It's all ROSY outside

Enjoy your gardening more than ever with the latest beautiful tools and accessories – from as little as £1!

Pink botanical pattern **flowerpot,** £10, Hum

Teapot **bird feeder,** £12.99, The Chelsea Gardener

National Trust Cottage Garden **kneeler,** £20

Charlie Dimmock tin plant **pots** with hangers, £1 each, Poundland

Grab them while you can!

Pink **watering can,** £14.99; **secateurs,** £17.95; **bobbin of twine,** £6.99; wooden plant **labels,** £6.99; pink **geraniums,** £2.99; **hydrangeas,** from £12.99; **planter,** £27.99, all Dobbies

PRIMA *loves*

RHS rosa chinensis gardener's **notebook,** £7.95, Annabel James

Gardener's **bag with tools,** £40; long gardening **gloves,** £30, both Laura Ashley

Flower **scissors,** £18.95, Annabel James

Compiled by: Gary Irwin

For where to buy, see page 152

GET CRAFTING WITH THE KIDS

The great thing about summer is that children can get creative outdoors without you worrying about the mess. One of our faves is to get cheap white T-shirts and some fabric paint and get

everyone to paint their own shirt. Another fun idea is to put up a piece of string and pin up the kids' art pieces for an exhibition. Ours also love making mocktails (definitely best done in the garden!). They mix the ingredients, such as sugar water and lemon juice, and the family then samples their concoctions.

TRANSFORM YOUR TABLE

You can get great melamine garden plates, but I tend to buy them, use them for one summer and lose them the year after! Also, they may not be suitable for dishwashers, as the plastic breaks down in the heat, so you'll have to wash up the old-fashioned way. For effortless entertaining, go for colourful paper plates (try partypieces.co.uk).

DECORATE TO CELEBRATE

Bunting is a wonderful way to cheer up a garden for a party. Make sure you start to plan a summer party now, though, as I have a terrible tendency to let the summer come up and bite me before I've organised everything properly. A simple but effective idea is to buy a bumper pack of affordable glasses and paint the outside of them, so you can use them as candle holders around the garden.

WINNING FOOD AND DRINK TIPS

Enough ice and seating, a bright oil cloth and screw-topped wine are my key items for outdoor entertaining. Plus, as long as you have plenty of crisps, you'll always have a fall-back option – whatever happens with the food! I'm a fan of the wine box, too, as it takes up less space in the fridge than wine bottles. I also love a good fruit punch, sangria or rock shandy (half lemonade, half soda, a few drops of angostura bitters, lemon slices and ice) – all of them are winning summer garden drinks. Cheers!

A fire pit makes things cosy when the sun goes down (below, from Solus Decor)

WARM IT UP

I love fire pits. In fact, I've had my eye on the great website firepitsuk.co.uk for a while. We have a fire pit at our rental property Rise Hall that's incredibly popular, and most people who stay there use it in both summer and winter. Chimeneas are also fab in a smaller space, but be aware of where the smoke will go in a small garden, as you shouldn't inhale it directly.

BANISH BUGS

Food and insects go hand-in-hand in a garden. Bugs seem particularly fond of meat so, to keep them at bay, I bring out a little bit at a time on fresh plates, while mesh food protectors (try Lakeland) can be a life-saver. Also, ditch canned drinks – insects can climb inside, and you don't want to drink a dozy wasp! Citronella candles smell lovely, but I'm not sure how effective they are at deterring bugs, so keep mosquito repellent to hand, just in case.

Jamie Oliver Wood-Fired Oven, Garden House Design

GRAB A PIZZA THE ACTION

A pizza oven is a really sociable and fun way to entertain over a few hours. I have one from The Stone Bake Oven Company, which is fantastic. While pizza dough is so easy to make, if I'm feeling really lazy, we buy a tray of it from our local pizza restaurant for a small amount. If you have a big table, or can drag your kitchen one into the garden, there's nothing lovelier than a long, lazy Sunday lunch under a tree. I think some of our best lunches have simply consisted of a big plate of mixed cold meats and interesting pickles. It's a really casual meal that can go on for hours without much effort.

Photos: Hearst Magazines UK, Nicky Johnston, Getty, Alamy **Sarah wears:** Shirt, Zara

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