

# HOW TO HOST A WATERMELON EATING CONTEST



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A watermelon eating contest is a fun and exciting event that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. It is a fantastic way to celebrate summer and create lasting memories with your neighbors. Follow these steps to successfully host a watermelon eating contest:

## MATERIALS:

- 01 Watermelons
- 02 Cutting boards and knives
- 03 Tables and chairs
- 04 Tablecloths or newspapers
- 05 Napkins or paper towels
- 06 Trash bags or bins
- 07 Stopwatch or timer
- 08 Whistle or air horn
- 09 Prizes or certificates for winners (optional)
- 10 Sign-up sheet or online registration form (optional)
- 11 Rules and guidelines for participants (optional)



**STEP****01**

**Enlist Volunteers:** Reach out to neighbors and invite others to help plan and implement your watermelon eating contest. Inviting others to participate helps create more community connectedness and expands the impact of your event. This also makes it easier for you to coordinate the event when others are helping. Identify who will help set up, serve, cleanup, and greet guests. This will help your volunteers understand what they can contribute and make it easier for them to participate.

**STEP****02**

**Choose a Date, Time, and Location:** Pick a date and time that works well for your community. Consider the weather, as well as any local events that might conflict with your watermelon eating contests. Select a location. Outdoor locations like a park, backyard, cul-de-sac, or picnic area help make cleanup easy. You might also choose a community center, church, or someone's home, back yard, or driveway.

**STEP****03**

**Plan & Announce the Contest:** Decide on the contest format, such as age groups, number of participants, and time limit. Create a sign-up sheet or online registration form if you want to limit the number of participants. Make sure to include the date, time, and location of your watermelon eating contest. Post it on our HOA.com event calendar and post it on your social media neighborhood group, email your neighbors, and post your flyer on your neighborhood mailboxes to spread the word and ensure everyone feels invited and included.

**STEP****04**

**Gather Materials:** Purchase enough watermelons to accommodate all participants. Estimate one watermelon per participant, or more if you expect a large turnout. Gather other necessary materials like cutting boards, knives, tablecloths, napkins, and a timer.

**STEP****05**

**Set Up the Contest Area:** Arrange tables and chairs in a way that allows participants to face each other or the audience. Cover the tables with tablecloths or newspapers for easy cleanup. Place napkins or paper towels within easy reach for participants.

**STEP****06**

**Prepare the Watermelons:** Before the contest begins, cut the watermelons into equal-sized wedges or slices. Make sure each participant receives the same amount of watermelon to ensure fairness.

**STEP****07**

**Establish Rules & Guidelines:** Create a simple set of rules and guidelines for participants, such as no hands allowed, eating only the watermelon flesh, and disqualifying anyone who cannot keep the watermelon down. Inform participants of the rules before the contest starts.





## STEP 08

**Greet Your Neighbors:** Greet guests as they arrive so everyone feels welcome. Engage in conversation and encourage everyone to mingle and have fun. Upbeat music adds a nice touch as well.



## STEP 09

**Begin the Contest:** Gather all participants and start the contest with a whistle or air horn. Use a stopwatch or timer to keep track of the contest duration. Monitor participants closely to ensure they follow the rules and guidelines.



## STEP 10

**Determine the Winner(s):** The winner can be determined by the fastest time to finish their watermelon, the most watermelon eaten within a set time limit, or the least amount of watermelon left on the rind. Choose a method that suits your contest format and participants.



## STEP 11

**Award Prizes: (Optional)** Present the winner(s) with a prize or certificate to celebrate their victory. This could be a gift card, trophy, or a simple printed certificate. Often this will be donated by your local HOA.com Certified Pros.



## STEP 12

**Clean Up:** Once the event has concluded, clean up the area by disposing of trash and recycling, wiping down tables, and washing any used serving utensils.



## STEP 13

**Post Photos & videos:** Ask a volunteer and your neighbors to post fun videos and photos of the contest congratulating and tagging the winners. We recommend you share the final scores of the race, the announcement of the winners and be sure to capture some smiles and laughs from this fun, festive event.

Hosting a watermelon eating contest is a fun way to bring your neighbors together for a unique and entertaining event. By following these simple steps, you can create a fun and memorable event everyone will enjoy.