

# Trading Standards Information for Business

## SALE OF ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

**In general alcoholic drinks must be measured before sale.**


This leaflet shows some ways drinks can be measured; other suitable equipment can be used. Please ask for further information – contact details below.

### THE SALE OF WINE

Wine must be sold in the following quantities:

- By the bottle,
- By the glass in 125ml or 175ml quantities, or multiples
- By the carafe in 250ml, 500ml, 750ml or 1 litre quantities.

The quantities that wine is sold in must be made clear to customers on a notice, wine list or menu that is easy to read.


The equipment you use to measure out wine (e.g. carafes, glasses or thimble measures) must be stamped. New measures may alternatively be stamped with a  CE M marking.

### SALE OF BEER, LAGER AND CIDER

Except when mixed with other drinks, beer, lager and cider can only be sold draught in the following quantities:

- 1/3 pint,
- 1/2 pint, or
- Multiples of 1/2 pint.

You may only use meters to measure out these quantities if:

- The meters are stamped with a  or CE M marking
- Customers can see the glass being filled
- You fill the glass after the drink has been ordered.

**If meters are not used then all the glasses must be stamped with a crown mark  or alternatively be stamped with a CE M mark**

## **Sale of Gin, Whisky, Rum and Vodka**


Gin, whisky, rum and vodka, unless they are sold in cocktails of three or more drinks, may only be sold in these quantities:

- 25ml or multiples of these quantities. OR
- 35ml or multiples of these quantities.

Old 1/6, 1/5, 1/4 of gill measures cannot be used for the sale of any spirits.

A notice, which is easy for customers to read, must make clear which quantity applies. The same quantity must apply in all the bars of your pub, restaurant or café.

All spirit measuring instruments you use when selling gin, whisky, rum or vodka must:

- have been stamped with a  or CE M marking.
- be where customers can see them being used
- be marked with the Notice or Certificate number

**This leaflet is not an authoritative statement of the law and is intended for guidance only, reference should be made to the legislation for more detailed information.**

### **Further business advice and information can be obtained from:**

Staffordshire Trading Standards

14 Martin Street, Stafford, ST16 2LG

Tel: 08453 303 313

Minicom: 01785 854156

Email: [businessadvice@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:businessadvice@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Or visit our website at: <http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/business/tradingstandards/>

**All of our information leaflets are available in a range of formats and languages, including Braille and large print. If this would be useful to you or someone you know, please contact us.**

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