

## Poolside entertaining Part 2

The homemade ice sculpture.....

Take your favorite spirit bottle like the Belvedere bottle, Lemoncello bottle or any other shapely or brightly coloured container that allows liquid to pour easily from it. Place the bottle into a milk carton that has the top pour spout and flaps removed. The milk container should look like a rectangular box without a lid. Place your bottle in the middle of the box.

Next pour water around the bottle so that it has 1.5 inches to expand without reaching the top of the milk container. Next take some tape and apply one length starting from the side of the container that crosses the top of the bottle and then fastens to the other side. This will stop the bottle from floating and moving as the water freezes.

After the water freezes and you are about an hour and a half from serving, take the milk container out of the freezer and start to remove the cardboard from the outside of the ice block. You may have to use some warm water and a scrapper to remove all of the paper from the ice.

Add your premixed cocktails or martinis into the bottle which is now in a decorative ice box. Let the ice sit out for about 30 mins at a temperature close to that of the serving area's so that the ice can clear and you will be able to see right through to the bottle.

This works best with coloured drinks and transparent bottles. Try to leave the neck area on the bottle free from the ice so that pouring will be easier and you will have a clear area to grasp.

This will wow your guests with a great presentation and will ensure that your drinks will stay cold for hours. Make sure that you place your bottle on either an absorbent placemat or a towel so that the melting will not run all over your table.

Cheers to some great summer parties and no rain!