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Lively Summer Libations

by Brianna Gunter

Summer is the perfect time to experiment with new cocktail combinations. The refreshing beverages presented here are perfect for cooling off and adding some flavor to your day. They will also surely impress guests at parties!

Orange Pineapple Slush

- 1/2 cup Orange Juice
- 1/2 cup Pineapple Juice
- 2 tablespoons Lemon Juice
- 2 oz Triple Sec
- 6-8 Ice Cubes

This tangy drink is quick to make. Simply put all ingredients in a blender and hold the button down until it becomes thick and slush-like. To make a non-alcoholic version of this, simply double up on the orange juice to a full cup and leave out the triple sec. Serve this drink with style by adding an orange wheel and/or pineapple square as garnish.

Blueberry Daiquiri

- 1 cup (frozen) Blueberries
- 1/2 cup Light Rum
- 1/2 cup Lime Juice
- 1/2 cup Lemon Juice
- 1/4 cup Fine Sugar
- 4-6 Ice Cubes

The blueberry daiquiri provides an interesting and flavorful alternative to the more traditional strawberry or banana versions. Crush the ice cubes manually or in a glass-pitcher blender (plastic ones are often not sturdy enough for hard objects). Add in the rest of the ingredients and blend until you have obtained a thick, slush-like consistency. Keep in mind that if you want to use fresh blueberries instead of frozen you may need to add more ice cubes. For virgin daiquiris, simply don't add the rum. Garnish options include lemons, limes or fresh blueberries.

Orange Fizz

- 1 1/2 oz Gin
- 1 oz Cointreau
- 1 oz Lemon Juice
- 1 oz Orange Juice
- 1 tsp Sugar
- Club Soda

The Orange Fizz provides a citrusy summertime twist on the Gin Fizz. Shake the gin, Cointreau, lemon juice, orange juice and sugar over ice in a shaker. Strain into an ice-filled glass and then top with the club soda. Orange slices can be included as garnish. The non-alcoholic version of the Orange Fizz consists of everything except the gin and Cointreau, with an added dash of lime juice for more flavors.

Raspberry Fizzy Lemonade

- 1 cup Fresh Raspberries
- 1 cup Lemon Juice
- 2/3 cups Sugar
- 4-6 cups Club Soda

Nothing says summer like lemonade, but this version takes traditional lemonade a step further by adding in fizz and the tartly sweet taste of raspberries. This recipe makes about four servings. Blend the raspberries, lemon juice and sugar together until it is more liquid than solid. Pour the club soda in a pitcher or punch bowl and strain in the contents of the blender. Whisk it all together and add a handful of ice cubes to chill. This particular recipe is non-alcoholic, but a few ounces of vodka or tequila can be added for an extra kick. Add a lemon wheel for garnish, or a few raspberries.

Cheers!