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Signature drinks inject flavor into special events

By Claudia Pinto • THE TENNESSEAN • June 2, 2009

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Rebecca Williamson had something borrowed and something new, but she needed something blue.

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So her father invented a **signature** drink — which he named Glacier Water — for her wedding reception. The clear blue libation is made of Blue Curacao liqueur and Champagne, Williamson's favorite.

"It was a winter wedding, so Glacier Water went along with the theme," said Williamson's father, Brian Roberge of La Vergne. "The comment I heard the most was that it was fun. We had a complete bar, but everyone was drinking them."

Signature drinks aren't just for weddings. Adrienne Kloock, owner of Embellished Events in Nashville, said people are making creative concoctions for everything from baby showers to house parties. "It's just a way to make your party more memorable," Kloock said.

To invent a **signature** drink, Kloock says, consider the atmosphere you want to create. A blend of coconut rum and **fresh fruit** juices, topped with an umbrella, will evoke the beach, while a drink with flavored vodka and Red Bull will set the mood for a higher-energy atmosphere.

Here are ideas to get you started:

PINK LADY PUNCH

The occasion: "This is perfect for baby showers, bachelorette parties, bridal showers," Kloock said. "Basically parties tailored more towards women."

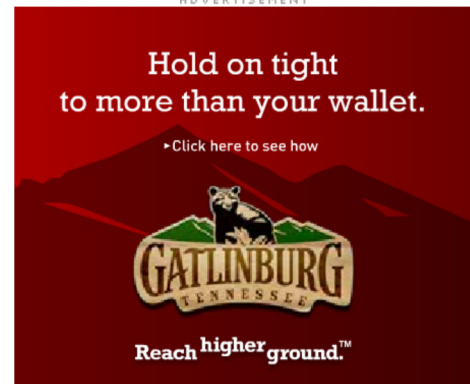
Recipe:

4 cups cranberry juice cocktail

4 cups pineapple-grapefruit drink

Signature drinks aren't just for weddings. People can make creative concoctions, such as this watermelon drink, for everything from baby showers to house parties. SAMUEL M. SIMPKINS / THE TENNESSEAN

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- 1 1/2 cups of granulated sugar
- 2 quarts ginger ale
- 8 cups vodka

Mix cranberry juice and sugar until the sugar has dissolved. Then combine all other ingredients, pouring soda in last. Serve with maraschino cherries as a garnish.

Source: Adrienne Kloock

GLACIER WATER

The occasion: Weddings, baby (boy) shower, most any celebratory occasion

Recipe:

- 1/3 Blue Curacao
- 2/3 Champagne

Mix Blue Curacao and Champagne and serve in champagne glasses.

Source: Brian Roberge

CHERRY BOMB

The occasion: High-energy, late-night parties. "When researching **signature cocktails** for an upcoming event, this one fit the description that I'd been charged to find — energy and color," said Latrice Cushenberry, owner of Bridal Opulence in Nashville.

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