

CFB Track Tailgate Checklist

20 people | 4h | \$331 estimated | 2-space tailgate | 4 ice bags

Use this as a purchase and packing checklist. Quantities are planning estimates; adjust for your group and local rules.

Shopping Checklist

Meat and mains

- ☐ Burger patties - 15 patties

About 0.75 patties per person before style adjustments.

- ☐ Hot dogs - 15 pieces

- ☐ Wings - 80 wings

Rounded from about 4 wings per person.

Buns and bread

- ☐ Burger buns - 16 buns

Rounded to packs of 8.

- ☐ Hot dog buns - 16 buns

Rounded to packs of 8.

Sides and snacks

- ☐ Sides - 80 oz

Potato salad, fruit, beans, slaw, or simple sides.

- ☐ Chips - 4 bags

About 40 oz total.

- ☐ Dip - 3 containers

About 40 oz total.

- ☐ Dessert pieces - 24 pieces

Cookies, brownies, donuts, or simple grab-and-go sweets.

Drinks

- ☐ Water bottles - 72 bottles

Rounded to 24-packs.

- ☐ Soda or soft drinks - 36 cans

Rounded to 12-packs.

- ☐ Beer - 48 cans/bottles

Rounded to 24-packs for purchase planning.

- ☐ Seltzer or cider - 12 cans

Rounded to 12-packs for purchase planning.

- ☐ Wine - 1 bottles

750ml bottles; about 5 servings each.

- ☐ Spirits - 1 750ml bottles

About 16 standard pours per bottle.

- ☐ Cocktail mixers - 12 servings

For spirits or batch cocktails.

Ice

- ☐ Ice - 4 10-lb bags

40 lb total.

Condiments

- ☐ Condiments and sauces - 2 sets

Ketchup, mustard, sauce, pickles, hot sauce, and salt/pepper.

Paper goods and cleanup

☐ Plates - 50 plates

Rounded to packs of 50.

☐ Napkins - 100 napkins

Rounded to packs of 100.

☐ Cups - 50 cups

Rounded to packs of 50.

☐ Trash bags - 4 bags

Equipment

☐ Folding table - 1 item

☐ Cooler for drinks - 1 item

☐ Cooler for food - 1 item

☐ Meat thermometer - 1 item

☐ Hand-wash station - 1 item

☐ Serving trays - 1 item

☐ Paper towels - 1 item

☐ Wet wipes - 1 item

☐ Hand sanitizer - 1 item

☐ Leftover containers - 1 item

☐ Grill or cooking setup - 1 item

☐ Propane - 1 item

☐ Grill tools - 1 item

Equipment Checklist

☐ Tent or canopy (Optional)

☐ Folding table (Required)

☐ Chairs (Optional)

☐ Cooler for drinks (Required)

☐ Cooler for food (Required)

☐ Cooler labels or tape (Optional)

☐ Meat thermometer (Required)

☐ Hand-wash station (Required)

☐ First-aid kit (Optional)

☐ Serving trays (Required)

☐ Paper towels (Required)

☐ Wet wipes (Required)

☐ Hand sanitizer (Required)

☐ Leftover containers (Required)

☐ Sunscreen (Optional)

☐ Power bank or extension cord (Optional)

☐ Grill or cooking setup (Required)

☐ Propane (Required)

☐ Grill tools (Required)

☐ Bottle opener (Optional)

Easy to Forget

Comfort and table control

- [] Extra paper towels - 2 rolls
Useful for spills, wet seats, serving messes, and cleanup.
- [] Tablecloth clips or painter tape - 1 pack
Keeps the serving table usable in wind and crowded lots.
- [] Marker and tape - 1 set
Label coolers, owner bins, allergy items, and leftovers.

Food safety extras

- [] Food-safe gloves - 1 box
Helps with raw-food handling, serving, and cleanup.
- [] Foil and zip bags - 1 each
Covers trays, stores leftovers, and separates opened food.
- [] Hand soap and rinse water - 1 station
Better than wipes alone when handling food before kickoff.
- [] Heat gloves - 1 pair
Protects the grill lead while moving hot trays and fuel gear.
- [] Foil pans - 2 pans
Keeps cooked food staged away from raw-food trays.

Group care

- [] Kid backup snacks - 1 small bag
Kids rarely wait for the main food wave.
- [] Kid cleanup kit - 1 kit
Extra wipes, small trash bags, and a change layer help.

Power and media

- [] Charged power bank - 1
Tickets, photos, maps, and rideshares all depend on phones.
- [] Small speaker or radio - 1
Keeps pregame audio simple without relying on car batteries.

Cooler Strategy

4 coolers | 4 ice bags. Use separate coolers for raw food and drinks; keep food coolers closed until cooking or serving.

Food cooler - 2 x 70-qt food coolers

- 2 coolers | 1 ice bag | Raw or cold food, prepared mains, vegetarian mains, and sides.
Keep raw food sealed and separate from ready-to-eat trays.

Drink cooler - 70-qt drink cooler

- 1 cooler | 1 ice bag | Water, soda, sports drinks, and fast-access non-alcoholic drinks.
Pre-chill drinks and put the most-used drinks on top.

Adult-beverage cooler - 48-qt adult-beverage cooler

- 1 cooler | 2 ice bags | Beer, seltzer/cider, wine, mixers, or other adult-beverage items.
Keep separate from kids' drinks and follow lot rules.

Tailgate Layout

2-space tailgate: Use one space for cooking and service, then keep the second space for shade, chairs, and coolers.

3 tables | 3 coolers | 8 chairs | 1 canopies

- Cooking zone: Downwind corner, at least 10 feet from tents, cars, and the main walkway.
- Serving line: Front edge of the space, facing the main walkway.

Cooler row: Shaded side of the vehicle or canopy, away from raw food prep.
Cleanup and safety: Downstream end of the serving line, closest to the exit path.
Shade and seating: Behind the serving line so chairs do not pinch the food path.

Packout Plan

Food cooler - Cold cooler

Pack last at home, unload into shade first.

[] Burger patties - 15 patties

Keep raw or prepared mains separate from drinks.

[] Hot dogs - 15 pieces

Keep raw or prepared mains separate from drinks.

[] Wings - 80 wings

Keep raw or prepared mains separate from drinks.

[] Sides - 80 oz

Potato salad, fruit, beans, slaw, or simple sides.

[] Food safety ice - 1 bag

Keep this ice with raw or cold food.

Drink cooler - Drink and adult-beverage coolers

Pre-chill drinks, then add ice right before leaving.

[] Water bottles - 72 bottles

Rounded to 24-packs.

[] Soda or soft drinks - 36 cans

Rounded to 12-packs.

[] Beer - 48 cans/bottles

Pack adult beverages separately and follow stadium and local rules.

[] Seltzer or cider - 12 cans

Pack adult beverages separately and follow stadium and local rules.

[] Wine - 1 bottles

Pack adult beverages separately and follow stadium and local rules.

[] Spirits - 1 750ml bottles

Pack adult beverages separately and follow stadium and local rules.

[] Cocktail mixers - 12 servings

Pack adult beverages separately and follow stadium and local rules.

[] Drink ice - 3 bags

Put backup ice in a closed cooler or shaded spot.

Dry goods bin - Lidded tote

Pack the night before.

[] Burger buns - 16 buns

Rounded to packs of 8.

[] Hot dog buns - 16 buns

Rounded to packs of 8.

[] Chips - 4 bags

About 40 oz total.

[] Dip - 3 containers

About 40 oz total.

[] Condiments and sauces - 2 sets

Ketchup, mustard, sauce, pickles, hot sauce, and salt/pepper.

[] Dessert pieces - 24 pieces

Cookies, brownies, donuts, or simple grab-and-go sweets.

[] Plates - 50 plates

Rounded to packs of 50.

☐ Napkins - 100 napkins

Rounded to packs of 100.

+ 1 more in this pack group

Cooking kit - Heat-safe bin

Keep fuel upright and separate from food.

☐ Meat thermometer - 1 item

Required

☐ Grill or cooking setup - 1 item

Required

☐ Propane - 1 item

Required

☐ Grill tools - 1 item

Required

Setup and comfort - 2 spaces worth of site gear

Load last so tables, shade, and coolers come out first.

☐ Canopies and tie-downs - 1 canopy

Load last so shade can go up first.

☐ Folding tables - 3 tables

Load after coolers so tables come out first at the lot.

☐ Labeled coolers - 3 coolers

Label drink, food, adult beverage, and backup ice coolers.

☐ Chairs - 8 chairs

Pack behind the service gear so seating does not slow setup.

Cleanup and safety kit - Small grab-and-go bin

Keep near the serving line, not buried in the vehicle.

☐ Trash bags - 4 bags

☐ Hand-wash station - 1 item

Required

☐ First-aid kit - 1 item

☐ Paper towels - 1 item

Required

☐ Wet wipes - 1 item

Required

☐ Hand sanitizer - 1 item

Required

☐ Leftover containers - 1 item

Required

Who Brings What

Even adult split: \$18 per adult or \$66 per household.

Food lead | \$147 estimate

Buy and stage mains, sides, snacks, buns, and condiments.

Pack last at home, unload into shade first.

☐ Burger patties

☐ Hot dogs

☐ Wings

☐ Sides

☐ Chips

Drink lead | \$173 estimate

Bring water, soft drinks, adult beverages if included, and drink ice.

Pre-chill drinks, then add ice right before leaving.

- ☐ Water bottles
- ☐ Soda or soft drinks
- ☐ Beer
- ☐ Seltzer or cider
- ☐ Wine

Grill lead

Own fuel, hot gear, thermometer checks, and the cook zone.

Keep fuel upright and separate from food.

- ☐ Meat thermometer
- ☐ Grill or cooking setup
- ☐ Propane
- ☐ Grill tools

Setup lead | \$11 estimate

Own parking footprint, tables, shade, coolers, and seating.

Load last so tables, shade, and coolers come out first.

- ☐ 2 spaces
- ☐ 3 tables
- ☐ 3 coolers
- ☐ 8 chairs

Cleanup and safety lead

Keep trash, hand washing, wipes, food safety, and leftovers covered.

Keep near the serving line, not buried in the vehicle.

- ☐ Trash bags
- ☐ Hand-wash station
- ☐ First-aid kit
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Wet wipes

Dry goods lead

Bring shelf-stable food, plates, napkins, cups, and serving extras.

Pack the night before.

- ☐ Burger buns
- ☐ Hot dog buns
- ☐ Chips
- ☐ Dip
- ☐ Condiments and sauces

Before You Leave

- ☐ Parking pass and lot opening time (Must check)

Confirm the lot allows a 2-space tailgate and opens before your 08:00 start.

- ☐ Tickets, IDs, and clear-bag policy (Must check)

Put tickets, IDs, allowed bags, keys, and phone chargers in one small stadium-entry kit.

- ☐ Cash, card, and emergency contact (Nice to check)

Bring a backup payment method and make sure someone outside the group knows the lot location.

- ☐ Open lane to the stadium path (Must check)

Do not let chairs, coolers, or trash block the walking path in the layout.

- ☐ Leftover and hot-food cutoff (Must check)

Pack leftovers before walking in, and do not leave hot or cold food sitting out during the game.

[] Open-flame and fuel rules (Must check)

Check whether the lot allows your grill, fuel type, ash disposal, and cook-zone distance.

[] Fire safety and shutoff plan (Must check)

Keep fuel upright, know who shuts down the grill, and cool hot gear before packing.

[] Adult-beverage rules (Must check)

Confirm lot rules for alcohol, glass, open containers, and stadium entry before buying.

[] Ride plan (Must check)

Assign sober drivers, rideshare pickup, or a walk-back plan before the first drink is opened.

Adult Beverage Note

Adult-beverage quantities are purchase-planning estimates for drinking adults only. Plan rides, hydrate, follow local laws, and follow stadium policies.