

# The Tailgating Engineer's Game Day Checklist

"Because great tailgates don't happen by accident - they're engineered."

## Gear & Setup

- Canopy tent (plus weights or stakes)
- Folding tables (prep + food/drinks)
- Chairs (enough for your crew)
- Tailgate cart or wagon
- Flagpole + team flag
- Trash bags (and recycling bags)
- Paper towels & wet wipes
- Zip ties & duct tape (engineer's secret weapon)
- Tent layout plan (print it or sketch it)

## Power & Tech

- Portable power bank or generator
- Extension cords + surge protector
- Bluetooth speaker
- TV + antenna or hotspot (if watching games)
- Extra batteries/chargers
- Cooler thermometer (bonus points)

## Food & Cooking

- Grill (propane or charcoal)
- Fuel + backup (extra tank or bag)
- Grilling tools (tongs, spatula, brush)
- Main course (burgers, dogs, pulled pork, etc.)
- Sides/snacks (chips, dip, etc.)
- Plates, napkins, utensils
- Foil, plastic wrap, and food storage containers
- Meat thermometer (for the pros)

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## Drinks & Bourbon

- Water (start with this!)
- Soft drinks & mixers
- Main cooler packed with ice
- \*The Bourbon Stash:\*
- - Sipper (e.g., Woodford, Weller, Eagle Rare)
- - Mixer (e.g., Benchmark, Four Roses Yellow)
- - Conversation bottle (something unique or rare)
- - Ice mold or sphere tray
- - Cups + bourbon napkins

## Weather & Comfort

- Sunscreen & bug spray
- Rain ponchos or umbrella
- Hand warmers or small heater
- Cooling towel or fan (early season)
- Blanket or flannel layer (late season)

## Final Pre-Game Checks

- Parking pass & directions
- Tickets or digital entry ready
- Team gear laid out the night before
- Checklist printed and checked!
- Bourbon bottle engraved 'Go Pack' (optional... kind of)