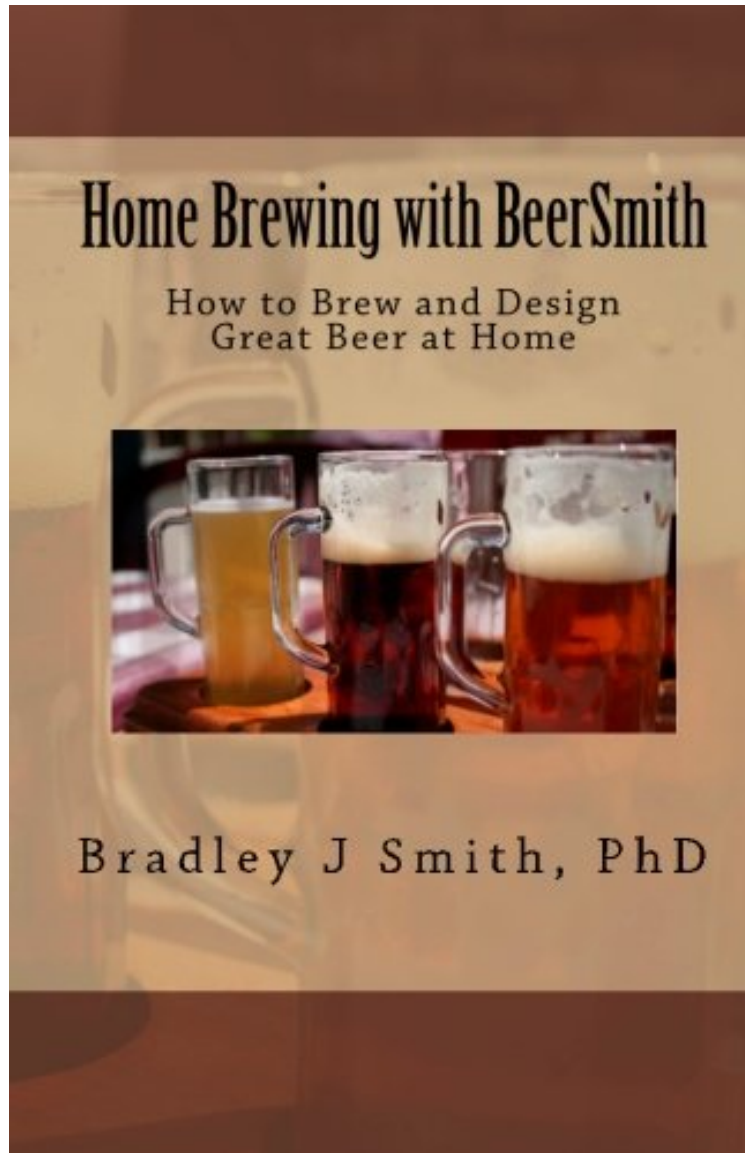


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Home Brewing with BeerSmith: How to Brew and Design Great Beer at Home

Bradley J Smith Ph.D

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Bradley J Smith Ph.D : Home Brewing with BeerSmith: How to Brew and Design Great Beer at Home before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Home Brewing with BeerSmith: How to Brew and Design Great Beer at Home:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A most useful homebrewing book!By Terry LailI've long been a fan

of the BeerSmith software and love Brad's podcasts and email articles on homebrewing. So I was excited to get this book when it came out. I hoped it would be down-to-earth useful and practical and was delighted to read through it! Unlike some of the other reviewers I was glad that it wasn't just a how-to book for using the BeerSmith program -- though that might be a good book to have from Brad too. Instead I was impressed with Brad's restraint in not pushing his software on every topic. From beginning to end I found the information easy to understand, very useful for me in my brewing and expanding my brewing knowledge, and delightful reading. I only wish the book were bigger. Brad touches on just about every subject in homebrewing and goes into surprising depth on some subjects such as water chemistry and water additions. Even if you've received all of Brad's email homebrewing articles, having them compiled in this book in concise order and indexed makes it a great buy. I own most all of the essential homebrewing books but would rate this one at the top with John Palmer's *How To Brew* for having good practical information for homebrewers from beginner to advanced. 37 of 40 people found the following review helpful. *Decent Beginners Homebrewing Book*, but it's not about Beersmith. By barleypopmaker. Let me preface this by saying I love Beersmith and Brad's podcasts and blog are outstanding. That being said, I was a bit misled by what the book would be, and I admit a part of that was my fault. I was expecting the book to cover some basics on brewing and mostly be a down and dirty in depth user manual for the Beersmith software. After all, the title of the book is *Home Brewing with Beersmith*. In reality there is not a whole lot about Beersmith in the book. While I don't agree with some things in the book, for example the recommendation that using bleach and rinsing is still acceptable in homebrewing (Sanitizing and rinsing after is like washing your hands before you clean up poop. Why use bleach solution you have to rinse with when there are so many great and affordable no-rinse sanitizers available today? There is some great information for someone new to or looking into getting into homebrewing and a lot of the information is current, unlike some of the iconic brewing books by Charlie Papazian. The content is also easy to understand. I'm giving it a 3 stars rating based on the name of the book being very misleading. It felt like he was using the popularity of the software just to sell a how to brew book. He could easily have named it something more appropriate and put in there "Written by Brad Smith, creator of Beersmith" So if you were looking for nice down and dirty print version of all the ins and outs of the Beersmith Software, this book is not for you. If you want a decent how to homebrew book, then this is a good read for you. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. *The brew's the thing*. By H. J. Shockey. Years ago, I had gotten into extract brewing when the go-to book was Papazian's "The Complete Joy of Homebrewing." There is still a lot of good info in Charlie's work. But, it hasn't been updated in the last ten years. So, when I decided I needed to get back into brewing - and, to include all-grain into my plans - I looked for more current info. All trails led to John Palmer's "How to Brew" and the Beersmith software. Well, it just didn't seem right to get Beersmith without getting this accompaniment by Brad Smith. It could have been a sort of Beersmith instruction book. I would have been happy if that's all it had been. It actually is much more than that. It turns out that Smith's software is so well supported that it doesn't really need an operators manual. I've had a ton of playing with the program and I haven't even started my comeback batch, yet. (Still building equipment.) This book is not so much about how to use the software; but, more about what you use the software for. You can create a recipe or import one. You can take a given recipe and tweak it. The software makes it easy to do the tweaking and this book explains what your tweaks will do and what you might expect as a result. Beyond the what lies the why. Perhaps the best thing about this book is its approachability. Never mind that Smith is a Ph.D and has brewed countless batches of beer. He talks about the process in a friendly, understandable way. He even has occasion to recount times when he has gotten so caught up in the science of it all that he forgot, for a moment, it's supposed to be fun! Can you imagine? I would have to say that every home brewer will find some indispensable knowledge in this book. And, a new brewer, in particular, must have this book and Palmer's. With these two books and properly cleaned equipment, I think it would be very difficult to make bad beer.

Are you looking to take your beer brewing from average to outstanding? Would you like to learn the latest brewing techniques? *Home Brewing with BeerSmith* is a compilation from over 70 of the best articles from the BeerSmith blog on detailed brewing methods, how to design beer recipes, and creating specific beer styles from around the world. This edition includes everything from how to get started with a simple batch to the latest all grain brewing methods, hop techniques, kegging, tips for making better beer, and articles focused around specific beer styles. Its a powerful compilation of brewing knowledge. Brad Smith has written over 125 articles on home brewing, wrote the top selling BeerSmith beer recipe software, and his weekly blog articles and newsletter at BeerSmith.com attract over 50,000 brewers each month.

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