

Beer Homebrewing Help Contents

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Main Menu

General

When you first open *The Beer Homebrewing Guide*, you'll notice that it contains four main sections:

Brew, where you'll find a step-by-step tutorial on how homebrewing is done,

Reference: where you'll find lots of useful and informative homebrewing reference material,

Recipes, with a large collection of popular and eclectic beer recipes, and,

Digests, a collection of articles from the world famous Homebrew Digest Internet mailing list.

Switching Between Screens

All selections from the Main Menu lead to other screens and windows. The image presented on the main menu does not change regardless of the mode selected. Each new screen will have its own set of controls and/or menus and each of will return to the Main Menu when it is closed (hint: use the X button to close the current screen). See also: [Navigating the Screens](#).

Some screens will automatically close when others are open. Do not be alarmed by this behaviour, it is normal. If you become frustrated, stop, relax, and have a [Home Brew](#).

The Brew... Section

General

In this section you'll find a narrated pictorial of the authors favorite home brewing method. Granted, there are more elaborate (and expensive) ways of doing it, but the authors have found that the procedure and equipment shown here is accurate, functional and produces a fine quality product. Naturally, the authors feel that their brew is superlative in many ways, however, the chances are slim to none that you'll ever have an opportunity to refute this. It seems certain that once you've made a batch or two for yourself that you will begin to appreciate how nobody's beer tastes as good as your own.

Sadly, and as you might suspect, the beer shown in these pictures is no longer available. We regret to inform you that it will not be possible for us to supply samples for you to compare against your own brew. While it was indeed very sad to see the last few bottles go, overall, we were pleased to see that they, in their own way, were able to make a valuable contribution to this project.

Reference Section

General

There is a tremendous amount of written information concerning the art of homebrewing. In addition, a vast brewing supply network exists that is very easy to make contact with. This section contains several catalogs, books, suppliers and a useful glossary to help you locate and choose the right raw materials for your next batch.

The lists and catalogs presented here are far from being all-inclusive and a large number of quality suppliers were either not contacted or simply chose not to participate in this project. In some cases, we were able to make the actual catalog contents available and in others we could only provide the covers along with the name, phone number and address information. Still other cases were washed and prepared for the next batch.

Without question, nearly all of the suppliers mentioned on this CDROM will be quite happy to send you copies of their latest catalogs upon request. We have listed 1-800 numbers wherever possible and hope that you will make good use of them. In *all* cases we suggest that you contact the suppliers directly for the most accurate and up-to-date information about their products and services.

Don't rely on the prices that you see in this CDROM. Most suppliers adjust their prices frequently and therefore, are subject to change without notice.

Recipes

General

There are as many recipes as there are beers. We've included examples of most of the popular varieties in this section. You'll certainly want to try out the **Cat's Meow** recipes, since they are the easiest to read and print out. Once printed, you can carry them with you into the brewing kitchen. Of course, you can always take your computer and the CDROM into the kitchen but the authors would like to caution you against placing the CDROM in the microwave to dry it off. If you have a special recipe that deserves wider circulation, send it to us via e-mail to brewing@qrz.com. If and when this CD becomes popular, we may decide to publish an Edition II in which your recipe would make a nice addition.

Digests

General

The Digests section contains a collection of archived computer bulletin board discussions on homebrewing. Most of the people mentioned in these articles are available via electronic mail (e-mail) and many of them have included their phone numbers. If you should decide to call someone listed in here, please remember that most of them regard homebrewing as strictly a hobby. These people are generally very busy (who isn't?), and that they may or may not have the time, or inclination, to talk to you. On the other hand, there are lots of friendly folks who will help in whatever way they can. Just use common sense and nice manners and if you're lucky, you may get someone to send you a sample!

Navigating the Screens

When in doubt, relax, and Have a Homebrew!

The presentation screens in the Guide are designed to be as simple and self explanatory as possible. Of course, we realize that things that are self-explanatory to us might just be baffling to you so we decided to do this help file. The best advice is that if you're the least bit adventuresome (hey, you bought *this* CD didn't you?), then just take the thing out for a test drive and do some poking around. 10 minutes of playing with this program will tell you more than we could write about it in a week.

There are a few things, however, that you might just like to know about rather than find out by accident so here they are:

First, you'll notice that some screens disappear when other screens come into view. This is normal and serves to maintain consistency in the user interface. Secondly, you'll notice that many of the screens in the Reference section have a tool bar across the bottom. Whenever you see a right or a left green arrow it means that you can browse through the database, one record at a time. The left arrow takes you back one record and the right arrow takes you forward one record. When you see the up arrow, it means that a larger view of the current picture is available. An icon that looks like a collection of books means that additional pages are available for the current view..

When you see single book, click on it and the book will open showing you the contents of the current catalog. Next to the open book you'll see an index card file that will allow you to quickly locate the particular page you're interested in.

When viewing large pages that are too big to fit on the screen, scrollbars will appear. You can move the page around by using these scroll bars, or you can click and hold down the mouse button in the middle of the picture to "drag" the view around.

Most screens have an X button, which is used to close the current window.

About the Images

The graphic images were produced on a high quality flat bed scanner and converted to digital format using bitmap editing tools. Some of the images are quite good, and some are, frankly, not-so-good. All of them, however, will give you a good idea of what the catalogs contain. Also, each record contains the name, address and telephone number of the supplier so that you can contact them for your own copy.

Several of the catalogs were printed on very thin paper which had a tendency to show what was printed on the back side when it was scanned. Do not be alarmed by this -- it's just the best that we could do given the material that was available. In most cases, we decided that it would be better to keep the width of the scan narrow enough so that the image could be shown on the screen without a horizontal scroll bar. Again, if the picture isn't clear enough then either call the supplier and ask for the real catalog or change your monitor's resolution mode. 640x480 gives a better view in some cases.

Secret Keystrokes, Clues and Passwords

If you manage to find out any secret keystrokes, don't tell anybody. You've just made it to the next level of *zymurgy quest* and valuable information is a shame to waste. If you are in need of a *Clue*, just send us \$20 in a plain white envelope and you'll eventually begin to see the light. Better yet, take your double sawbuck down to the local brewing supply store and stock up -- it's going to be a long winter... and finally, the secret password is: pffffht

About the Authors

Fred Lloyd, Barry Lyon and Monty Nelson

Fred, Barry and Monty are from the Phoenix, Arizona area. Each of them, (surprisingly) are engineers in the computer industry. Barry and Monty are accomplished homebrewers and Fred is a student of homebrewing. Well, actually, Fred is an accomplished homebrew taster who would like to brew if he wasn't so busy producing CDROM's. Fred informs us that he did in fact *read* the entire CDROM and says he is certain that its contents are wholesome and nutritious. Fred and Monty wrote the software for the Guide and Barry was the primary zymurgy technical advisor.

If you would like to send e-mail to the authors, they can be reached at: brewing@qrz.com.

