

= Lemon Drop =

A Lemon Drop is a vodka @-@ based cocktail that has a lemony , sweet and sour flavor , prepared using lemon juice , triple sec and simple syrup . It has been described as a variant of , or as " a take on " , the Vodka Martini . It is typically prepared and served straight up ? chilled with ice and strained .

The drink was invented sometime in the 1970s by Norman Jay Hobday , the founder and proprietor of Henry Africa 's bar in San Francisco , California . Some variations of the drink exist , such as blueberry and raspberry Lemon Drops . It is served at some bars and restaurants in the United States , and in such establishments in other areas of the world .

= = Overview = =

A Lemon Drop is a cocktail with a lemony , sweet and sour flavor , whereby the sweet and sour ingredients serve to contrast and balance one another . It is a vodka @-@ based cocktail that is prepared with the addition of lemon juice , triple sec and simple syrup . Plain or citrus @-@ flavored vodka may be used in its preparation , such as citron vodka . Lemon @-@ flavored vodka is also sometimes used . Lemon juice that has been freshly squeezed may be used , which can produce a superior drink compared to using commercially @-@ prepared lemon juice . Some versions are prepared using the juice from Meyer lemons .

Cointreau @-@ brand triple sec is used in some versions , and it may be prepared using a simple syrup that has been infused with lemon juice . Some versions are prepared using sour mix , a cocktail mixer . A garnish of a sliced lemon wheel , wedge , zest , rind or a lemon twist is sometimes used . Lemon is also sometimes included within the drink , such as a lemon wheel . Additional ingredients may also be used in the drink 's preparation , such as ginger syrup and lavender extract .

A Lemon Drop is typically prepared straight up , meaning that it is shaken or stirred with ice , strained , and served in a stemmed glass , such as a martini glass . The glass may be prepared with a sugared rim , performed by dipping the rim of the glass in water or lemon juice and then dipping it into a rimmer (a shallow tray used in bartending) , filled with sugar . Superfine sugar (also called " bar sugar " , " caster sugar " , " castor sugar " and " ultrafine sugar ") , which is more finely ground compared to standard granulated sugar , is sometimes used for this purpose .

= = History = =

The Lemon Drop was invented sometime in the 1970s by Norman Jay Hobday , the founder and proprietor of Henry Africa 's , a fern bar in the Russian Hill neighborhood of San Francisco , California that opened in 1969 . It was originally served in a cocktail glass . The Lemon Drop was most likely named after lemon drop candy . After its invention , the drink swiftly spread to many San Francisco saloons . In the early 1990s , it was often prepared as a shooter or served in a shot glass .

= = Variations = =

Variations of the drink include Lemon Drops prepared with blueberries and raspberries , which may use vodkas or other liquors flavored with these respective berries . These drinks may also be served or garnished with these berries , or with lemon . A blueberry Lemon Drop may be prepared with muddled blueberries , and a raspberry Lemon Drop may be prepared with puréed or crushed raspberries .

The glass may have a sugared rim , and colored sugar may be used , prepared by adding food coloring to the sugar .

= = In popular culture = =

In 2006 , preparation of the Lemon Drop was presented on The Oprah Winfrey Show , prepared by Oprah Winfrey and Rachael Ray . The drink 's popularity increased during this time .