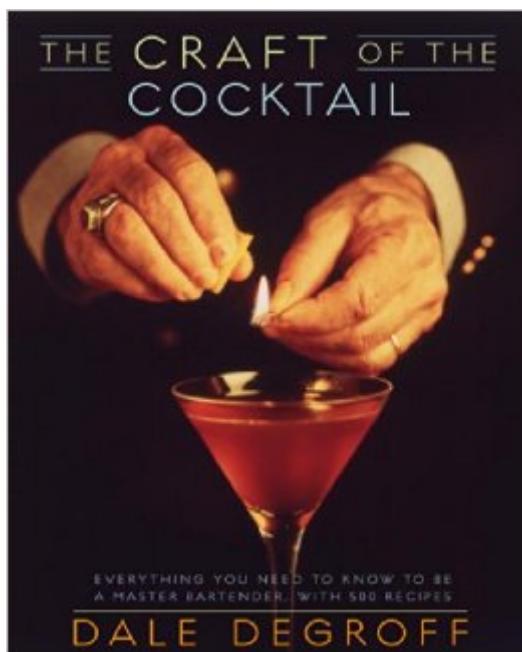


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The Craft Of The Cocktail: Everything You Need To Know To Be A Master Bartender, With 500 Recipes



Synopsis

The first real cookbook for cocktails, featuring 500 recipes from the world's premier mixologist, Dale DeGroff. Covering the entire breadth of this rich subject, *The Craft of the Cocktail* provides much more than merely the same old recipes: it delves into history, personalities, and anecdotes; it shows you how to set up a bar, master important techniques, and use tools correctly; and it delivers unique concoctions, many featuring DeGroff's signature use of fresh juices, as well as all the classics. It begins with the history of spirits, how they're made (but without too much boring science), the development of the mixed drink, and the culture it created, all drawn from DeGroff's vast library of vintage cocktail books. Then on to stocking the essential bar, choosing the right tools and ingredients, and mastering key techniques—the same information that DeGroff shares with the bartenders he trains in seminars and through his videos. And then the meat of the matter: 500 recipes, including everything from tried-and-true classics to of-the-moment originals. Throughout are rich stories, vintage recipes, fast facts, and other entertaining asides. Beautiful color photographs and a striking design round out the cookbook approach to this subject, highlighting the difference between an under-the-bar handbook and a stylish, full-blown treatment. *The Craft of the Cocktail* is that treatment, destined to become the bible of the bar.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dale DeGroff is the man who set the stage for the return of the great American art of the cocktail. He brought back so many lost cocktail treasures and laid the path for all of us to follow. This book is

a great way to learn not only those recipes, but why freshness and quality count. You will learn the proper technique, and attitude and get an idea of what resources to look for and what to research. Cocktail history is extraordinarily important to learning to mix a great cocktail. The only things to watch out for are a few of his recipe modifications. The most egregious & disgusting is his Sazerac. I wish to make it a crime from here on out to ever make Dale DeGroff's version of The Sazerac. It is a horrid combination of Cognac, Rye Peychaud & Angostura bitters and absinthe and too much simple syrup. Either Cognac or Rye, and no Angostura, please. There are a few others that I don't remember off the top of my head, but otherwise it is a great book. I also disagree with his implying that measuring is less of a talent than free-pouring. Free-pouring accurately is possible, but is in my opinion best left for the likes of Mr. DeGroff, and no one else. I've encountered far too many who are insulted at the suggestion they measure over demonstrating their total lack of accuracy at the free-pour. A measured cocktail will always be the same & is made no slower. There are quite a few drinks that are easily destroyed by lack of absolute accuracy. Stick to measuring. The ingredients section could be a bit more in depth. For example, he doesn't really point out the differences among London Dry, Plymouth, Old Tom (it is indeed available), and Genever or Holland Gin & what kind of cocktails they are used in. Mr. DeGroff has a refreshingly democratic approach to cocktails.

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