

## Beer Styles

Written by Mark Emiley

Tuesday, 15 July 2008 17:03 - Last Updated Monday, 26 January 2009 05:49

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Developing a better understanding of beer styles allows brewers to be better competitors and judges. This doesn't necessarily make you a better brewer, but in the field of competitive brewing, beers are judged to style. A sound understanding of the profiles and ingredients which define a style greatly increases your chances of making (or judging) a beer better.

The [Beer Judge Certification Program](#) has created the BJCP Style Guidelines which are used in virtually all homebrewing competitions as the standard for styles. These guidelines can be found [here](#).

The [Brewing Network](#) has compiled an excellent series of podcasts led by Jamil Zainasheff covering details of each of the BJCP beer styles and how to brew them. These podcasts are an excellent resource for brewers looking to brew a particular style and are also a great way for judges to freshen up on what defines a certain beer style profile and how it is built up. We strongly encourage listening to these podcasts to get ready for your next brew day, judging session, or BJCP exam.

Note: As additional podcasts become available, the links will be updated. Last updated 24 November 2008.

Recommend right clicking on style and selecting "Save Target As";

Category	Cat #	Subcategory
1. Light Lager	<a href="#">1A</a>	<a href="#">Lite American Lager</a>
	<a href="#">1B</a>	<a href="#">Standard Premium Lager</a>
	<a href="#">1C</a>	<a href="#">Premium American Lager</a>
	<a href="#">1D</a>	<a href="#">Munich Helles</a>
	<a href="#">1E</a>	<a href="#">Dortmunder Export</a>
2. Pilsner	<a href="#">2A</a>	<a href="#">German Pilsner (Pils)</a>
	<a href="#">2B</a>	<a href="#">Bohemian Pilsener</a>
	<a href="#">2C</a>	<a href="#">Classic American Pilsner</a>
3. European Amber Lager	<a href="#">2A</a>	<a href="#">Vienna Lager</a>

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
|                           | <a href="#"><u>3B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Oktoberfest/Marzen</u></a>          |
| 4. Dark Lager             | <a href="#"><u>4A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Dark American Lager</u></a>         |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>4B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Munich Dunkel</u></a>               |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>4C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Schwarzbier (Black Beer)</u></a>    |
| 5. Bock                   | <a href="#"><u>5A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Maibock/Helles Bock</u></a>         |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>5B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Traditional Bock</u></a>            |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>5C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Doppelbock</u></a>                  |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>5D</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Eisbock</u></a>                     |
| 6. Light Hybrid Beer      | <a href="#"><u>6A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Cream Ale</u></a>                   |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>6B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Blonde Ale</u></a>                  |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>6C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Kolsch</u></a>                      |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>6D</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>American Wheat or Rye Beer</u></a>  |
| 7. Amber Hybrid Beer      | <a href="#"><u>7A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Northern German Altbier</u></a>     |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>7B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>California Common Beer</u></a>      |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>7C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Dusseldorf Altbier</u></a>          |
| 8. English Pale Ale       | <a href="#"><u>8A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Standard/Ordinary Bitter</u></a>    |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>8B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Special/Best/Premium Bitter</u></a> |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>8C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Extra Special/Strong Bitter</u></a> |
| 9. Scottish and Irish Ale | <a href="#"><u>9A</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Scottish Light 60/-</u></a>         |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>9B</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Scottish Heavy 70/-</u></a>         |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>9C</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Scottish Export 80/-</u></a>        |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>9D</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Irish Red Ale</u></a>               |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>9E</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Strong Scotch Ale</u></a>           |
| 10. American Ale          | <a href="#"><u>10A</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>American Pale Ale</u></a>           |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>10B</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>American Amber Ale</u></a>          |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>10C</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>American Brown Ale</u></a>          |
| 11. English Brown Ale     | <a href="#"><u>11A</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Mild</u></a>                        |
|                           | <a href="#"><u>11B</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Southern English Brown</u></a>      |

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	<a href="#">11C</a>	<a href="#">Northern English Brown</a>
12. Porter	<a href="#">12A</a>	<a href="#">Brown Porter</a>
	<a href="#">12B</a>	<a href="#">Robust Porter</a>
	<a href="#">12C</a>	<a href="#">Baltic Porter</a>
13. Stout	<a href="#">13A</a>	<a href="#">Dry Stout</a>
	<a href="#">13B</a>	<a href="#">Sweet Stout</a>
	<a href="#">13C</a>	<a href="#">Oatmeal Stout</a>
	<a href="#">13D</a>	<a href="#">Foreign Extra Stout</a>
	<a href="#">13E</a>	<a href="#">American Stout</a>
	<a href="#">13F</a>	<a href="#">Russian Imperial Stout</a>
14. India Pale Ale	<a href="#">14A</a>	<a href="#">English IPA</a>
	<a href="#">14B</a>	<a href="#">American IPA</a>
	<a href="#">14C</a>	<a href="#">Imperial IPA</a>
15. German Wheat and Rye Beer	<a href="#">15A</a>	<a href="#">Weizen/Weissbier</a>
	<a href="#">15B</a>	<a href="#">Dunkelweizen</a>
	<a href="#">15C</a>	<a href="#">Weizenbock</a>
	<a href="#">15D</a>	<a href="#">Roggenbier(German Rye Beer)</a>
16. Belgian and French Ale	<a href="#">16A</a>	<a href="#">Witbier</a>
	<a href="#">16B</a>	<a href="#">Belgian Pale Ale</a>
	<a href="#">16C</a>	<a href="#">Saison</a>
	<a href="#">16D</a>	<a href="#">Biere de Garde</a>
	<a href="#">16E</a>	<a href="#">Belgian Specialty Ale</a>
17. Sour Ale	<a href="#">17A</a>	<a href="#">Berliner Weisse</a>
	<a href="#">17B</a>	<a href="#">Flanders Red Ale</a>
	<a href="#">17C</a>	<a href="#">Flanders Brown Ale</a>
	<a href="#">17D</a>	<a href="#">Straight (Unblended Lambic)</a>
	<a href="#">17E</a>	<a href="#">Gueuze</a>
	<a href="#">17F</a>	<a href="#">Fruit Lambic</a>

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18. Belgian Strong Ale [18A Belgian Blond Ale](#)  
[18B Belgian Dubbel](#)  
[18C Belgian Tripel](#)  
[18D Belgian Golden Strong Ale](#)  
[18E Belgian Dark Strong Ale](#)
19. Strong Ale [19A Old Ale](#)  
[19B English Barleywine](#)  
[19C American Barleywine](#)
20. Fruit Beer [20 Fruit Beer](#)
21. Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer [21A Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Beer](#)  
[21B Christmas/Winter Specialty Spiced Beer](#)
22. Smoke-Flavored and Wood-Aged Beer [22A Smoked Beer](#)  
[22B Other Smoked Beer](#)  
[22C Wood-Aged Beer](#)
23. Specialty Beer [23 Specialty Beer](#)
24. Traditional Mead [24A Dry Mead](#)  
[24B Semi-sweet Mead](#)  
[24C Sweet Mead](#)
25. Melomel [25A Cyser \(Apple Melomel\)](#)  
[25B Pyment \(Grape Melomel\)](#)  
[25C Other Fruit Melomel](#)
26. Other Mead [26A Metheglin](#)  
[26B Braggot](#)  
[26C Open Category Mead](#)
27. Standard Cider and Perry [27A Common Cider](#)  
[27B English Cider](#)  
[27C French Cider](#)  
[27D Common Perry](#)

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[27E](#)    [Traditional Perry](#)

28. Specialty Cider and ~~28A~~ [New England Cider](#)

[28B](#)    [Fruit Cider](#)

[&nbsp; 28C](#)    [Applewine](#)

[&nbsp; 28D](#)    [Other Specialty Cider/Perry](#)