

TIPS FOR HOSTING A BOOK CLUB

Gather Your Reading Crew

Launching a book club is all about bringing people together. Whether you're a tight-knit group of friends or connected through work or community, consider the kind of readers you want in your club. You could share a love for a specific genre or be a mix of seasoned bookworms and newcomers.

While the size of your book club is flexible, we recommend aiming for around **6 to 10 members**. This range accommodates potential no-shows and ensures everyone gets a chance to voice their thoughts. Pro tip: Choosing a catchy or unique name for your club facilitates communication and makes it easy to search for messages and emails.

Decide When and Where to Meet

Once your group is set, it's time to figure out where you'll gather. Some book clubs prefer public spaces like cafés, pubs, or the library, while others opt for the coziness of home. Additionally, establish the frequency of your meetings, taking into account the varying reading speeds of your members. You can go for the classic monthly meetup or allow longer intervals to accommodate diverse reading paces.

Collaborate on Book Selection

Now that you have your reading crew, the next challenge is choosing what to read. Here are a few methods:

- Rotate book selections: Each member takes turns picking a book for the group.
- Consensus building: Create a Wishlist of titles
- Lucky dip: let one of our helpful staff select for you.

Facilitate Engaging Conversations

Each of our Book Club kits comes with a discussion guide. To make the most of your book club discussions, it's essential to establish some ground rules. Consider the group dynamics – friends might prefer a laid-back approach, while less familiar members may appreciate a more structured setup. Encourage healthy debates but set guidelines on language and tone. Emphasize critiquing the book, not the speaker, to ensure everyone's views are heard and respected.

Stay Flexible and Adaptable

There's no one-size-fits-all approach to running a book club, so be open to adjustments. Life happens, and members might not always finish the book, or new faces may join the club. Your club's timing and structure may need tweaking as it evolves. The key is to foster an open and inviting space where people can regularly come together to make connections and share the joy of reading.

Happy reading!