

# RAFANELLI

## Valentine's Day: "The XOXO Party"

- **Invitation:** Give guests a personalized tic-tac-toe board, and a small bag of M&Ms (cheap! pink, red, white!) to play the game. Sign each invitation with a big **XOXO**. A great way to show guests the night's theme:

*Join Us (Me) For Dinner... Tic, Tac, Toe!  
Sealed with a Kiss, XOXO*

- **Table Runner:** Create a table runner with butcher paper, embellish to your liking – like stamping with Xs and Os.
- **Jax:** To add to the playfulness of the table, spread Jax around. They look just like Xs! Buy them at your local Dollar Store.
- **Cut-Outs:** Buy a kit of (8) Xs and (8) Os, already pre-cut, as cute little extras to spread on the table.
  - Paper Source. \$10.50 / 6 ft garland
- **Statement Pieces:** Add some size to your table by using these oversized zinc letters.
  - Anthropologie. \$18 / each
- **Cookie Cutters:** Scatter cutters to enhance your spread. Buy at the local Dollar Store!
- **Party Sticks: Lips / Moustaches**
  - Etsy.com: LittleRetreats. \$18 / set of 8
- **Placemats:** Line trays/make placemats out of these 12"x12" pre-cut mats
  - Paper Sourc. \$3.50 / each
- **Fondue Pots:** Think RED. Place them down the center of your table. (1) per couple.
  - Target. \$15 / each
- **Fondue Sticks:** Personalized with custom tags!
  - CHOC – *Forget love, I'd rather fall in chocolate*
  - CHEESE – *Insert "cheese-y" pick-up line here: \_\_\_\_\_*
- **Dessert: "Hugs & Kit-Kats":** No matter your relationship status, this is the year's best excuse to shamelessly satisfy your chocolate candy cravings. Stock up on Kit-Kats, place in an "X" and follow with a dollop (or "O") of ice cream. A quick, fun, cheap, delicious XOXO finale!
- **Bourbon Bar:** Shake off that winter chill by inviting guests to partake in tasting of a selection of bourbons. Display on tasting paddles for the perfect portion.
- **Wine Display:** Customize your Wine selection by using these fabulous "toast-it" stickers to cover the existing labels.
  - Toast-Its.com. \$3.99 / each
- **Guest Gift – "XOXO, Chocolates To Go":** Use the cookie cutters from your décor to make "to-go" X&O treat bags for guests. Use those same Lips & Moustaches to make fun Name Tags! (Recipe on following page!)

## BRYAN RAFANELLI'S "XOXO TO GO" RECIPE

### Ingredients/Materials:

- Box Nilla Wafers
- Chocolate Bars (for melting)
- Bag Jumbo Marshmallows
- Cookie Cutters
- Baking/Cookie Sheet
- Small Saucepan & Bowl
- Wax Paper
- Cooling Rack

### Directions:

1. Line baking sheet with wax paper. Place cookie cutter letters on baking sheet. Set aside.
2. Cut jumbo marshmallows into thirds. Place pieces in bowl. Set aside.
3. Melt chocolate in saucepan. Pour melted chocolate into cookie cutters until half full.
4. Tap pan so chocolate settles in flat layer inside each cookie cutter. Let chocolate cool.
5. When chocolate hardens, lift cookie cutters and gently pop out chocolate.
6. Set chocolate letters aside on cooling rack.
7. Place piece of marshmallow on either side of Wafer, then sandwich with chocolate letters.
8. *\*To ensure cookies hold, dab melted chocolate between each layer and let harden.*