

In the world of beer, wine, and spirits, many creators have taken full advantage of their label.

Beyond its role in branding and marketing, labels can also be a canvas for creativity, a portal to history, and a reflection of culture. Walk down the aisles of a liquor store or browse the selections at a bar, and you'll find labels that range from minimalist elegance to vibrant and whimsical designs. Each label reflects the creativity and vision of its creators, be it a brewery, winery, or distillery.







For craft beer, labels often serve as a platform for artistic expression. From playful illustrations to bold typography, craft breweries push the boundaries of label design, using it as an opportunity to differentiate themselves in a crowded market. Whether it's a quirky character or beautiful landscape decorating a bottle, beer labels invite consumers to connect with the story behind the brew.

Wine labels, on the other hand, often embody tradition and sophistication. A fine wine label can evoke a sense of heritage and craftsmanship, conveying the vineyard's legacy and the winemaker's expertise. Elegant calligraphy, intricate emblems, and subtle embellishments are staples in premium wine labels.

Spirits labels offer a glimpse into the world of luxury and refinement. From the classic designs of whiskey labels to the daring aesthetics of craft distilleries, each label reflects the spirit's character and heritage. Spirits labels play a crucial role in shaping perceptions and enticing consumers.







Industry Trends

Although distinctions exist among beer, wine, and spirits labels, they also share common objectives. Here are some industry trends that exist throughout all three categories.



Sustainability Focus

With growing environmental concerns, some brands are opting for labels made from recycled materials or utilizing eco-friendly printing techniques. Labels that highlight a commitment to sustainability can resonate with environmentally conscious consumers.



Interactive Labels

Some creators are incorporating interactive elements into their labels, such as QR codes that link to websites, music, or behind-the-scenes videos. Some even offer augmented reality features that bring the label artwork to life on a smartphone screen.



Cultural Homage/Storytelling

Breweries, wineries and distilleries are paying homage to their roots and local culture through label designs that incorporate their heritage, regional symbols, landmarks, or historical references. This trend fosters a sense of community and pride among consumers.



Customization and Personalization

With the rise of personalized products, some breweries, wineries, and distilleries are offering customization options for their labels. Whether it's adding personalized messages, names, or images, customizable labels allow consumers to create a unique and memorable product.

Design Trends

While beer, wine, and spirits labels often strive for unique aesthetics, there are some design trends that can be observed in all three.

Illustrative Artwork: Breweries, wineries, and distilleries are increasingly commissioning illustrators and artists to create unique and eye-catching label designs. These labels often feature vibrant illustrations, whimsical characters, and intricate details. This trend is most popular among craft beer labels.

Minimalist Design: Minimalist label design is also gaining popularity. Clean lines, simple typography, and understated graphics create a sleek and modern aesthetic that appeals to a wide audience. These types of labels can cut through the noise of some of the busier label designs.

Typography Emphasis: Bold typography is making a comeback as well, using custom fonts and lettering to make a statement. Typography-focused labels often exude sophistication and elegance.

Limited Edition Releases: Collectible labels are becoming popular as a way to generate excitement and demand among consumers. These labels often feature special artwork, commemorative designs, or unique packaging that are only available for a limited time, encouraging consumers to collect and keep them even after they are empty.



20 19





Illustrative

Minimalist

Typography

Limited Edition

Unique Printing Techniques

To add even more interest to beer, wine, and spirits labels, unique printing techniques can be incorporated to help products stand out.

Experimental Materials: Beer, wine, and spirits brands are exploring unconventional label materials and finishes to stand out on the shelf. From textured papers to metallic foils, innovative label materials can add tactile interest and visual appeal.

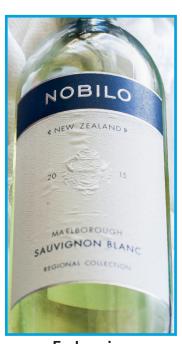
Embossing and Debossing: These techniques create raised (embossed) or recessed (debossed) areas on the label, adding depth to the design. Brands often use embossing or debossing to highlight key elements of their label, such as logos or text.

Spot Varnishing: Spot varnishing involves applying a glossy or matte varnish to specific areas of the label, creating contrast and visual impact. Brands may use spot varnishing to make certain elements, such as illustrations or typography, stand out from the rest of the label.

Unique Die-Cutting: Die-cut labels are cut into custom shapes or patterns, allowing brands to create labels that stand out on the shelf. Die-cut labels can be used to mimic the outline of a logo or to create unique shapes that complement the overall design.



Experimental Materials



Embossing



Spot Varnishing



Unique Die-cut

Learn More

In the world of beer, wine, and spirits, labels serve as more than just branding; they encapsulate creativity, history, and culture. By incorporating some of the industry trends, design trends, and unique printing techniques into your labels, your product will have a better chance of standing out and capturing your audience. Call us today and let us help you optimize your labels!



Memberships and Affiliations















Certifications









About Whitlam Group

Whitlam Group is a leader of engineered label solutions and functional parts, solving complex label challenges for the world's largest corporations. Serving the automotive, industrial and consumer goods market for over sixty years, as a strategic partner. We understand the needs and processes of our customers and we proactively help them to achieve their objectives.

Learn more at www.whitlam.com



24800 SHERWOOD AVE. CENTER LINE, MI 48015

(586) 757-5100 WHITLAM.COM