Home Bar Storage Chart

Opened and unopened: what the makers and the USDA say · built 2026-11-02 · drinkstype.com

How to read this chart. Maker rows quote the maker's own page. Where a maker gives no statement we say so instead of guessing. Rows marked USDA are generic products from the USDA FoodKeeper (FSIS data version 128, file dated 2018), not brands. Dates are the day we last read the page. Makers change pages: check the bottle label first.

Liqueurs, aperitifs and vermouth (maker statements)

Drink	ABV	Unopened	Opened	Where to keep it	Source and date read
Kahlúa Original	20%	Maker: recommended 4 years (flavours 2 years, ready-to-drink 1 year). Stays good longer, the coffee flavour fades.	No fixed time. No fridge needed.	Cool, dry place, out of direct sunlight	Kahlúa FAQ (US), read 31 Oct 2026
Cointreau L'Unique	40%	Years. No expiry date. Keep upright, in the dark.	Maker: best within 2 years after opening. No expiry date.	Cool, dark, upright	Cointreau FAQ, Storage & care (US site), read 31 Oct 2026
Lillet Rouge	see label	Cool, dark place; consume within 2 years.	Store in the fridge and consume within 3 weeks.	Fridge once opened	Lillet Rouge page, read 2 Nov 2026
Martini vermouth	15%	No statement on the guide page.	Refrigerate once opened. Keeps well about 1 month, then quality declines (oxidises).	Fridge once opened	Martini, A guide to vermouth, read 31 Oct 2026
Baileys Original Irish Cream	17%	No official statement.	No official statement. Check the bottle label or Diageo consumer service.	Check the label	Baileys product page (no official statement), read 31 Oct 2026
Frangelico	20%	No official statement.	No official statement. Ask the producer or check the label.	Check the label	Frangelico official site (no official statement), read 31 Oct 2026
Disaronno Originale	see label	No official statement.	No official statement. Ask the producer.	Check the label	Disaronno product page (no official statement), read 31 Oct 2026

Spirits (maker statements)

Drink	ABV	Unopened	Opened	Where to keep it	Source and date read
Patrón tequila	40%	Indefinite: it will not really expire.	Peak quality for 1 year after opening, then it declines.	Cool, dark, upright (59 to 68 °F)	Patrón FAQ, Does tequila go bad?, read 31 Oct 2026
Grey Goose vodka	40% (flavoured with natural flavours: 30%)	Most alcohol stays drinkable indefinitely if unopened.	Unlikely to go bad or be unsafe. Flavoured vodkas: best within 90 days of opening.	Maker suggests the fridge	Grey Goose FAQ, Does vodka go bad?, read 2 Nov 2026
Absolut vodka	see label	Properly sealed and stored: can last indefinitely (the page says about 30 to 50 years).	Page: best within 6 months to 2 years, but can last decades without going bad while strength and character fade. Flavoured: 6 months to 2 years.	Away from extreme heat and light	Absolut, Does vodka go bad?, read 2 Nov 2026
Jameson Irish whiskey	see label	Does not go bad; stable for many years.	Not unsafe. Taste may turn flatter if left half-full for years. No fixed time.	Upright, out of sunlight, away from heat, cap tight	Jameson, Whiskey storage 101, read 2 Nov 2026
The Glenlivet whisky	see label	Stored properly, can last for years without losing its character.	Seal tightly. Finish or decant the bottle once it is about half full.	Upright, away from light, cool and steady (ideally 15 to 20 °C). Not in the fridge or freezer.	The Glenlivet, How to store whisky, read 2 Nov 2026

Spirits (maker statements)

Drink	ABV	Unopened	Opened	Where to keep it	Source and date read
Tito's Handmade Vodka	40%	No official statement.	No official statement.	Check the label	Tito's Contact & FAQs (no official statement), read 31 Oct 2026
Don Julio tequila	40%	No official statement.	No official statement. (Patrón's guidance applies to Patrón only.)	Check the label	Don Julio FAQ (no official statement), read 31 Oct 2026

Generic products (USDA FoodKeeper)

Drink	ABV	Unopened	Opened	Where to keep it	Source and date read
Hard liquors (USDA)	-	Indefinitely.	No time given.	Pantry	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Cream liqueurs (USDA)	-	6 to 8 months in the pantry.	No time given.	Pantry	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Red wine (USDA)	-	3 to 5 years in the pantry.	1 to 3 days in the fridge.	Dark, away from heat and sunlight	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
White wine (USDA)	-	1 to 2 years in the pantry.	1 to 3 days in the fridge.	Dark, away from heat and sunlight	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Soda and mixers, bottles or cans (USDA)	-	No time given.	2 to 3 days in the fridge.	Fridge once opened	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Lemon or lime juice, bottled (USDA)	-	12 to 18 months from the date of purchase.	2 months in the fridge.	Fridge once opened	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Orange juice, carton (USDA)	-	No time given.	7 to 10 days in the fridge.	Fridge	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026
Fruit juice or punch, cartons (USDA)	-	About 3 weeks from the date of purchase.	8 to 12 days in the fridge.	Fridge once opened	USDA FoodKeeper, read 1 Nov 2026

Why some cells say "No official statement". Many makers publish no shelf-life figure at all. We do not invent one and we do not copy a figure from a blog, because websites that repeat figures often disagree with each other. When you see that line, look at the bottle label or ask the maker.

Print tip. Letter or A4, landscape. Stick it inside the cabinet door and write the date on every bottle you open. The web address of every source is listed below.

Coming next: a full pack with a larger liqueur chart, a "has it gone off?" checklist, date labels, a party planner and an inventory sheet. Tell us on drinkstype.com if you want it.

Sources (web addresses)

Kahlúa FAQ (US): https://www.kahlua.com/en-us/faq/
Cointreau FAQ, Storage & care (US site): https://www.cointreau.com/us/en/faq
Lillet Rouge page: https://www.lillet.com/en/collection/lillet-rouge
Martini, A guide to vermouth: https://www.martini.com/a-guide-to-vermouth/
Baileys product page (no official statement): https://www.baileys.com/en/products/baileys-original-irish-cream
Frangelico official site (no official statement): https://frangelico.com/
Disaronno product page (no official statement): https://disaronno.com/en-gb/products/disaronno-originale/
Patrón FAQ, Does tequila go bad?: https://www.patrontequila.com/faqs/does-tequila-go-bad.html
Grey Goose FAQ, Does vodka go bad?: https://www.greygoose.com/faqs/does-vodka-go-bad-or-expire.html
Absolut, Does vodka go bad?: https://www.absolut.com/en/vodka-guide/vodka-nutrition/does-vodka-go-bad/
Jameson, Whiskey storage 101: https://www.jamesonwhiskey.com/en-gb/whiskey-guide/how-to-store-whiskey/
The Glenlivet, How to store whisky: https://www.theglenlivet.com/en/our-community/articles/how-to-store-whisky/
Tito's Contact & FAQs (no official statement): https://www.titosvodka.com/contact-faqs
Don Julio FAQ (no official statement): https://www.donjulio.com/frequently-asked-questions
USDA FoodKeeper: https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/fsis-foodkeeper-data