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What's wrong with my beer?

SOURCE

EXPLANATION

Bubbles don't stick

to clean glass,

VERDICT

Bubbles clinging to the sides of beer glass



Improperly rinsed/washed glassware causing some form of residue on the inside.

thus, they must be sticking to some residue that is creating a nucleation site: grease, food particles, soap or sanitizer.

Bubbles are just as unacceptable as lipstick on the rim of a glass or chipped/cracked glassware. The only thing that should be in your beer glass is beer.

Frosted Glasses Restaurants that Extremely cold



don't have a clue.

temperatures make it difficult to taste and smell beer. Ice creates unneeded foaming, and hopefully it's just frozen water and not frozen sanitizer.

While annoying to those of us who want to taste our beer, the cold has no lasting effects, and the beer will eventually warm up to a suitable temperature, but your beer may taste like the inside of a freezer. Yuck!

Restaurants that Unless you are

No Glass



don't have a clue.

looking to just funnel beer down your throat, serving a beer without a glass takes away many aspects of the craft beer experience that we have learned to love.

for a glass.

Easy fix, just ask

Precipitated Cold, or highly-hopped

Cloudy Beer/UFOs



proteins or tannins; yeast that has not fallen out of solution or been filtered.

beers can have a haze. Hefeweizens are expected to be cloudy because they are unfiltered.

needs to be crystal clear, and vintage beers will break down with age, but yeast chunks might be symptomatic of greater problems.

Not all beer

A certain amount of Beer stored for an In almost all cases, oxidative character extended amount oxygen and beer

Papery flavor, aroma or sensation



improper temperature; or introduction of oxygen to the beer.

of time; stored at

Improperly storing beer at warmer temperatures will accelerate the oxidation of beer. Store beer cold!

yeast-derived

a characteristic

compound that has

don't mix.

is expected in beers that are aged, like Old Ales. If the beer is undrinkable, and it is not a special circumstance, alerting management is appropriate. Butterscotch/buttery flavor, slick palate sensation

occurring, some

Diacetyl: Yeast Diacetyl is a **Naturally**



BUTTER

BUTTER BUTTER

BUTTER

by-product; beer

contamination.

flavor of fake popcorn butter. Diacetyl can also be a telltale sign of bacterial contamination or beer spoilage caused by dirty draught lines.

yeast types are known for their diacetyl character. In this case the character prized by the brewers who make them and the people who drink them. However, dirty draught lines are unacceptable. Sulphurus, cooked/creamed corn – like character

Normal brewing

techniques will

by-product or in beers that use diminish this contamination. character in most 6-row and paler malts and beer



DMS: ingredient

derived

styles that utilize corn as an ingredient.

DMS or Dimethyl

Sulfide is present

beer styles. In some styles it is acceptable at low levels (some lagers). Contaminated draft lines can

unintentional anywhere from the souring agents.



These can be sourced from unclean brewing equipment, used wine barrels, intentional inoculation or from the air around us.

Any number of

Sour/tart beer character, vinegar, sour milk Feisty microbes and wild yeast that can infect beer start of a brewing process to the tap faucet.

also produce DMS, which is unacceptable. **Proper** understanding of beer styles will go a long way in deciding whether the beer is meant to exhibit such a character. An

informed server should be able to

answer this if

you're not sure.



Wrong Beer If you order a stout and get a pale-colored beer, I think that's pretty

obvious.

You should get the beer you ordered.

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