

Pour the perfect holiday party with these drink recipes

A case of Bud and a box of wine won't suffice for your holiday party. After all, this isn't just the *holiday* season, it's the *party* season. If you want your fete to stand out from the rest—to be one for the ages—there's no better way than getting creative with the libations.

HOLIDAY COCKTAILS will have you pouring and shaking drinks like a pro. You'll find recipes for drinks like a Christmas Cosmo (a cheeky version that makes the traditional version look downright dowdy). Naughty and Nice is a festive revamp of the Negroni cocktail. And even the grumpiest guest is sure to change his tune after tasting the Scroogedriver.

Whether you're looking for a drink to have in hand while opening presents Christmas morning (perhaps the Christmas Morning Mimosa or the virgin Gingersnap Punch?) or planning a New Year's blowout, (try the Holiday Bellini or Starry Night), HOLIDAY COCKTAILS has your drink.

The book also includes useful advice about what you need to stock your bar and recipes for holiday garnishes. (Which can make the whole drink.) Here's a list of bar equipment HOLIDAY COCKTAILS suggests you arm yourself with for your bash.

- Bar Spoon: This long-handled spoon is ideal for stirring drinks in a mixing glass, serving glass, or pitcher.
- Bar Towel: Not only practical, a decorative towel can help you bring the holiday theme to any party.
- Citrus Reamer/Squeezer: This makes getting that last squeeze of juice that much easier.
- Ice Bucket and Tongs: This can be a both decorative and useful item to store your ice in during the party. It can be nice to have an extra pair of tongs so guests can fill their glasses at the same time.
- Picks: Wooden, plastic, metal, or bamboo skewers can add a delightful touch to all kind of garnishes.
- Vegetable Peeler: Use this to create a twist of lemon, lime, or any other fruit with hard skin.

We've included some sample recipes [here](#) to whet your whistle. Included are the Candy Cane Martini, Kir Royale, Hot Brandy Alexander, and Sparkling Rose Punch. If you know someone who could use a holiday cocktail, use the link to send each recipe as an email postcard!

Hardly bigger than most fruitcakes and much more fun, *Holiday Cocktails* is a complete guide to getting the mix right. This bartending bible features classics such as the cozy Hot Buttered Rum and the classy Kir Royale, as well as smart and sexy libations like the elegant Christmas Morning Mimosa and the virgin Gingersnap Punch. *Holiday Cocktails* is the place to turn for advice no matter what's on the holiday social calendar, whether it's a New Year's blow-out, a bustling dinner party, or an intimate night for two. In addition to scores of clever ideas and party-planning tips, author and veteran holiday hostess Jessica Strand includes her take on festive garnishes, glassware, and must-have ingredients for the most wonderful time of year. Decorated with sparkling photographs, this is both a fine addition to the home bar and a pretty present for the entertainer on Santa's list.

*Holiday Cocktails* is a complete guide to mixing up a dazzling array of drinks for everyone's favorite party season. This essential addition to any home bar features classic and novel holiday drink recipes for every taste, including an irresistible variety of cocktails, hot toddies, punches, and non-alcoholic delights. You'll find updated standards, such as cozy Hot Buttered Rum and elegant Kir Royal, as well as delicious concoctions like chic Christmas Morning Mango Mimosas and Gingersnap Punch. Author and holiday hostess Jessica Strand guides you to must-have ingredients and garnishes for luscious libations, perfect for hosting festive dinner parties or New Year's bashes, or snuggling up for long winter nights.