

How To Throw A Great Ritual/Sex Party

1. Articulate an intention for your ritual. "I want to get off with as many people all over me as possible" is a perfectly lovely desire, but it's a lousy intention for a group ritual. Your intention should include and benefit all members of the group. For example: "Our intention is to bring together members of the S/M and Tantric communities for an evening-long exploration of the sacred eroticism common to both." Your intention should be stated in a sentence or two. Keep it simple.

2. What kind of erotic play suits your intention? What doesn't? Be specific. Is nudity expected? Required? Optional? Is fucking allowed? How about blood sports, such as play piercings? Decide in advance what is and isn't acceptable for your group. Make sure to provide a safe, comfortable space for all the activities you plan to encourage.

3. Before the ritual, inform everyone of the rules/protocols for the ritual. Be sure to clearly state clearly, in advance, your intention and your safer-sex policy, so people will come mentally and physically prepared. Of course, you'll have safer-sex supplies at easy-to-reach locales throughout your space.

4. Have a facilitator. Or a team of facilitators. At least one facilitator who is not participating in the fun is needed to make sure the rules are being followed and no one is getting hurt. We call this job "holding the space." You can call your facilitator a Dungeon Master or a High Priestess. Choose a title appropriate to the style of your ritual. In one of my workshops, the person who made sure participants followed the safer-sex protocol was called "Proto-Kali."

5. Start and end at a specified time. Ask everyone to arrive before the start time; people should not be allowed to drop in once the ritual gets going. Anyone who leaves early must tell the facilitator they are leaving. Looking up from a hot time, realizing someone is missing, and not knowing why can completely break an erotic spell.

6. Gather with clothes on first. Whether it's a meal, a circle, or some other way of gathering, make sure everyone gets to meet everyone else and share their expectations for the gathering. Let people ask questions. Restate the rules and the intention. People feel safer when they see that everyone else hears and agrees to the same rules.

7. Be flexible but firm. Keep true to your intention. Remember, this is your party. If someone isn't enjoying themselves it is perfectly okay for them to leave. Take note of things that work and things that don't so that you can make your next party/ritual even better.