

What are premix or ready-to-drink (RTD) keg systems?

Premix or RTD keg systems are kegs that dispense ready-made premix cocktails. The keg works like beer on draft and usually comes with the premix “mixer” and the retailer adds the bottle(s) of distilled spirits. Examples: a margarita mix keg and you add tequila and triple sec, a mojito mix keg and you add rum, etc.

The contents of the kegs must be:

- for immediate consumption on the premises;
- for orders received for prepared servings to go; and
- used within a 24-hour period

Federal law prohibits a retail liquor dealer from mixing cocktails in advance of the sale, except for the purpose of filling orders for immediate consumption. In general, immediate consumption means the drinks are expected to be served within 24 hours.

If you choose to use one of these systems and have questions, please contact your licensing specialist in your area.

You may find your specialist on our website: <https://mtrevenue.gov/alcoholic-beverage-control/>

All licensees must comply with all Federal and Montana alcoholic beverage laws and rules.

[16-1-106 \(22\)](#), MCA Prepared servings, [16-3-312](#), MCA Curbside Pickup.

[27 CFR § 6.88](#)–Equipment and supplies. [27 CFR § 31.204](#) and [27 CFR § 31.233](#)–Mixed cocktails and Mixing cocktails in advance of the sale.

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