



Sparkling Grape Punch

By Dylan Sabuco

Prep Time 5 / Cook Time / Serves 4 - 6

Fun-Da-Mentals Kitchen Skills

measure: to calculate the specific amount of an ingredient required using a measuring tool (like measuring cups or spoons).

mix: to thoroughly combine two or more ingredients until uniform in texture.

pour: to cause liquid, granules, or powder to stream from one container into another.

Equipment

- Pitcher
- Cutting board
- Kid-safe knife
- Citrus squeezer (optional)
- Liquid measuring cup
- Wooden spoon

Ingredients

Sparkling Grape Punch

- 1 squeeze lemon juice (from 1/2 lemon)
- 3 C white grape juice
- 1 C sparkling water
- ice, optional

Food Allergen Substitutions

Sparkling Grape Punch

Instructions

Sparkling Grape Punch

squeeze

Add **1 squeeze of lemon juice** to a pitcher.

pour + mix

Measure **3 cups white grape juice** and **1 cup sparkling water** and pour them into the pitcher. Mix a few times with a wooden spoon.

pour + cheers

Pour over ice or serve at room temperature. Cheers!

Featured Ingredient: Grape Juice!

Hi! I'm Grape Juice!

"As you can probably guess, I come from grapes! You might think you would have to press each individual grape to squeeze out its juice one at a time, like a lemon or orange, but there's a much easier way! You can take a bunch or bunches of grapes and crush them with a potato masher, your clean hands, or even your clean feet (outside only, please!), and watch the juice appear in your bowl or bucket!"

Grape juice is the result of crushing or mashing grapes. The varieties typically used are dark blue to purple Concord grapes for purple grape juice or green Niagara grapes for white grape juice.

Grapes have natural sugars, so added sugar is usually not necessary.

During commercial production, the grape bunches are put into a large drum, and the stems and leaves are mechanically removed. They are then crushed and go through holes in the drum. The stems, leaves, and other remaining bits are cleared. The crushed grapes are heated to 140 degrees F, pressed to extract the juice, and then filtered. The filtered juice is heated to 185-190 degrees F and then cooled to 30-32 degrees F before being stored in tanks. This process pasteurizes the juice. Sometimes it has to go through a second pasteurization before it is stored.

If you are making grape juice at home, you want to rinse and destem the grapes and remove any spoiled or wrinkled grapes before mashing. You then put the mashed grapes and juice in a large, heavy pot with a flat bottom and simmer for about 10 minutes, stirring and mashing any uncrushed grapes as they cook. Next, put a fine mesh strainer or cheesecloth over another pot and pour or ladle the mashed grapes mixture into the sieve to filter the solid materials from the juice. Let it sit for a few hours to strain all the

liquid (refrigerated, if possible). Store your grape juice in the refrigerator for about a week.

If you don't drink your homemade grape juice within a week, it may start to ferment. It can turn slightly sour, and you may see a few gas bubbles. As long as it doesn't turn to vinegar, it should be okay to drink, but you may not want to make too big a batch so you can drink it before fermentation begins.

Grape juice is an excellent source of vitamin C, which boosts immunity! It is also rich in manganese, a nutrient that helps with bone, tissue, nerve, and brain function!

Flavonoids and polyphenols are plant compounds found in grape juice. They act as antioxidants, helping our bodies to fight the effects of stress and inflammation, which is good for our hearts!