

ACE OF SPADES

Official NORTHERN BREWER Instructional Document

Feeling Lucky? Then ante up and get in on the biggest game in town...Ace of Spades IPA. This is no ordinary homebrew. The deck is stacked with a whole lotta hops. Four of a kind, in fact - Magnum, Chinook, Centennial and Citra. And get ready for the bluff, because this session brew drinks lighter than it appears. You won't find roasted coffee or bittersweet chocolate here, just smooth malty caramel with a touch of toast, and an intense hop presence with pine, citrus and fruity notes that stand no chance of getting lost in the shuffle. Play your cards right? There's no way to play them wrong with this kit. Any way you brew it, you'll be coming up aces.

O.G.: 1.068 READY: 6 WEEKS

2 weeks primary, 2-4 weeks secondary,
2 weeks bottle conditioning

KIT INVENTORY:

MAILLARD MALTS™

SPECIALTY GRAIN

- 0.75 lbs Briess Midnight Wheat
- 0.625 lbs Caramunich III

MAILLARD MALTS™

EXTRACTS & OTHER FERMENTABLES

- 6 lbs Gold malt syrup
- 3.15 lbs Gold malt syrup (15 min late addition)

HOPTIMUS REX™

PREMIUM HOPS

& OTHER FLAVORINGS

- 1 oz Magnum (60 min)
- 1 oz Chinook (20 min)
- 0.5 oz Centennial (20 min)
- 1.5 oz Centennial (5 min)

DRY HOPS

- 1 oz Centennial
- 1 oz Citra

Add to secondary fermenter one to two weeks before bottling day

YEAST

- **DRY YEAST (DEFAULT):** Safale US-05 Ale Yeast. Optimum temp: 59-75° F
- **LIQUID YEAST OPTIONS:**
Wyeast 1056 American Ale. Optimum temp: 60-72° F
White Labs WLP001 California Ale. Optimum temp: 68-73° F

PRIMING SUGAR

- 5 oz Priming Sugar (save for Bottling Day)

BEFORE YOU BEGIN ...

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Homebrewing starter kit for brewing 5 gallon batches
- Boiling kettle of at least 3.5 gallons capacity
- A 5 gallon glass carboy, with bung and airlock, to use as a secondary fermenter - If you do not have a secondary fermenter you may skip the secondary fermentation and add an additional week to primary fermentation before bottling
- Approximately two cases of either 12 oz or 22 oz pry-off style beer bottles

UNPACK THE KIT

- Refrigerate the yeast upon arrival
- Locate the Kit Inventory (above) - this is the recipe for your beer, so keep it handy
- Doublecheck the box contents vs. the Kit Inventory
- Contact us immediately if you have any questions or concerns!

PROCEDURE

A FEW DAYS BEFORE BREWING DAY

1. Remove the liquid Wyeast pack from the refrigerator, and "smack" as shown on the back of the yeast package. Leave it in a warm place (70-80° F) to incubate until the pack begins to inflate. Allow at least 3 hours for inflation; some packs may take up to several days to show inflation. Do not brew with inactive yeast - we can replace the yeast, but not a batch that fails to ferment properly. If you are using dry yeast, no action is needed.

ON BREWING DAY

2. Collect and heat 2.5 gallons of water.

3. For mail-order customers grains for extract kits come crushed by default, but if you requested uncrushed grains, crush them now. Pour crushed grain into supplied mesh bag and tie the open end in a knot. Steep for 20 minutes or until water reaches 170°F. Remove bag and discard.

4. Bring to a boil, remove the kettle from the burner and stir in the 6 lbs Gold malt syrup.

5. Return wort to boil. The mixture is now called "wort", the brewer's term for unfermented beer.

- Add 1 oz Magnum hops and boil for 60 minutes.
- 20 minutes before the end of the boil, add 1 oz Chinook and 0.5 oz Centennial hops
- 15 minutes before the end of the boil add 3.15 lbs Gold malt syrup.
- 5 minutes before the end of the boil, add 1.5 oz Centennial hops.

6. Cool the wort. When the 60-minute boil is finished, cool the wort to approximately 100° F as rapidly as possible. Use a wort chiller, or put the kettle in an ice bath in your sink.

7. Sanitize fermenting equipment and yeast pack. While the wort cools, sanitize the fermenting equipment - fermenter, lid or stopper, fermentation lock, funnel, etc - along with the yeast pack and a pair of scissors.

8. Fill primary fermenter with 2 gallons of cold water, then pour in the cooled wort. Leave any thick sludge in the bottom of the kettle.

9. Add more cold water as needed to bring the volume to 5 gallons.

10. Aerate the wort. Seal the fermenter and rock back and forth to splash for a few minutes, or use an aeration system and diffusion stone.

11. Optional: if you have our Mad Brewer Upgrade or Gravity Testing kits, measure specific gravity of the wort with a hydrometer and record.

12. Add yeast once the temperature of the wort is 78°F or lower (not warm to the touch). Use the sanitized scissors to cut off a corner of the yeast pack, and carefully pour the yeast into the primary fermenter.

13. Seal the fermenter. Add approximately 1 tablespoon of water to the sanitized fermentation lock. Insert the lock into rubber stopper or lid, and seal the fermenter.

14. Move the fermenter to a warm, dark, quiet spot until fermentation begins.

BEYOND BREWING DAY, WEEKS 1-2

15. Active fermentation begins. Within approximately 48 hours of Brewing Day, active fermentation will begin - there will be a cap of foam on the surface of the beer, and you may see bubbles come through the fermentation lock.

16. Active fermentation ends. Approximately 1-2 weeks after brewing day, active fermentation will end: the cap of foam falls back into the new beer, bubbling in the fermentation lock slows down or stops.

17. Transfer beer to secondary fermenter. Sanitize siphoning equipment and an airlock and carboy bung or stopper. Siphon the beer from the primary fermenter into the secondary.

BEYOND BREWING DAY- SECONDARY FERMENTATION

18. Secondary fermentation. Allow the beer to condition in the secondary fermenter for 2-4 weeks before proceeding with the next step. Timing now is somewhat flexible.

19. Add the dry hops. Add 1 oz Citra and 1 oz Centennial hops to the secondary fermenter 1-2 weeks before bottling day.

BOTTLING DAY-ABOUT 1 MONTH AFTER BREWING DAY

20. Sanitize siphoning and bottling equipment.

21. Mix a priming solution (a measured amount of sugar dissolved in water to carbonate the bottled beer) of $\frac{2}{3}$ cup priming sugar in 16 oz water. Bring the solution to a boil and pour into the bottling bucket.

22. Siphon beer into bottling bucket and mix with priming solution. Stir gently to mix-don't splash.

23. Fill and cap bottles.

1-2 WEEKS AFTER BOTTLING DAY

24. Condition bottles at room temperature for 1-2 weeks. After this point, the bottles can be stored cool or cold.

25. Serving. Pour into a clean glass, being careful to leave the layer of sediment at the bottom of the bottle. Cheers!