

# Art Department



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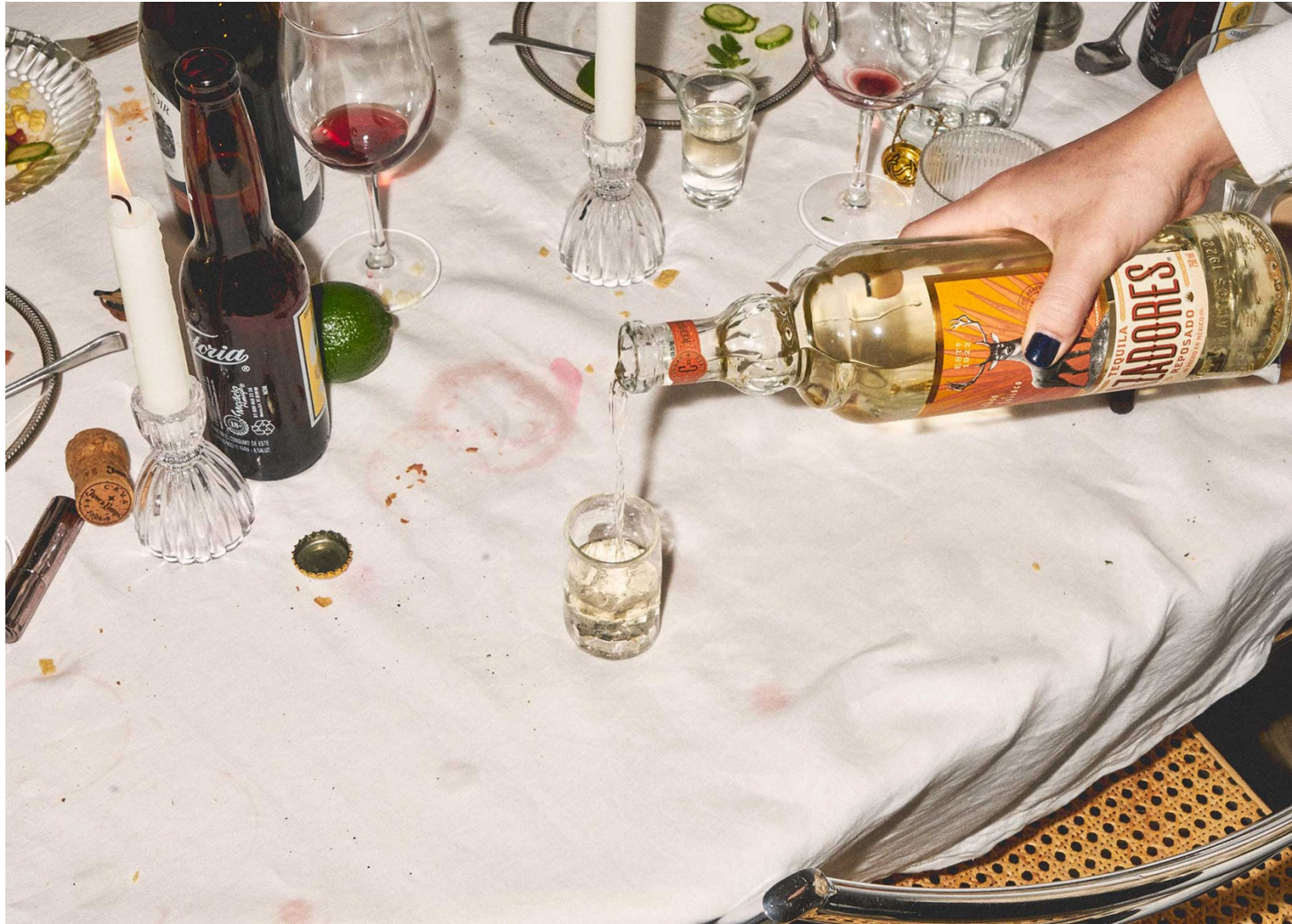


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Esquire ENTERTAINS

KEEP IT  
PHOTOGRAPHS  
by Bobby Doherty  
**CLASSY**  
ILLUSTRATIONS  
by LAMÉUR  
KEEP IT  
**EASY**

"Elegance is refusal," someone said. (Probably Coco Chanel. Possibly Diana Vreeland. Maybe both.) But that doesn't mean you live like a shut-in. Autumn is here. The air is brisk. Call your friends and invite them over for a drink—trust us, doing this will feel good. Entertain them. And do so elegantly—this is where the "refusal" part comes in. Stay chill. Decline to work yourself into a frenzy. Have things on hand—premade cocktails in the freezer, tins of caviar in the fridge, Italian honey in the pantry, beautiful kitchen tools arrayed on the counter—that will make your hosting appear effortless and, yes, elegant. All you have to do is pour a glass and pop open a top. Leisure time, after all, should feel leisurely. —Jeff Gordinier

## THE KITCHEN

### Gear Up with TOOLS You Love

BECAUSE THEY'RE MORE  
THAN TOOLS

➔ **The saying goes:** The most important tool in the kitchen is a sharp knife. True. But it doesn't hurt if that knife is also a beautiful one. Because when it comes to home kitchens, the pots, the pans, even the lowly measuring cups should bring you pleasure even when you're not using them. They won't necessarily make you a better cook,

but they will get you to cook more—it's hard to resist anything that feels like an extension of your hand. Retail therapy is a dangerous thing, but if the purchase of a new copper pot causes you to skip Seamless for the night and finally invite over those friends you've been meaning to invite over forever, you're really paying for an experience, and, well, that makes it okay. (It does. It really does.) Even if you end up cooking nothing, even if you don't get past the Champagne and cheese and crackers, your guests will surely wind up in the kitchen—everyone winds up in the kitchen—where they will admire your end-grain cutting board, the fancy trivets, the Japanese culinary scissors. They will say, "You must like to entertain!" To which you will reply, "Yes, I do." —Kevin Sautman

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:  
**Aura One knife** (\$745; [aurachef.com](http://aurachef.com)): The gorgeous handle is made from redwood and onyx. **Japanese scissors** (\$70; [garrettware.com](http://garrettware.com)): Use them to cut everything from herbs to meat. **Gotham juicer** (\$70; [cocktailkingdom.com](http://cocktailkingdom.com)): A heavy-duty juicer based on a design from the fifties. **Color Lab espresso cups** (\$60 for set of four; [store.mam.org](http://store.mam.org)): Good for the morning joe or for setting up ingredients. **Alessi Edo pot** (\$127; [alessi.com](http://alessi.com)): New cookware by Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola that blends Basque and Japanese influences. **Le Creuset trivet** (\$75): No one will mistake this for anything but a very serious trivet. **Kikkerland magnetic kitchen timer** (\$15; [kikkerland.com](http://kikkerland.com)): Keeps you from spilling sauce on your phone. **Walnut bread board** (\$90; [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com)): Works for fish (or cheese or charcuterie), too. **Shun Hikari five-inch santoku knife** (\$265; [williams-sonoma.com](http://williams-sonoma.com)): Featuring a birch handle and a lightweight blade with a shimmering pattern meant to resemble a heron's nest. **Brooklyn Copper Works two-quart saucepan** (\$330, \$160 for cover; [brooklyncoppercookware.com](http://brooklyncoppercookware.com)): A pot that is also a handmade heirloom. **Crate & Barrel acacia-and-gold measuring cups** (\$25 for set of four; [crateandbarrel.com](http://crateandbarrel.com)): An upgrade from the mismatched plastic things.



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Pickled Corn  
P. 78

THE

GOLD

Fresh, ripe sweet corn—is there anything better come August? Chef **Andrea Reusing** serves a bushel of spiced-up recipes to take you from appetizers to dessert

STANDARD

Photographs by  
JASON LOWE

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