



Big Top Cake
Price on request,
cakesbyrobin.co.uk



Toot Sweet
Paper Lanterns
£9.99, partypieces.co.uk

Canvas Circus
Play Tent
£139, ellajames.co.uk



"These cute hats in the style of a big top are such a fun design."
Crazy Circus
£8.99, pack of eight,
partypieces.co.uk

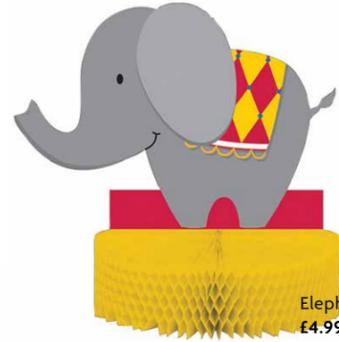
CIRCUS PARTY

WITH

Carole Middleton



Our contributing editor and party specialist Carole Middleton

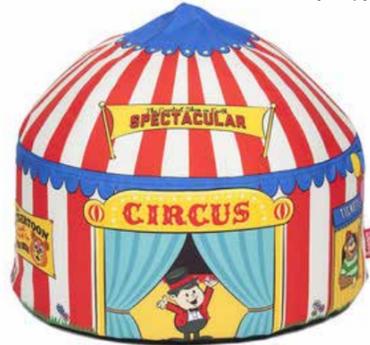


Elephant Centrepiece
£4.99, partypieces.co.uk from

CAROLE'S TOP TIP
"The fun will continue long after the party ends with these circus accessories"



Silly Circus Train
£16.99, partypieces.co.uk



"Beanbags are great for playtime and downtime. A must-have nursery addition."
Woof Circus Bean Bag
£62.50, amara.com

Polka Balloons
£1.99, pack of six,
partypieces.co.uk



Paper Jelly Bowls
£2.49, pack of eight,
partypieces.co.uk

The circus theme has never been more popular – both for baby showers and for birthday parties – and it's one of my favourites given how much fun and colour is involved. As a unisex theme it also works perfectly when you want to host a joint party for siblings or friends. Whether you stick to the classic red and white stripes for a more traditional look, or mix in other bright colours and patterns for a modern twist, the end result is always spectacular.

IT'S SHOWTIME!

There are lots of options for invitations – an iconic big top, clown faces, animal-themed or even a ticket to the circus itself. Decorate your home or venue with lots of colourful balloons, hang streamers and add a few metallic tassels for some sparkle. Clown hats or striped party hats will bring everyone together, and you could even include a few red clown noses!

ENTERTAINMENT IDEAS

The animals are a large part of the attraction for babies and toddlers, from cheeky monkeys to roaring lions. Animal or clown face painting is a big hit with toddlers and older siblings, and you'll have some great photos. A balloon animal kit can provide fun for all ages, and a clown entertainer will keep the party alive. Don't forget carnival music for pass the parcel.

TIME FOR TEA

Popcorn is always popular, serve up in red-and-white-striped bags. Animal-shaped biscuits and sandwiches, and plates of fruit shaped into faces always go down well. Don't forget the jelly and frozen yoghurt, too!

PARTY BAGS

You can fill coloured bags or little boxes with circus-themed stickers, bubbles, animal toys, bouncy balls, and of course a piece of delicious birthday cake!



"I love unusual ways to decorate a party table. These balloon hangers are so entertaining, young children will be fascinated watching them bob around the table."
partypieces.co.uk

Silly Circus Party Invitations
from £7.99, pack of eight,
partypieces.co.uk



Playin' Circus All in One £20,
rockinbaby.com

Circus Baby Sleepsuit £15,
jojomamanbebe.co.uk

Long Circus Romper
£21.20, pigeonorganics.com



"A beautiful gift to give – and almost too lovely to use!"
Circus Breakfast Set
£26.99, borngifted.co.uk