

FORAGER

Summer bar refreshers

Warm summer days are made for sipping perfectly chilled cocktails, and there's nothing quite so refreshing as a gin or vodka tonic. Here are a few items to give your summer drinking a lively boost.

— Sarah Fritsche, sfritsche@sfcronicle.com

Homemade Gin Kit

With your bartending prowess by your side, you can make your own gin. The easy-to-use kit comes with all the aromatics, including juniper berries and a botanical blend, two handsome 375-milliliter glass bottles, and custom funnel and strainer. Combine the aromatics with your favorite spirit and you'll have your own homemade concoction in 36 hours.

Available at *Sur La Table* (Ferry Building) in San Francisco, 654 Chenery St, S.F., at *Sur La Table* (Ferry Building) in San Francisco and online at www.homemadegin.com.

Oaktown Spice Shop's Water Kit

Make your own water with this kit. The popular Oakland-based shop includes pre-packets of organic herb powder, organic citric acid, organic allspice and organic ginger, as well as



Photos by Sarah Fritsche / The Chronicle

Instructions. The resulting concentrate is a highly spiced mixture that runs circles around your usual Schweppes or Canada Dry. Oaktown Spice Shop, 530 Grand Ave., Oakland; 415-440-1400. <http://oaktownspiceshop.com>

C & B's Old Fashioned Quinine Tonic

If you can't be bothered to DIY, San Francisco's C & B's Bottling Co. has you covered. Mix its tonic syrup — made with organic blue agave nectar, fresh citrus, lemongrass and, of course, cinchona bark — with the spirit of your choice and some soda water, and you'll be sipping in no time.

\$8/8-ounce bottle online at www.candbbottling.com. Also at Bi-Rite Market (both S.F. locations) and Little Vine, 1541 Grant Ave., S.F.



Robert Lambert syrups

The infused syrups from San Rafael's small-batch preserves maker includes a range of flavors versatile enough to be added to anything from salad dressings and marinades to cocktails. For extra zing, add a splash of one of Lambert's zesty citrus blends like Rangpur lime, to your G-and-T or V-and-T.

\$12/5-ounce bottle online at www.robertlambert.com and at Bi-Rite Market (18th Street location) in San Francisco.



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