

THINK OUTSIDE THE HOME

'Winter BBQs are not common in Sweden, but I sit in an office all day so I try to be outside as much as I can,' says Henrik. Rule no.1 is: keep guests warm by layering chairs with sheepskins and throws that they can wrap up in. Rule no.2? Be flexible. If it's freezing, cook out but eat in!

• **TEJN** faux sheepskin, white [302-290-77] €xx

Who eats outside in all weather? IKEA designer Henrik Preutz, that's who!

'BBQ ALL YEAR ROUND, ANYONE?'

Photography Polly Wreford Styling Abigail Edwards Words Nathaniel Handy

Surprise on the menu
Henrik, Sweden



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LET'S GO OUT FOR DINNER

IKEA designer, dad to six-year-old Ida and avid barbecuer Henrik Preutz is a pro at planning with everyone in mind, wasting nothing and making things fit together in clever ways. 'When I moved to this town 10 years ago, I picked this house for its garden. I love how the lawn runs into the forest. We're really in nature here – yesterday, two deer wandered in looking for food! I built a deck at the back of the house so we can enjoy what's on our doorstep. It's like an extra room and I've planned it like a modern living room. There's a mix of seating areas – chairs around the table and a scattering of low, casual seating so people can enjoy the space as they want. I'm out here in all seasons. I love the space. Why close the door on it for half the year? You wouldn't do that with a room inside your home!'

Henrik's chilly BBQ tips

- Create a Spotify playlist. Each guest adds five songs to a soundtrack for the meal.
- Have enough chopping boards and (sharp) knives so a gang of you can chop food together – make cooking part of the party!
- Mix old friends and new for a different dynamic.
- Play games.
- Go with the flow. Some days we cook and eat outside. Some days it's so cold we move back inside and eat at the table. Today we're being hardcore and staying outside!



Surprise on the menu
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**'There aren't many
restaurants here.
Inviting friends over
for a party or dinner
is how we build our
social network'**



OPEN UP YOUR KITCHEN

'This house was built in 1974 with separate kitchen, living and dining rooms. Cooking is sociable, so I took the dividing walls down and made an open space. The L-shaped run of kitchen cabinets makes it easy for whoever is here – Ida or a gang of friends – to cook with me. And I have open shelves for crockery so friends can help themselves.'

• Try **METOD/LAXARBY** kitchen, black-brown €xx