting rack in a roasting pan or other large pan to catch juices that may drip from the packaging as it thaws. Transfer the turkey to the refrigerator.

To thaw in cold water

Place the turkey in a large plastic bag, then place the bag in a large pot. Fill the pot with cold water. Change water every 30 minutes.



