

A close-up photograph of a barbecue grill. On the left, several ears of yellow corn are being grilled, showing charred spots. On the right, skewers of large shrimp and pineapple chunks are cooking. The background is dark, suggesting the grill's interior.

HOW TO HOLD A

# BBQ EVENT

**COMBAT  
STRESS**  
FOR VETERANS' MENTAL HEALTH

BBQs provide a wonderful opportunity to get your family, friends, neighbours, colleagues or wider community together to catch up, have some banter and eat delicious food to help raise money for veterans' mental health.

## BEFORE YOUR BBQ EVENT »

- **Date / time:** Think carefully about the date so it doesn't clash with any national or local events, or family birthdays or celebrations. Think about the weather too as it's an outdoor event, so best at certain times of the year. And always have a wet weather plan!
- **Venue:** this would usually be your own home, but you may have a local community venue, pub, or club that may be willing to help you host a BBQ. If using a public venue, make sure to check on any licences you might need.



- **Promotion:** Invite friends, family, and neighbours. And if in a local venue, create some posters and leaflets so you can advertise your BBQ locally. We have some templates you can use on our [resources page](#). Make the most of social media and create an event on Facebook to help invite, promote, and send updates.
- **Goal / target:** Try giving yourself a target of how much you want to raise – this could help you get extra donations from people who want to help you reach your target. Think about how you can make the most of the BBQ to raise as much as you can.
- **Support:** As it's for a great cause, speak to local businesses who may like to donate some prizes or food? It's always worth asking and you never know who you speak to, as they may go on to support Combat Stress in other ways too.



# AT YOUR BBQ EVENT >>

- **Fundraising:** Try to include fun games or activities to raise extra money. Garden games are always popular, and a raffle is guaranteed to help boost fundraising. Make sure you have plenty of options for people to give, including buckets/tins or links to your own [fundraising page](#) to encourage donations.
- **Awareness:** If you are comfortable with speaking, try to plan a moment to say a few words about why you support Combat Stress, so people understand the difference their support makes. Make sure you have plenty of literature for people to pick up too.



# AFTER YOUR BBQ EVENT >>



- **Banking:** Count, record and send us the money you raise as soon as you can. See 'Paying in money' for the different ways to do this. It's a good idea to share responsibility for this amongst more than one person and to prepare in advance by getting some money bags from the bank.
- **Thanking:** Remember to follow up with guests and anyone who has supported the event to thank them and let them know how much was raised to help veterans' mental health.



## PAYING IN MONEY >>

There are lots of ways to pay in money. Please include your supporter number (if known), your name as a reference, and information about the donation.

### Bank transfers:

#### BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

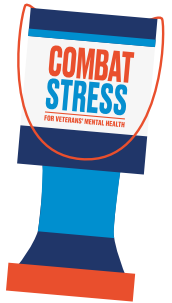
Bank: Natwest  
Account Name: Combat Stress  
Sort Code: 60-00-01  
Account Number: 00100013

#### BANKING IN SCOTLAND

Please pay into the above Natwest account via RBS branches in Scotland.



- **Online:** Donate directly through our online collections page [combatstress.org.uk/collection-donation](https://combatstress.org.uk/collection-donation)
- **Coinstar:** Coinstar machines are situated in supermarkets across the UK. You can take the cash to any Coinstar machines, select 'donate to charity' then select 'other' and enter the code **2998** to deposit directly to Combat Stress. You will receive a voucher detailing the donation. You must send a photo of this voucher to: [fundraising@combatstress.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@combatstress.org.uk)  
Find your nearest machine: [coinstar.co.uk/findamachine](https://coinstar.co.uk/findamachine)
- **Cheque:** Please make cheques payable to 'Combat Stress' and send to:  
**Combat Stress, Fundraising Department, Tyrwhitt House, Oaklawn Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 0BX**
- **Online fundraising page:** Set up an online fundraising page for the event where you or guests can donate directly. You can do this through our platform [events.combatstress.org.uk/community-fundraising](https://events.combatstress.org.uk/community-fundraising) or Justgiving.
- **Phone:** Call **01372 587 140** and quote your name, postcode, and event.



For more help and advice,  
call **01372 587 140** or email  
[fundraising@combatstress.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@combatstress.org.uk)

# TOP TIPS >>

- **Food and drink:** If you're cooking food, it's essential to label things for allergens. Always visit the [Food Standards Agency](#) for advice.

- **Let us know:** Tell us about your BBQ event so we can support and advise if needed – we'd love to hear all about it!

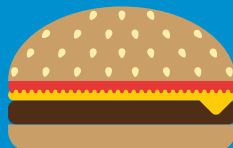


- **Social media:** Keep pushing it out with regular updates, it often takes a few times before people take notice. And remember to tag us using [@combatstress](#) so we can see what you're up to and say thank you!



- **Double your money:** Do you or any of your helpers work for a company that offers 'matched giving' for charity? If so, encourage them to apply and you can double the amount you raise!

- **Licences:** Check for any licences you need. For example, selling alcohol and playing music both require a licence.



# KEEPING IT SAFE AND LEGAL »»

- It's important that you are safe and legal whilst fundraising in aid of Combat Stress, especially around BBQ's! Please follow our ['Keeping it Safe and Legal'](#) guidance document.



[combatstress.org.uk](http://combatstress.org.uk)

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