

Block Party Packet



Neighborhood Services
Parks & Recreation
City of Scottsdale
7506 E. Indian School Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-312-3111



Reasons to Have a Block Party

1. To have fun – no excuse or reason is needed to celebrate.
2. To increase your ability to identify strangers by learning who does belong to the neighborhood.
3. To increase the sense of belonging to the community.
4. To organize a Neighborhood Watch group.
5. To make social connections within the community, such as learning a new language or new cooking recipes.
6. To network with neighbors and create working relationships. Find out who is a plumber, landscaper, painter, handyman ...
7. To assist with the children in your neighborhood – babysitters, carpooling, building friendships.
8. To plan campaigns for traffic slowdown, better lighting, a new neighborhood park or community clean-ups.
9. To learn the history of your neighborhood by meeting some of the veteran residents.



Contacts and Resources



Neighborhood Parks	480-312-2771	assist with game ideas; Bingo Boards
Block Party Coordinator	480-312-3111	for information on equipment rental (pop-ups, coolers, orange cones, PA system
Neighborhood Watch	480-312-2342	Neighborhood Watch program/signs, crime prevention tips, police/fire visitor requests
Facility Booking Office	480-312-7707	Scottsdale parks reservations, city approved rental companies
Tool Lending Center (TLC)	480-312-3111	Reserve a set of tools and a roll-off bin when 5 households partner together
Curb Painting Kits	480-312-3111	Reserve a stencil and brush kit to update the addresses along the curbs

Planning Tips



Pre-Planning

- Determine the level of interest by talking with the neighbors you already know.
- Determine the format of your event
 - Time of day? Duration of the event?
- Decide on a date and location. Streets provide easy access to all of your guests, especially the newcomers, and can be blocked off with orange cones or trash bins.
- Invite neighbors to assist in the planning, preparation and publicity.
- If you have a planning committee, decide when and how often you will meet

Preparation

- Decide on the menu
 - Pot-luck? Catered? Snacks? Full meals? Drinks?
 - Who pays for the food/drinks? Who supplies the food/drinks?
- Determine the types of activities you will have that will engage all age levels
 - Are there children in your community? What activities do you have for them?
 - Who organizes the activities?
 - Who prepares the activities ahead of time?
 - Who runs the activities at the event?
 - Who pays for the outside entertainment?
- Reserve and gather the supplies you will need (tables, chairs, paper products, coolers, grills ...)
- Will you solicit donations and/or raffle prizes? From where?
- Decide what role each committee member will play

Publicity

- Place flyers on doorknob (note: it is illegal to place flyers in individual mailboxes)
- Announce in community newsletter, HOA meetings, neighborhood watch meetings
- Send out reminder emails

Other Tips and Ideas

- Contact local TV/radio stations to use your party as a live remote for the weather report
- Have raffle/door prizes; solicit donations for neighborhood establishments
- Invite local celebrities or City departments to attend.
- Base it around a holiday and have a themed event (Chinese New Year, Halloween, ...)
- Include a food/clothing drive
- Get-to-Know Your Neighbors BINGO board (see next page – feel free to edit the squares to fit your community)

Neighborhood Block Party BINGO

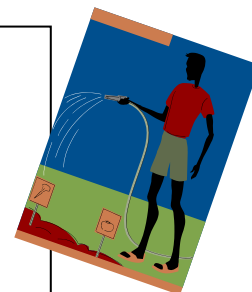


Please find someone who ...



Likes to skate/roller blade	Was born in Arizona	Recreates at one of the City's parks. Which park? _____	Has a birthday this month	Considers themselves a good dancer
Likes Coke over Pepsi	Is a vegetarian	Spends time searching the internet	Has an interesting collection. What is it? _____	Graduated High School the same year as you
Has 4 or more siblings	Likes to play cards	Has the same favorite TV show as you. Which show? _____	Plays on a sports league. Which sport? _____	Reads the newspaper every day
Has 3 or more children	Recently moved to the neighborhood	Speaks another language. Which language? _____	Enjoys baking	Has a large CD/DVD collection
Was born in a different state. Which state? _____	Is an only child	Owns their own business. What type of business? _____	Likes to read	Enjoys working in the yard

Directions: Find someone who fits a square that pertains to them and have them initial in the square. The winner is the first person to complete their entire sheet.



Games & Activities



Races / Partner Games

Sack Race (need: potato/gunny sack)

3-Legged Race (need: ties such as ripped rags or t-shirts – no rope)

Egg/ Water Balloon Toss

Quick Shave (need: balloons, tongue depressors, shaving cream)

Blow up and cover the balloons with shaving crème; using the tongue depressors, children will race to “shave” their balloon first without popping it.

Relays / Teams

Spoons (need: spoon and string)

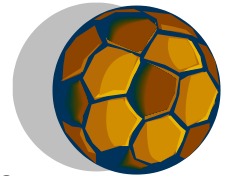
Divide the children into teams and line them up. Tie a long piece of string to a teaspoon's handle. The first person threads the spoon down his shirt, through his pants and hands it to the next person who threads up through his clothing. The first team to finish wins the game. Once threaded, attempt to sit down/stand up/jump, etc... without coming unthreaded.

Over/Under (need: one ball/large balloon per team)

Divide the children into teams and line them up. The first child takes the ball and passes it with both hands above his head to the child behind. The next child takes the ball and passes it through his legs to the child behind. The passing of the ball continues in this alternating fashion until it reaches the last child.

Hungry Hippos (need: balls of all sizes)

Divide the children into teams and line them up facing a pile of balls. Following the rules of the Over/Under Relay, the first person in line, chooses a ball and starts the relay. The last person places the ball in a new pile and runs to the front of the line to get another ball and start again. The team with the most balls in their pile, wins.



Holey Can (need: old large garbage bins, with hundreds of holes drilled into it, small buckets, water hoses)



Divide the children into two teams, each with a garbage can set 15 feet away from the can and 2-3 buckets next to the hose. The object is for the children to fill the garbage can with water, but only by using the buckets. The children will get wet and are allowed to attempt to plug the holes anyway possible in order to see which team fills their garbage can first.

Team Games

Trash Can Terminators (need: 5 garbage cans, a set of balls, flags)

The field is set up with five garbage cans set up in a dice pattern. Each team takes turns at being offense and defense. The offense tries to score with balls into the garbage cans by shooting or placing the balls into the cans, the outside cans being 1 point and the middle can being 5 points. The defense tries to stop the offense by blocking shots or pulling the flags off the offense players. If a flag is pulled, then that player needs to go to the outside of the playing area and put it back on. All the balls for the offense are placed at the designated area

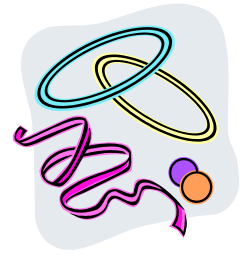


at the outside of the playing area and each offensive player is only allowed to bring in one ball at a time.

Individual Participants/Large Group – Action Games

Quick Draw (need: 2 hula hoops, 4 balls per hula hoop)

There are two hula hoops set up 50 feet from each other. There are four balls placed at the poles of the each of the hula hoops. Each participant stands in the middle of the hula-hoop. When the leader yells “draw” each participant tries to hit the other with the balls around them first, without leaving the confines of the hoop. The winner is the first person to hit their opponent.



Bocce Ball (need: one little ball, 4-6 larger balls per player, equally sized)

Bocce ball is played with one little ball thrown out into a field. Then there are six other balls for each player. Those balls are thrown trying to be the closest to the little ball. The players are allowed to try to hit the other players games balls out of the way.

Homerun Derby (need: distance/height markers, bat and ball)



Establish the playing field by setting point values to different areas/heights/distances of the walls and floors or by cones. Each child gets 10 hits and gets points based on the designated values of the areas/heights/distances pre-determined.

Gladiators (need: balls, hiding stations, target)

The playing area is set up with items to hide behind and with a set of balls placed at each hiding area. At the top of the field, there is a target for the participants to aim at and knock over. Near the target, the leaders stand with their own set of balls. Each participant goes from hiding station to hiding station and the leaders try to hit them with the balls. If the participant gets hit then they are out of the game. The participant to hit the target first, without getting knocked out, wins.

Individual Participants / Groups – Passive games

Balancing Act

Challenge your children to balance vertical objects (comb, twig, spoons, etc..) on their fingertips. Players compete against themselves to increase their balancing time and everyone else's.



Nonsense Numbers

Substitute a silly word for a number, such as “zap” for 4. Players then count off to 100, making the appropriate substitutions (14 becomes “zapteen”, 44 becomes “zpty-zap”, etc...) In the next round, select an additional number to replace with a silly word and continue until counting is full of non-sense.

Follow-Me

The first player performs a simple act, such as snapping his fingers. The next person repeats that movement and adds his own. Play continues until no one can remember all the moves in sequence.

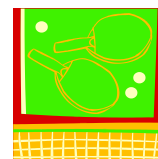
Cake Walk



Place numbered squares in a circle. Play music and have participants walk around the circle. When the music stops, pick a number at random and the person standing on that number wins the prize (cakes, cupcakes, door prizes, etc...)

Huff-N-Puff Hockey

One player stands at each end of a long table. Line the tables' two long sides with books to create boundaries. Set a Ping-pong ball in the center of the table. Each player tries to blow the ball off the other end of the table.



HA!

Players lie on the floor with each person's head on someone else's tummy. The first person starts by saying "HA!" as loudly and emphatically as possible. The person says "HA HA" and so on down the line until the whole group is laughing.

What's Changed?

One player covers his eyes while something is changed either in the room or another player (part hair on a different side, turn a hat backwards, etc...). The player who is "It" must guess what has changed.

Mom's Purse



The first player says, "Mom's purse is so heavy because it holds ..." and lists an item beginning with the letter A. The second person repeats the phrase, the A item and adds an item starting with B. This continues until you get through the alphabet.

Other variations: "I'm going on a picnic and will be bringing ..."; "I'm taking a trip and will be packing/seeing ..."; "My name is ---- and I like (name something that starts with the first letter of your name)"

Link Up

The first player says a word. The next player must think of a word that begins with the last letter of the first player's word, and so on. (Cat = Turtle = Elephant, etc...)

Clowning Around

One player is "It" and tries to make the others laugh. No touching allowed. The first person to laugh becomes the new "It".



Sardines (variation of Hide-and-Seek)

One person hides while everyone else counts then scatters to search. Each time a person finds the "hider", he/she joins the hider and stays silent while others continue searching.

Musical Chairs

Place chairs in a circle, one less chair than the number of participants. As music is playing, participants walk the circle. When the music stops, the participants sit in a chair. The person without a chair is out of the game. Remove a chair and repeat process until one winner is declared.



Tips for Dividing Teams

(Based on input from Bill Michelis, PhD, and John O'Connell)

Partners

Have kids get a partner, then split them up onto two separate teams.

Birthdays

Have the people line up in order of their birthdays and split them down the middle.
(Variation: Can they do it without speaking?)

Alphabet

Have the people line up in name order and split them down the middle
(variation: Can they do it without speaking?)



Nails

Have the children look at their nails. If they look at them palm up, fingers folded, they are on one team; palms down, fingers straight are on the other

Stand on one Foot

Children standing on their left foot are on one team; those standing on their right foot are on the other teams (variations include folding arms, etc..)

Mingle

The group walks around shaking hands with other saying "mingle, mingle, mingle." The leader then says "Groups of 3s, with hands on heads." The kids cluster together in groups of 3 with their hands on their heads. More mingling, then "groups of 5 with elbows linked," and so on until you get the size and number of teams you want.



Helpful Internet Sites:

www.crayola.com

www.familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts

www.kidsdomain.com

www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/activities

www.sikids.com

www.pbskids.org/games.html

www.gameskidsplay.net

www.puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com





City of Scottsdale Block Party Application

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY POLICIES

By submitting the attached Block Party Application,
you agree to the following Block Party Policies:

In general

- Block parties must be organized by a neighborhood leader or designated party coordinator
- Block party organizer/coordinator must be over the age of 21
- Block parties do not generally require a permit process; however, a Special Events Permit may be required for parties that will block certain types of streets, and/or that include live entertainment or amplified music, and/or if alcohol will be sold. For more information call Neighborhood Services at (480) 312-3111
- No street except for neighborhood streets may be blocked; cul-de-sacs are preferred
- A barricade plan must be submitted with each Block Party Application. Using paper and pencil or a map, show a simple diagram of streets and corners involved, name each street, and indicate with "X's" where barricades will be placed
- Requests for city staff or elected officials must be made 30 in advance by submitting a completed Block Party Application (attached). Requested visitors are provided on an "as available" basis only

Block party equipment loans

- Requests for equipment must be received at least 2 weeks by submitting a completed Block Party Application (attached)
- Party organizer/coordinator must arrange for equipment pick up and return
- Normal equipment checkout is from Friday to the following Monday (please ask for prior approval for alternate arrangements by calling the city's Block Party coordinator—contact info on application form)
- Proper ID (Driver's license, State ID, U.S. Government ID, US passport) is required for equipment check out
- Registered organizers may be held responsible for loss or damage to city equipment
- For a full list of current equipment, see our website at www.scottsdaleaz.gov and search for Block Parties, or call (480) 312-3111 for more information
- Equipment checkout is subject to availability

City of Scottsdale Neighborhood Services
7506 E Indian School Rd.
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251
(480) 312-3111
Fax (480)-312-2888
neighborhoods@scottsdaleaz.gov





City of Scottsdale Block Party Application

Neighborhood or Organization Name: _____

Contact Person Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Neighborhood Boundaries or Major Crossroads: _____

North: _____ South: _____

East: _____ West: _____

Event Date: _____ Event Time: _____

Where Will the Event Take Place? _____

Expected number of homes participating _____

Do you want to reserve any of the following equipment (2-week notice required):

Microphone ☐ Traffic cones ☐ Ice chest ☐ Shade canopy ☐

Would you like to invite city staff or elected officials to your party (30-day notice):

Fire ☐ Police ☐ Solid Waste/Recycling ☐ Mayor/Council ☐

Other ☐ _____ (describe)

Would you like information on any of the following:

Neighborhood Meeting ☐ Neighborhood Watch ☐

G.A.I.N. Event ☐ Neighborhood Notification Program ☐

TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION

MAIL TO:

Neighborhood Services
Block Party Coordinator
7506 E Indian School Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

FAX TO:

(480) 312-2888

OR

EMAIL TO:

neighborhoods@scottsdaleaz.gov

(480) 312-3111