

Birthday Spa checklist



Oh, the glamour, the luxury, the pampered feeling every little (and big) girl loves. Turn your home into a day spa complete with service stations and decadent treats, before-and-after pictures and a photo-transfer cake with a primed portrait of the birthday girl.

Favors

Small drawstring bags made of sheer fabric double as fashionista favor bags and future overnight cosmetic bags, and are perfect for handing out lip gloss, nail polish, monogrammed face towels, hair accessories and eye masks.

- Colorful face towels / bath dept.
- Drawstring bags / beauty dept.
- Eye masks / beauty dept.
- Hair accessories / beauty dept.
- Lip gloss / beauty dept.
- Nail or pedicure kit

Must-have party supplies

- Birthday cake / bakery dept.
- Candles / stationery dept.
- Paper plates and napkins / stationery dept.
- Plastic glasses / stationery dept.
- Garbage bags / cleaning supplies dept.
- Cleaning supplies/ cleaning supplies dept

Decorations

Hang “appointment” schedules at each beauty station. Waiting areas should have bean-bag chairs and magazines, plus chocolate-dipped strawberries and marshmallows (don’t forget cotton balls to hold freshly painted toes apart).

- Helium tank with balloons / cards & party dept.
- Bean bag chairs / furniture dept.
- Beauty magazines / electronics dept.
- Crepe paper / stationery dept.
- Poster board / art supplies dept.
- Cotton balls / beauty dept.

Activities: Tools of the trade

Send the spa experience home by letting guests create customized accessories. Add sparkling gemstones and glittering stickers to sleep masks and small hand mirrors. Make sure each guest adds her personal touch to a keepsake mirror for the birthday girl.

Prep time: 15 min.

Activity time: 60 min.

The supplies you need:

- Ribbons and stickers /art supplies dept.
- Gemstones / cards & party dept.
- Sleep masks / beauty dept.
- Small hand mirrors / beauty dept.

More activities

Painted to perfection

Use tiny stickers to add colorful shapes to picture-perfect fingernails and toenails. Have guests paint a base-coat of a nail strengthener to protect nails. Add a thin coat of a favorite color and let dry. Then, before a second coat, put on tiny shaped stickers.

Prep time: 5 min.

Activity time: 30 min.

The supplies you need:

- Nail or pedicure kit / cards & party dept.
- Toe separators / beauty dept.
- Stickers / stationery dept.
- Nail polish remover / beauty dept.

Luxe looks

Don't limit the magical makeovers to fingernails and toenails. Luxury goes from head to toe with colorful hair-streak kits, fancy braid beading and airbrush-style tattoos.

Prep time: none

Activity time: 60 min.

The supplies you need:

- Hair supplies / beauty dept.
- Tattoos / stationery dept.

For even more fun, include:

- Board games / toy dept.
- Boy/girl/preschool activities kit / toy dept.

Have a (cotton) ball

Sit a child down between two bowls, one filled with cotton balls and one empty. Using a wooden spoon, they have to transfer all balls from one bowl to the other—blindfolded. More often than not, the spoon is empty, and the whole room is rolling with laughter.

Prep time: 5 min.

Activity time: 30 min.

The supplies you need:

- Cotton balls / beauty dept.
- Plastic bowls / cleaning supplies dept.
- Wooden spoon / kitchenware dept.
- Bandana to use as a blindfold / accessories dept.

Pretty toes, busy fingers

In between manicures and ten-color pedicures, temporary tattoos help keep girls busy. A scavenger hunt through beauty magazines for red shoes or famous models makes it easier to wait your turn.

Prep time: 15 min.

Activity time: 60 min.

The supplies you need:

- Body art kit / art supplies dept.
- Nail polish / beauty dept.
- Hair curlers / beauty dept.