

PREPARING FOR YOUR PARTY

Southern Belle Princess Parties



I've booked-now what?

Once you have paid your deposit-you are booked! Your remaining balance may be paid anytime before your party but is due no less than 3 days before. We will email you the Tuesday before your party to confirm your booking one last time. If you have not heard from us, or have any questions as you prepare your visit, please reach out!

Contacting us the day of the party

The weekends are our busiest party days, and often, no one is in the office. Your performer/ character attendant will text you the morning of or the day before your party. Please communicate with them any issues, parking info, time changes, etc.



Preparing your child

The joy on your child's face is just as important as the party itself. Although surprising your child is an option for the visit, it is encouraged that they not be surprised unless they are five or older and have experience with the characters in the past. Often surprising your child may overwhelm them because they are meeting their Idol! They may be in shock or not know what to say if they are taken by surprise on their special day.

A suggestion would be to give your child time to prepare to meet their favorite character by having them write an invitation to the character they have chosen, inviting them to their birthday party. Have them "mail" it (you do not have to actually send it anywhere), and they can excitedly wait to see if the character comes to their party!

Additionally, this gives your child time to think of questions to ask and prepare for their dream of meeting their favorite mermaid, princess, superhero, or mascot to come true!

Dear Elsa,

It is my dream for you to come to my birthday. I would like to invite you to my birthday party on December 7. I would like you to meet my friends and show me your ice hands.

Love,

Brooklyn



What do the characters need?

Your characters are highly trained and experienced performers, but it is appreciated when the party space is prepared in advance. We suggest having a space where your character can sit to tell the story (a couch or chair works fine) and a space for the little ones to sit around the character(s). A table also works just as well, if not better. It is also encouraged that parents stay involved in all activities.

Activities during the party

Most parties will include temporary tattoos, nail polish, or face painting. It is suggested that there be at least two chairs at a table for such activities (one for the character and one for the child). You should provide additional chairs depending on how many characters are attending your party (one per character and child). Your performers will bring everything needed for these activities, but occasionally, they may ask for additional supplies, such as a cup of water or napkins, to clean up messes.



Activity changes

It is rare that children are not interested in the activities that we provide, but if it does happen, we will happily alter our activities to accommodate what your child needs. For example, if the birthday child has a special book they want to read, the character will read that instead of the pre-prepared story. If you do not wish for us to stray from our pre-planned activities, please make sure that your child and guests are actively participating.

How do parties run?

60-minute parties run like this:

- Introductions
- Story-time
- Sing-a-long
- Dance-a-long
- Princess/prince/ superhero/ mermaid lessons
- Coronation/badging ceremony (birthday child will receive a gift and a certificate-this is a great time to gather everyone at the party to celebrate the birthday child and take pictures!)
- Singing the Happy Birthday song (This is usually done in the last 10 minutes before the character leaves)

Typically, we say our goodbyes when the cake is being cut. If there is additional time, we will fill it with games or additional songs and dances. There is never a dull moment without entertainment.

30-minute parties run the same, only with a shorter story, one song, and no dancing.

90-minute parties run the same but include an extra activity (face painting, nail polish, or makeup).

120-minute parties are the same as 90, except they include extra time for games, presents, and anything else you need/want!

60-minute superhero parties include facepaint



How do I tip?

Tips are never expected but are appreciated by your performers. There are several ways you can tip:

Invoice: Your Invoice will have an "add tip" button when you go to pay.

Papal, Venmo, or Cashapp: Your performers will provide you with their preferred virtual method of payment in a follow-up text after your event.

In-person: The most common method that families choose is in-person with cash. Your performer will give you an envelope at the beginning of your party. This envelope will be filled with business cards for you to give to your family and friends. You may leave your cash tip inside the envelope provided and hand it back to your performer at the end of the party.

Additionally, you may provide your own pre-prepared envelope if you wish. If you provide a cash tip without an envelope, please do so away from little eyes- we don't want to ruin the magic for them!

Any tips will be split between all performers/character attendants present.



Check out what our past clients have said!

"Very professional with excellent communication and well-oiled charming routine. Seeing children light up after experiencing a little bit of magic: priceless. Thank you for being our entertainment!" -Katie

"This had to be the best surprise ever! My daughter was on cloud 13! I had a very impromptu party, so my request was less than 48 hours before needed! However, they were EXTREMELY accommodating and made it happen for my 3-year-old! We had Elsa, and Anna-they were amazing! I will most definitely use Southern Belle Princess Parties again! It was magical!!!!" -Kalia

"Hands down, the best birthday party we have ever experienced. We enjoyed every minute of all our characters. We had the joy of spending time with Cinderella, Moana, Rapunzel, Spider-Man, and Elena of Avalor. They were worth every penny spent. I can't wait to get to experience the other magical characters." -Crystal

"We had Belle at my daughter's third birthday, and when I say this was the best money I have spent on her, I mean it 100%! Belle and her assistant were wonderful and so professional (even in character). My daughter was so comfortable around her, and Belle made her feel like a real princess! Our time with her ran smoothly, and she did a fabulous job entertaining a herd of 3 and four-year-olds!! I will be using Southern Belle Princess Parties again, no doubt!!!!" -Haley



MASCOT PREPARATION

What do Mascots need?

We suggest having a space where the Mascot can stand (a living room with a higher ceiling) and a space where the little ones can sit on the floor or ground around the character. Parties also work well when all the little ones are seated at the table. This way, the Mascot and character attendant will stand at the side to conduct the activities.

Our mascot performers often have an obstructed view due to the nature of the mascot head. They often have limited peripheral view and difficult seeing below eye level. Our character attendants will help guide our characters and alert them when little ones are wanting hugs or high-fives, but it is important to be mindful of little ones running around and having a clear path for the mascot to walk so they do not trip!

Mascot costumes are HOT and HEAVY. Mascot parties are only offered for 30-minute long parties, but your performer may need a space to take off their mascot head and take a quick water break, depending on the weather.

Please remember that our contract states no character should be outside in more than 85-degree weather.



How do Mascot parties run?

Mascot parties are only offered for 30-minute-long parties but run about the same as any other character party. They usually run like this: we start with introductions, story-time, dance-a-long, lessons based on the mascot, and a badging or coronation ceremony (a present given to the birthday child), and then we sing the happy birthday song. Any extra time will be filled with games.



MERMAID PREPARATION

How does the mermaid get in the pool?

Mermaid parties are incredibly fun but require extra planning In order to ensure a safe and fun environment. Mermaids have several ways of getting Into your pool.

1. Our favorite way to get our mermaids Into the pool is via wheelchair. Most community pools, apartments, and public venues have wheelchair access. If your pool is wheelchair accessible, your character attendant will wheel your mermaid to the pool. Here, guests are welcome to watch as the mermaid enters the pool.
2. Our next option is usually best for private at-home pools. Our mermaids should be given privacy for this option (we will arrive 10 minutes before your scheduled time for this option). The mermaid will walk to your pool and put on her tail at the pool. It is your responsibility to have all of the guests inside or away from the pool area for this. The guests will also need to leave (it is suggested to bring them inside for cake or Ice cream) when it is time for the mermaid to leave.
3. The last resort is a character attendant carrying them. This way should never be relied on. Our tails are heavy (up to 30 pounds), and most of our attendants are not strong enough. We will offer you this option when possible.



What do Mermaids need?

Your mermaid will arrive with her own speaker, activities, pool toys, and everything she needs to entertain the little ones.

Mermaid parties are usually the most fun when the mermaid simply swims and plays with the little ones. The mermaids can swim underwater as well! If you have pool toys, popsicles, or special activities, you would like our mermaid to be a part of-just let us know! We are happy to engage in the poolside activities you have. However, mermaids also bring a storybook to read and can sing songs with the little ones.



Safety

Children should be watched by an adult at the party at all times. Our character attendant is not a lifeguard and is not there to monitor guests. Mermaids should not be climbed on or held underwater by guests. If at any time your mermaid feels unsafe, they have the right to sit poolside for the remainder of the party.