

Beer Glassware*



"I drink, and I know things." Tyrion Lannister

*the second most important part of your beer

First the worst – The Shaker Pint

- “I call shaker pints the cockroaches of beer glasses.” Randy Mosher, the author of “Tasting Beer”
 - **Details**

Simple, utilitarian 16-ounce American pint glass
Its ubiquity owes to the fact that it is relatively inexpensive to manufacture and easy to clean and store.

 - Straight-walled, wide-mouthed shape doesn’t concentrate the foam, only enough space for a pint of liquid — 16 ounces, no more
 - **Appropriate Beer Styles**

The American pint glass’s basic design neither enhances nor seriously detracts from any particular beer style. Consider it your run-of-the-mill, all-purpose glass.



“You can’t be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline – it helps if you have some kind of football team, or some nuclear weapons, but in the very least you need a beer.” Frank Zappa

Then the second worst - Imperial Pint Glasses

– Details

Also all purpose. However, it holds a full 20 ounces. It also differs in that it features a small lip at the mouth.

Appropriate Beer Styles

Consider it your basic, go-to glass for British ales and lagers like pale ale, IPA, ambers/reds/browns, porter, milk stout, oatmeal stout, Scottish ale



“He was a wise man who invented beer.” Plato

And now for the rest

Pilsner Glasses

– Details

Tall, slim, and slightly wider at the mouth, makes visible the sparkle, clarity, and bubbles of pilsners and other lighter beers. At the same time, it helps retain a beer's head, which keeps volatile aromatics locked under your nose. Typically hold less beer than a pint—usually 12 to 14 ounces.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

Pilsner, American adjunct lagers, bock, Helles bock, maibock, Vienna lager, blonde ale, California common, Japanese rice lager, witbier

'A fine beer may be judged with only one sip, but it's better to be thoroughly sure.' Czech Proverb



Tulip Glasses (a.k.a., Belgian Glasses)

– Details

With a bulbous body and a flared lip, designed to capture the head and promote the aroma and flavor of Belgian ales and other malty, hoppy beers. Its short stem facilitates swirling, further enhancing your sensory experience.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

Belgian strong ale, Belgian dark ale, barleywine, double/imperial IPA, Belgian IPA, Belgian pale ale, bière de garde, Flanders red ale, gueuze, fruit lambic, saison, American wild ale, Scotch ale



“I’ve only been in love with a beer bottle and a mirror.”
Sid Vicious

Thistle Glasses

- **Details**

A modified version of the tulip glass. It is characterized by a short stem, bulbous bottom, and elongated top section that's noticeably more sharp and angular than that of the tulip.

- **Appropriate Beer Styles**

Scotch ale, wee heavy

“Most people hate the taste of beer—to begin with. It is, however, a prejudice.” Winston Churchill



Goblet / Chalice Glasses

– Details

The goblet glass has a large, head-retaining round bowl and a thick stem. Chalice glasses are similar, but tend to have thicker bowl walls. Both types can be highly decorative and sometimes feature intricate etching or precious metal inlaying. Their wide mouth design promotes big, hearty sips.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

Heavy, dark beers like Belgian IPAs, Belgian strong dark ale, dubbel, tripel, quad

“For a quart of Ale is a dish for a king.” William (Bill) Shakespeare



IPA Glasses

- **Details**

The iconic ridges of the IPA glass aerate your favorite hoppy beer with each sip, releasing volatile aromatics in the process. The tall, slender, tapered bowl concentrates and directs those hop aromatics to your nose. Some IPA glasses are also nucleated (etched) at the bottom to help release carbonation and promote a steady stream of cascading bubbles.

- **Appropriate Beer Styles**

Any and all varieties of IPAs



“Beer’s intellectual. What a shame so many idiots drink it.”
Ray Bradbury

Stout Glasses

- **Details**

Designed by Spiegelau in partnership with Left Hand Brewing Company from Colorado and Rogue Ales from Oregon, this distinctive stout glass deserves a spot in every beer connoisseurs china cabinet. The shape of the base and angle of the bowl accentuate the roasted malts and notes of rich coffee and chocolate that define stout beers. The angled shelf and narrow mouth promote head retention.

- **Appropriate Beer Styles**

Any and all varieties of stouts

“Beer, it’s the best damn drink in the world.” Jack Nicholson



Weizen Glasses

– Details

Thin walls and height to showcase the color of wheat beers. The design also locks in the style's signature banana and clove aromas and provides proper space for a thick, fluffy head.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

Wheat ale, dunkelweizen, hefeweizen, kristalweizen, weizenbock



“I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer.” President Lincoln

Stange Glasses

– Details

The stange (schtong-a) glass is narrow, straight, and cylindrical. Like a champagne flute, the stange concentrates soft hop and malt aromas and preserves carbonation. However, the stange has a thick-bottomed base for reliable sturdiness.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

Delicate beers like kölsch, bocks, lambics, gose, Czech pilsners, rye beer, altbier, rauchbier



“Yes Madam, but in the morning I will be sober and you will still be ugly.” Winston Churchill

Beer Mugs

– Details

Beer mugs come in a variety of shapes and sizes. All beer mugs have the handle projecting from one side. It's a design feature that, like a stem, helps prevent heat transference from your hand to the beer. Beer mugs also tend to have relatively thick glass walls for durability and insulation. They are classic pub glassware.

– Appropriate Beer Styles

American, German, English, and Irish beers of all sorts

“All right, brain. You don't like me, and I don't like you, but let's just do this and I can get back to killing you with beer.” Homer Simpson



Teku (?) Stemmed Beer Glasses

- **Details**

Widely recognized as one of the finest craft beer glasses available today, the visually stunning Teku glass was designed by an Italian sensory expert and craft brewer. It features an 11.2- or 14.2-ounce tulip-like bowl, a remarkably thin lip, and an elegant long stem that prevents your hands from transferring warmth to your beer.

- **Appropriate Beer Styles**

The Teku bills itself as appropriate for all styles. The glass does a phenomenal job of concentrating aromatics and accentuating flavor profiles, so very strong beers can be overpowering when served in one. Particularly good for lambics and other sours, gruit, fruit, and heather beers.

“Make sure that the beer – four pints a week – goes to the troops under fire before any of the parties in the rear get a drop.” Winston Churchill



Notes/Sources

- “Now Rising to the Top of the Beer World: Foam”, Joshua M. Bernstein, NYT, Sept. 26, 2019
- <https://www.kegworks.com/blog/beer-glassware-guide-beer-glass-types-uses/>