

MIX MASTERY

Consider the home bar raised: We surveyed some 20 local bartenders to concoct a list of spirits essential to a personal bar. The mixologists provided the genres; we did the tastings (and landed on our favorites). Toss in a few of your own quirky picks, and you've got a cabinet to be reckoned with. Add ice, a twist or two, and swig. Now that's the spirit. BY ALEXANDRA HALL



- 1 A top-notch light rum > El Dorado three-year cask-aged white rum
 - 2 A spicy mixer > Gosling's Ginger Beer
 - 3 A sipping tequila > Patrón Silver
 - 4 A sweet mixer > Stirrings Simple Apple Martini
 - 5 Bitters > Locally made Bittermens
 - 6 A dependable white wine > 2008 Cistercensi Coenobium
 - 7 A solid bourbon > Maker's Mark
 - 8 A versatile aperitif > Campari
 - 9 A dependable red wine > 2007 G. D. Vajra barbera
 - 10 A mixing tequila > Don Julio
 - 11 A single malt > Balvenie 17-year
 - 12 A clean-flavored vodka > Ketel One
 - 13 An easy-drinking whiskey > Jameson
 - 14 At least one kind of beer > Guinness
 - 15 An everyday sparkler > Frozza prosecco
 - 16 A dark rum > Gosling's Black Seal
- All available at local wine and spirits stores at varying prices.