

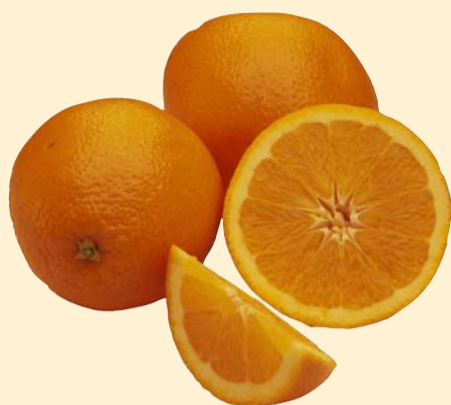
Entertain



Remodeling optional

Floor-plan dishware serves up great black-and-white graphic punch and a little inspiration, too. Perhaps a penthouse is in your future.
■ Floor Plan Terrace 9-by-9-inch square plate, \$16.95; Floor Plan mug, \$10.95; www.fishseddy.com, 877-347-4733
 | Stacy Downs, sdowns@kcstar.com

SIPS & SUDS



Winter Sazerac

While there's still a little winter to "enjoy," try this classic cocktail to take the chill from your bones. Chicago's Violet Hour mixologist Toby Maloney uses Old Overholt Rye in this drink as well as Herbsaint, an anise-flavored liqueur; substitute another anise-flavored liqueur if need be. Maloney uses two types of ice, crushed and 1-inch cubes, but regular ice works, too. Serve in a rocks or old-fashioned glass without ice.

Crushed ice
1/4 teaspoon anise-flavored liqueur
2 ounces rye
1 teaspoon brown sugar coffee syrup
 (see note)

9 drops bitters

Orange peel

Put crushed ice and anise liqueur in one rocks glass. Pour rye, syrup and bitters in another rocks glass; stir. Add ice cubes to the rye mixture; stir. Throw out the crushed ice and anise liqueur from the first glass. Strain the rye mixture into the first glass. Twist orange peel over drink to release oils; discard peel.

Note: For syrup, stir 1 tablespoon each espresso and water into 1/2 cup brown sugar. It will be a thick mixture. Let steep overnight. Keeps for one week refrigerated.

| Chicago Tribune

THE BAR | Glasses, chillers and openers

BEER NECESSITIES

Products complement the brews and the hosts of St. Pat's Day parties.

By EMILIE LE BEAU
 McClatchy-Tribune

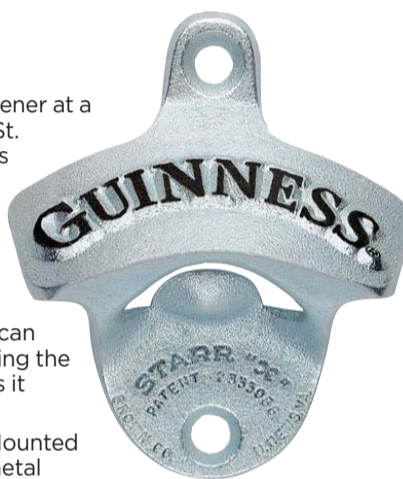
Most holidays are celebrated with a specific drink: New Year's Eve has Champagne. Valentine's Day has red wine. Christmas has spiked eggnog.

St. Patrick's Day is the holiday for beer lovers. Irish beer is the preferred brew, but any beer with a splash of green food coloring will suffice.

Here are five items that can be used all year long.

For openers

Losing the bottle opener at a party, specifically a St. Patrick's Day party, is a huge problem. Most guests stopped carrying bottle opener key chains after college, and no one wants to see how a neighbor can use his teeth. Mounting the bottle opener means it never gets lost.



The Guinness Wall Mounted Bottle Opener is a metal opener embossed with the company logo. It mounts on the wall with two screws. \$8.95 at www.bottleopener.com, or call 404-377-5976.

Chill factor

They may seem like a thrifty way to enjoy draft beer at home, but mini kegs cost \$19 to \$20 and only hold 13 beers. Installing a beer fridge and using larger kegs can save up to 90 cents per serving.

The Haier Stainless Steel Brewmaster is a beer fridge with a chrome tap and guardrail. It has an adjustable thermostat and holds quarter, half and mini barrel kegs. It is about 3 feet tall, 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep. Prices start at \$442, and a store directory is available at www.haieramerica.com with links to vendors such as Amazon.com



Mini beer glass

Not all guests are good beer drinkers. Never, ever waste a good beer on a guest who cannot appreciate or finish the glass. Instead, serve them a smaller sample of the least favorite beer in the fridge.

The Mini Beer glass is the perfect size for such guests. Made with clear glass, it holds 6.75 ounces instead of the standard 16 ounces. Dishwasher safe, made in Italy. \$2.95 each at Crate and Barrel stores or www.crateandbarrel.com.



Pint glasses

The Imperial symbol on pint glasses is a comforting feeling. It lets beer drinkers know the bartender cannot short their serving. The Authentic British Imperial Pint Glasses are etched with the capacity and crown symbol so party guests can tell if the host is being a bit light-handed with the tap.

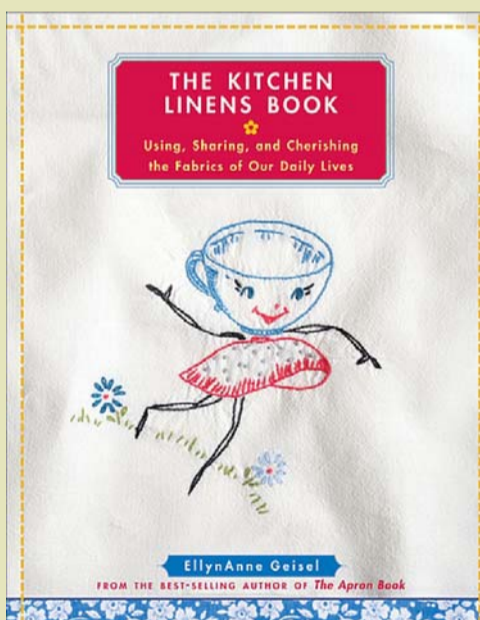
The glasses have a traditional pub shape and are dishwasher safe. Made in France, a set of six costs \$35.50; available at www.surlatable.com.



Resting spots

A well-crafted beer should be appreciated as much as a fine wine. Encourage guests to rest beer bottles or glasses on an elegant coaster, not a folded paper napkin. These Boxed Coasters are sleek with a faux shagreen finish and a velvet back to prevent tabletop scratches. Available in six colors, including paprika, navy and charcoal. A set of four costs \$39 at www.materialpossessions.com or 1-888-241-1190.

ON THE BOOKSHELF



Quaint kitchen cloths

Get ready for towel service from ElynnAnne Geisel, the author who brought you *The Apron Book*. Her latest incarnation is *The Kitchen Linens Book: Using, Sharing and Cherishing the Fabrics of Our Daily Lives* (Andrews McMeel Publishing, \$19.99).

In addition to offering fabric basics, care and examples of vintage closet finds, the 146-page book features dozens of projects and recipes. (The Blueberry-Coconut Muffins sound delish.)

Bonus: Find a Butterick transfer pattern for a 1940s kitchen towel tucked in the back.

For many of us, there's nothing quite as comforting as the feel of a kitchen towel passed down from a mother or grandmother. And Geisel shows us how to find joy in putting these finds to use and on display. She schools readers on dobby weave and double damask, as well as weft, crash linen and chintz.

The images of monogrammed, hem-stitched and embroidered towels make for colorful eye candy in any kitchen — just like the towels themselves.

Who'll like this book: Anyone with an appetite for vintage wares.

Who won't: Strictly modern mindsets.

Best piece of advice: "I don't buy things for what they may be worth to someone else; I let my heart and my eye tell me what to collect."

Style in a nutshell: Humble linen history
 | Jocelyn Jacobson, jjacobson@kcstar.com

'TOP DESIGN' JUDGE'S NEW LINE

Kelly Wearstler collection lands this spring

Designer Kelly Wearstler's debut collection of table linens and bedding through Sferra is available this spring.

Dinner and cocktail napkins are made of 100 percent linen. "Confetti" is a small-scale polka dot available in sage or ivory. "Sand Strie" is a stripe available in charcoal or sand. "Thistle" is embroidered linen that comes in aqua, raffia, sand or ivory. Dinner napkins are available in sets of four, \$112; set of four cocktail napkins, \$38.

Napkin rings are inspired by Wearstler's collection of vintage jewelry and are handmade of brass. Napkin rings include "Hammered Cuff," "Brass Twine," "Twig" and "Silver Disc." Prices

range from \$105 to \$190.

Decorative pillows include neutral organics and bold statement pieces: "Spectrum," an Art Deco-inspired needlepoint design in amber; "Crescent," a metallic silver embroidered ivory pillow; and "Ribbon," a hand-embroidered design using 300 yards of ribbon per pillow in sapphire-blue or charcoal. Prices range from \$195 to \$595.

Decorative cashmere throws are 50 by 70 inches, including "Diamond," in turquoise or nutmeg, and "Ombre," in pale gray or soft green. Prices range from \$255 to \$1,690.

Bedding includes 400-thread-count, 100 percent cotton duvet and sham sets such as "Tracery,"

inspired by the subtle veining of marble and stone, and "Raked Sand," an organic design with the fine pattern of a sandy beach. Sheet sets in sand or blue are available to complement the coverlets and shams. Prices for queen range from \$290 to \$455.

The Kelly Wearstler for Sferra Collection will be available through Neiman Marcus, www.neimanmarcus.com, and through www.kellywearstlerfor-sferra.com.

Wearstler, based in Los Angeles, is famous for her boutique hotel design, especially the Viceroy in Santa Monica, and is one of the judges on Bravo's "Top Design" reality competition.

| Stacy Downs, sdowns@kcstar.com



The collection's "Thistle" linens bring a natural element to the table.

KELLY WEARSTLER