

Party Planning

Emily is planning her birthday party for next month. She's especially excited because her family gave her control over all of the details. She has a \$300 budget for the party, and she needs to choose a place to have the party, how many people she wants to invite, as well as what decorations, entertainment and refreshments they will enjoy during the party.

VENUE (Place)

Park Picnic Area - Free
Community Center - \$50
Bowling Alley - \$100
Emily's Home - \$50

INVITEES

Soccer team - 15 girls
Classmates - 10 boys, 12 girls
Summer camp friends - 5 from her cabin

DECORATIONS

Regular balloons - \$10 for 15 balloons
Mylar balloons - \$15 for 10 balloons
Streamers - \$3 for a large roll (one color per roll)
Flowers - \$10 a bunch, for centerpieces

ENTERTAINMENT

Band - \$100 for an hour
DJ - \$50 for an hour
Spotify Playlist - Free with occasional ads

REFRESHMENTS

Pizza - \$5 per person
Cupcakes - \$3 per cupcake
Sheet cake - \$25 for a cake that serves 20

QUESTIONS:

1. What questions will Emily need to ask herself before she chooses a venue (place)?
2. Which refreshment option is the best deal on a per-unit basis?
3. Which balloons are a better deal on a per-unit basis? If Emily really prefers the look of Mylar balloons, which should she buy, based on the total cost?
4. What additional costs might Emily need to think about for her party that aren't listed here?

CHALLENGE:

Throw your own party!

For any appropriate occasion of your choice, make a party plan and budget like Emily's. Your plan should include the number of attendees, location, entertainment, refreshments and anything else you find important. Your budget must include the *real* per-item and total costs of the purchases you plan to make.