

# The Best Cocktail Glasses to Complete Your Home Bar

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Whether you're an aspiring mixologist, a liquor enthusiast, or someone who simply enjoys a drink every now and then, you can't deny that drinks look better—and taste better—when they're served in the right glasses. Plus, elegant glassware can make the entire experience of sipping a cocktail feel more special.

Even better? Many cocktail glasses are capable of doing double duty, so you don't even need that many to complete your collection. In fact, we recommend starting with just three classic cocktail glass styles: tumblers, coupes, and highball glasses. When stocking up on cocktail glasses, keep an eye out for high-quality glassware, and don't be afraid to keep things simple. "Many [people] opt for the latest fancy glass they saw on social media, and are then disappointed that it doesn't work for their favorite drinks," [Olga Hanono](#), interior designer at Olga Hanono, says. Remember, great cocktail glasses marry function *with* form. So if a cocktail glass isn't useful for serving drinks, it probably isn't worth the buy.

# What to Look for in Cocktail Glasses

## Function

Cocktail glasses aren't shaped arbitrarily. Stems may seem delicate, but they're there to be held, so you can keep the chilled drink in your glass cold. Similarly, wide-mouthed glasses may seem unwieldy, but they're designed to help you pick up more of a drink's aromas. Given this, it pays to stick to tradition and favor classic silhouettes whenever you can. And if you want to go off-book, make sure the cocktail glasses you're eyeing are still designed appropriately, given the drinks they're supposed to serve.

"When selecting pieces, think about the comfort of holding a cocktail glass," Jenifer Houlroyd, Design Director at [Etch Design Group](#), says. "Many trendy glasses might be difficult to grip when cold or sweating!"

## Should I display my cocktail glasses on a bar cart?

Hanono loves the idea of displaying cocktail glasses on a [bar cart](#). "Nowadays, I find it very modern to use a bar cart," she says. "I like to situate the different designs of glasses, playing with their various textures and sizes." But Houlroyd prefers to keep it classic, pulling out glasses *only* when she's hosting an event. "I would only display the glasses for the event and in the amount that matches your guest count," she says.

Put simply? You can display your cocktail glasses on your bar cart—but you definitely don't have to. If you love the way your cocktail glasses look, consider putting some on display. You can decorate with a set of matching glasses, or you can pull pieces from a few different sets. All that matters is that *you're* happy with the way the glasses are displayed.