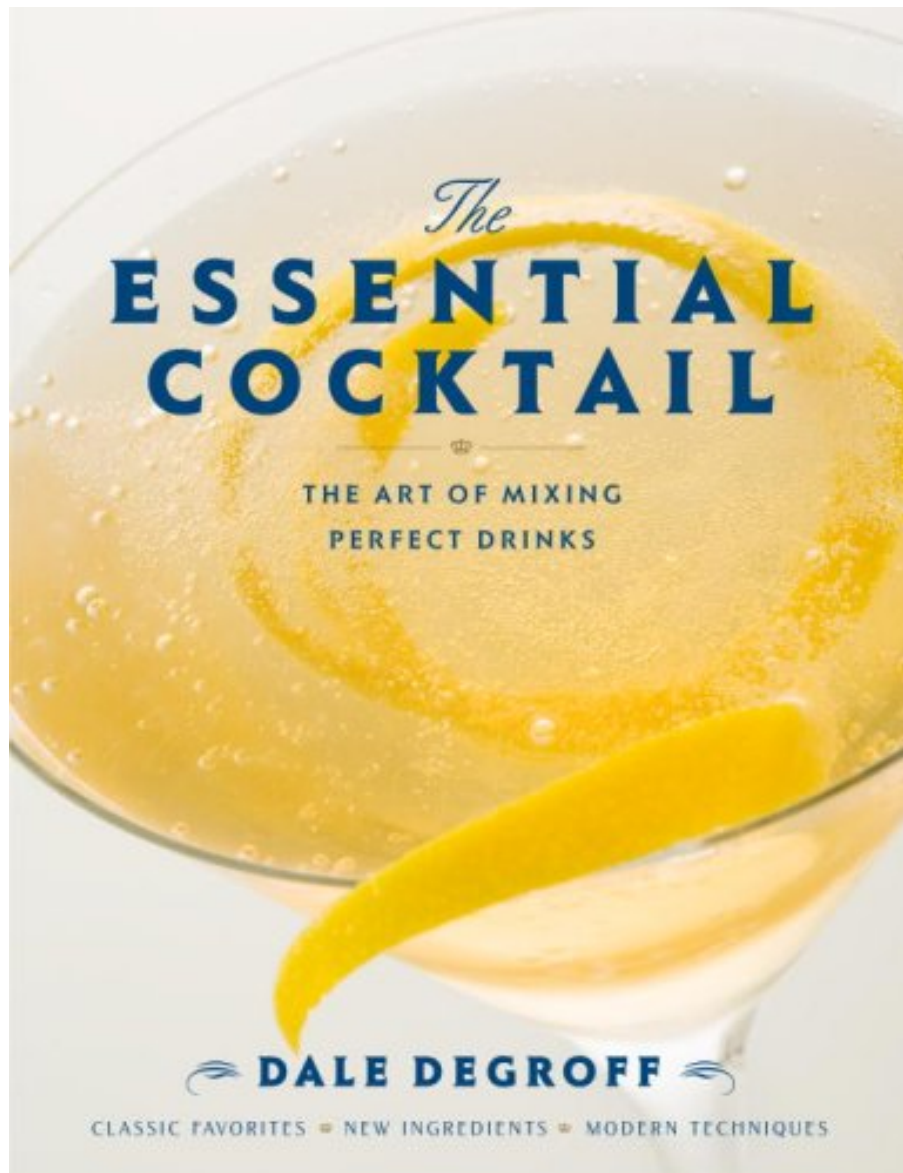


THE ESSENTIAL COCKTAIL: THE ART OF MIXING PERFECT DRINKS BY DALE DEGROFF



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From Publishers Weekly

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Dale DeGross is widely regarded as the world's foremost mixologist. Hailed by the New York Times as "single-handedly responsible for what's been called the cocktail renaissance," he earned this reputation during his twelve years at the fashionable Promenade Bar in New York City's Rainbow Room. It was there in 1987 that he not only reintroduced the cocktail menu to the country but also began mixing drinks from scratch, using impeccably fresh ingredients instead of the widespread mixes used at the time. Known especially for crafting unique cocktails, reviving classics, and coaxing superior flavor from his ingredients, DeGross has selected his 100 essential drinks and 100 of their best variations—including many of his signature cocktails—for this premier mixology guide.

The Essential Cocktail features only those drinks that stand out for their flavor, interesting formula, or distinctive technique. These are the very ones every amateur and professional bartender must know, the martinis, sours, highballs, tropicals, punches, sweets, and classics, both old and new, that form the core of a connoisseur's repertoire. Throughout the book are DeGross's personal twists, such as a tangy Grapefruit Julep or a refreshing Yuzu Gimlet.

To complement the tantalizing photographs of each essential cocktail, DeGross also regales readers with the fascinating lore behind a drink's genesis and instructs us on using the right ingredients, techniques, glasses, and garnishes. As Julia Child's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* was the classic compendium for home chefs and gourmands, so *The Essential Cocktail* will be the go-to book for serious mixologists and cocktail enthusiasts.

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—Mario Batali

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8 of 8 people found the following review helpful.

Just starting out on the mixology journey

By H. Rivers

I decided it was time to start finding some more things I'd like to drink other than the 3 things I order at every bar. So I checked a bunch of books on bar tending out of the library. This is by far my favorite so I bought a copy to keep. First, it has a lot of the classic drinks that you'd get at a bar and also lots of others and all the drinks I've made so far are really great. Second, the photos are super - I pick half the drinks just by their looks alone. Third, the stories with each drink just add another layer of fun. I didn't expect to learn anything about the history of cocktails in America, but I have and it's been really fun.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

The title says it: Essential

By S. Bigbie

Dale DeGroff is reputed to be the king of modern cocktails, and he doesn't disappoint in this book. Straight-forward recipes that taste perfect, excellent instructions, and interesting background information combine to make this into a must-have for the bar.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Four Stars

By NOLA YANKEE

Good Book, Dale is consummate bartender consultant

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