

## **“The Best Party Tips You’ll Ever Get (From a Clown)”!**

From Billy and Marina (Owner and Co-owner of: [Billy and Friends, LLC](#))

“Your child is the most precious little one in the whole world, no matter how old he or she is. We know, because between my wife and me we have four little ones (25, 24, 23 and 21 years old ...and counting!). Yes, they will always be our little precious, just like your kids.”

With that in mind we would like to point out one mistake we see parents make preparing for their “BIG” birthday party: Hiring a professional Entertainer or even a whole group of Entertainers can be a big success, but also a mistake.

Preparing for the big day means pre-planning as well as following some simple rules. We all want to make “the” perfect party.

We are sure reading this material you will say “Yes, I know all that.” or, “I already know the answers to all these questions.” But, in the days before the party we all get so busy and distracted that we tend to forget some simple rules.

So I ask you just to read this page all the way to the end. Besides the tips that I will give as a clown there are some questions we have collected during all these years with answers to each of them. Actually, we have over 40 questions and answers you might find very helpful. With all that in mind we all tend to forget the reason for the party. We all forget the “CHILD”.

As parents of four we know from our own experience that young children, ages 3 to 7, maybe 8 years will remember only three things about his / her party and they are:

- How special they were made to feel
- How much fun they had
- How many and what presents they got

So here is the question. Do you make a party for your precious or are you trying to **KEEP UP WITH THE NEIGHBOR?** We all tend to do that. It is in human nature to do a better and bigger party than the one we just attended. But, how about instead of keeping up with the Jones’ just taking their good ideas and utilizing them? It’s all about creativity and the Entertainers you are hiring.

Clowning is fun! Your child will always remember a funny, squeaking clown’s nose and his big shoes and your neighbors will talk about your party for a long time. So, here they are, some of **“The Best Party Tips You’ll Ever Get (From a Clown)”!**

1. Have a theme and stick it to it. Pick a theme and be creative
2. K.I.S.S. – Keep it simple, sweetie
3. Have the birthday child visit my web site to look at my picture so they know exactly what I look like. That way they are expecting a friend and not an unknown. This is even more important for the younger children. If you prefer, I can send your child a post card with my picture on it.
4. HOTSY, TOTSY – If the party is in summer, make sure there’s plenty of shade, liquids and sunscreen for parents and children and Entertainer. If the party is inside, please do yourself and everyone a favor – crank down the air before everyone gets there
5. Plan on having your Entertainer arrive about 15 to 30 minutes after your party is scheduled to start. This way if anyone is running late they will still arrive in time to see your child star in the show. It will also eliminate the need stop the show to greet the late

- arrivals, or if your guests traditionally arrive late to your parties, have your Entertainer toward the last hour of your party.
6. Remember that when you hire an Entertainer, you are hiring their time as well as their talent. They must begin and end on time as they generally have scheduled performances before and/or after your party. So the time cannot be changed when the clown arrives. So make sure that the time you have your Entertainer arrive is a time where your guests will all be there.
  7. Remember that your performer is an Entertainer, not a babysitter.
  8. Adults are welcome and encouraged to watch the show with the children. However, if they wish to visit during the show it would be better for the children if the adults went to a different room.
  9. Please don't give the children food or drinks during the show. Their enthusiasm and your carpet will suffer.
  10. Please don't give the children balloons, noise makers, etc. right before or during the show. Remember that balloons can be choking hazards. If your child is too young to have a conversation about choking, they are too young for a balloon.
  11. If the show is to be outside, please keep it away from play sets, bouncers, toys, pets, etc. If the show is on the lawn, chairs or blankets for the children to sit on will help define the show area. Also, the children will be more comfortable in the shade on a hot day. They don't need drinks during the show.
  12. Pre-light the candles. They will re-light easier when it is time and they will be easier for your child to blow out. You will then have your lighter or matches ready to be used.
  13. Ready! Action! Camera! Make sure that your camera is ready. This includes checking the film supply or digital card, charging the batteries, and knowing who is going to be taking the pictures. Don't stop the show to ask the children to pose, look, and smile. Candid shots are more fun. Posed pictures can be taken before I leave. Don't forget to take a picture of the cake before it is cut.
  14. Try to relax and have fun with the children. Good times and happy memories are what we are striving for.

*Lastly, please have the payment ready at the beginning of the party so the Entertainer can exit promptly. Often times they don't want to interrupt the cutting of cake or the piñata to ask for payment. So if the cash or check is ready prior to the party it makes payment much easier.*