

3 EASY DOES IT

Anna Lofts (pictured right) was born in Norway, where the spring sun doesn't set until late in the evening. Back home, Anna says, lunches are long and dinners are leisurely. "Scandinavians are very into colour as well," she says. Here, the Linen & Moore managing director has put together an enticing, modern-country-style table. The colours are bright and classic and the atmosphere is welcoming. "If you're relaxed, everyone else is relaxed," she says.

Hot tip

"Keep things casual. Don't serve anyone. Just put out big platters of food and let people help themselves. This is how we do it in Norway, with people passing things around."

- Anna Lofts

TABLECLOTH, NAPKINS & PLACEMATS According to Anna, a beautifully decorated table starts with the tablecloth or runner.

"You then build on that by mixing colours and styles," she says.

Here, the Bordeaux Claudette hand-block-printed tablecloth and matching napkins, from Linen & Moore, are a breath of fresh air with strong blues and greens. You don't need much else when you have a tablecloth this beautiful.

A round straw placemat, in indigo, also from Linen & Moore, complements the look.

CROCKERY The muted hues of Bauer American Modern hand-glazed ceramic plates and bowls (from Angelucci 20th Century) are ideal companions for this table.

The elegant wine glasses here are from Boda, but Anna says she also loves putting out mismatched wine glasses.

DECORATIONS A few cheery flowers in creams and bright yellows provide a lovely contrast to the blue of the tablecloth.

Anna prefers using different vases, or even old vinegar bottles, to encourage a relaxed atmosphere.

PERFECT FOR A laid-back evening. Open the doors for all to move outside after the meal. 🌸



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