

The Cocktail Wife

AVIATION STRAWBERRY SMASH

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I mentioned in my last post that my grandma loved her gin on the rocks but I never could figure out what it was about gin that she liked so much. She wasn't drinking high dollar gin, this was the cheap shit that tasted like you had a mouthful of Christmas tree. Over the years however I've come to realize that a well made gin truly is a multipurpose spirit, much like vodka.

Gin is not quite as versatile as vodka because it does have the juniper berry and botanical's, but if you get a good one you can create amazing cocktails. The gin I've been enjoying lately is Aviation American Gin. It's made here in the NW by craft distillery House Spirits and has a wonderfully smooth flavor.



The Aviation Strawberry Smash is a simple cocktail created with what I had in my fridge one night and it's become a staple. It combines the sweet flavors of fresh strawberries with Aviation American Gin and ginger beer.

Before we get into the recipe though I need to share a secret. This will be just between us right? I used to see recipes that called for Ginger Beer and would steer away from them completely because I'm not a beer fan. In fact I can't stand beer.

You can imagine how dumb I felt when I realized that ginger beer just tastes like a stronger ginger ale. Clearly I'd been missing out. Now it's one of my favorite ingredients when I want to add a little kick to a cocktail.



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AVIATION STRAWBERRY SMASH

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Serves: 1 Drink

INGREDIENTS

- 4-5 Strawberries
- ½ oz Simple Syrup
- 2 oz Aviation Gin
- Ginger Beer

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pureé the strawberries and Simple Syrup together in your blender or Magic Bullet
2. Add 2 oz of the resulting pureé, gin and ice in a shaker and shake well
3. Strain into a collins glass filled with ice and top with Ginger Beer.