

#57: Hop Bitters (India Pale Ale)

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Hop Bitters was the name of the Rochester, NY American Association baseball team. They played a single season in 1890, finishing with a record of 63 and 63. The American Association was absorbed by the National League in 1890. Hop Bitters was a best selling snake-oil patent-medicine of the era. This recipe is based on late nineteenth century India Pale Ale recipes.

Recipe (for 5 gallons final volume)

13 pounds	(81%)	Crisp Maris Otter Pale Malt
3 pounds	(19%)	Briess 6-Row Malt
1 ounce		Northern Brewer whole hops, 7.0% AA (first wort hop)
1¼ ounces		Chinook whole hops, 12.1% AA (75 minutes)
1 ounce		U.S. Goldings whole hops, 5.0% AA (2 minutes)
¼ teaspoon		Irish Moss (15 minutes)

White Labs WLP022 Essex Ale Yeast, pitched at 66°F

Starter: Top crop from previous recipe stored under distilled water in fridge, pitched into 1 quart sterile wort a few days early

Aeration: Drill aerator for three minutes after pitching

Water

- Fairbanks city water
- 40¼ quarts water treated with:
 - 4 ml Potassium Metabisulfide solution (50ppm). removes chlorine ion and chloramine, reduces oxidation
- 24 quarts mash water treated with:
 - 2 teaspoons Gypsum. adds 90 ppm Calcium ion, 216 ppm Sulfite
 - 1 ml 88% Lactic Acid

Mash

- 24 quarts water @ 159°F, grist ratio of 1½ quarts:pound @ 150°F (Held 100 minutes)

Sparge

- 11½ quarts water @ 210°F, drain
- 5 quarts water @ 168°F, drain

Boil

- Boiled 8.0 gallons for 90 minutes to yield 5½ gallons wort

Fermentation

- Primary: bucket, 7 days, 66°F. Temperature range 65–70°F
- Secondary: keg, 14 days, 65°F. Gravity 1.021 at transfer

Packaging

- Kegged at 8 psi, 50°F (1.8 volumes CO₂)
- Conditioned for 8 weeks
- Ready to drink on 8-July-2006

Properties

Starting Gravity: 1.078	Final Gravity: 1.018
Original Extract: 18.9°Plato	Apparent Extract: 4.6°Plato
	Real Extract: 7.4°Plato
Alcohol: 7.9% by volume	Alcohol: 6.2% by weight
Apparent Attenuation: 75.8%	Mash Efficiency: 74%
Bitterness: 55 IBU	Color: 7°SRM
BU:SG: 0.71	BV: 1.53

Tasting Notes