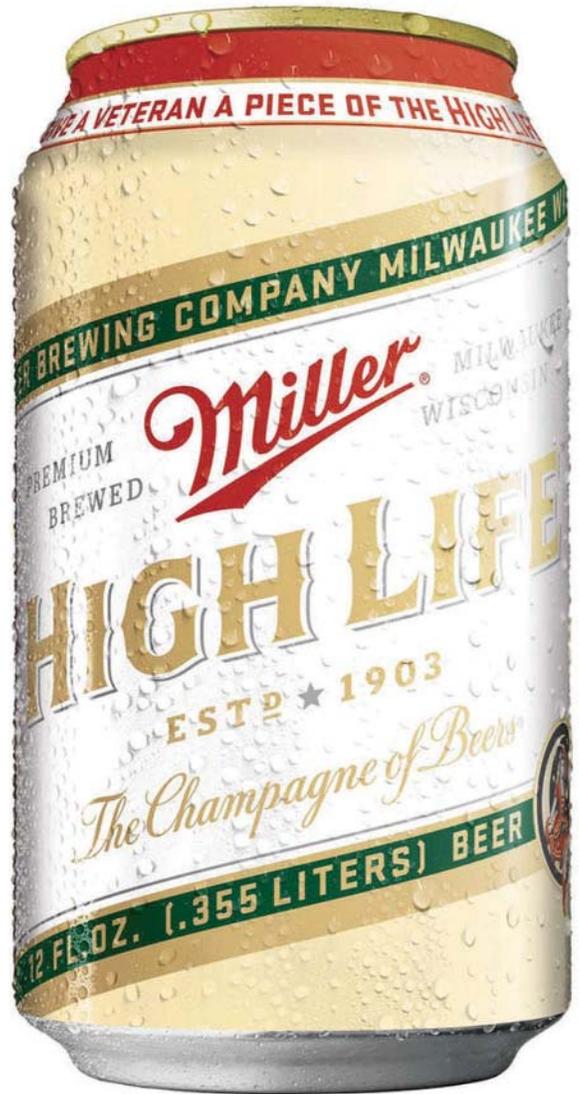


# The Dos and Don'ts of the Shower Beer



When you read this, please keep in mind that I am (twice) a published author.

## ***The Dos and Don'ts of the Shower Beer***

John's Worldly Ramblings – 4.31

The Shower Beer is a time-honored tradition. It provides joy to literally hundreds of people annually. But it is to be treated with respect and enjoyed sparingly, as it is a special treat.

First, do not confuse a "Shower Beer" with a "Beer Shower." I don't know exactly what a Beer Shower is, but it doesn't sound safe at all. Or cleansing. Or refreshing. Consider this your primer on the Shower Beer. If you've never had one before, it's high time. If you're an old pro, you might just learn something new.

I present the dos and don'ts, the ins and outs, of the Shower Beer...

### **Who**

You, ya fucker. But, the Shower beer is only for those who are deserving of such a treat. More on that later.

### **What**

It has to be a can of beer. No bottles. That shit breaks and you're fucked. Your mom will be pissed...even if you don't live with her anymore. And I know they make plastic beer bottles these days, but...*por favor*, don't do this. You get those at the baseball game because there's no other option. My beer of choice is Miller High Life.

Obviously the can rule limits your choices primarily to domestics, but that's not a bad thing: support Big Brewers America. Extra points if you choose a Leinie's Original as your Shower Beer.

Guinness comes in cans! Strongbow. Murphy's...

### **Where**

In the shower. But, it should be your shower. If you live in a dorm (as in, if you're a fucking douche bag college kid), then the Shower Beer is officially off-limits to you. The whole rest of your life is beer-fueled. You should use the shower to sober up a tad. A Shower Beer in a hotel seems very skeezy to me. A Shower Beer at a friend's is acceptable, but not encouraged.

### **When**

This is where people commonly make the biggest mistake of the Shower Beer. The Shower Beer is not to be performed and enjoyed after events such as shoveling snow; that's when the far less common Shower Irish Coffee makes an appearance. Really, in Wisconsin the appropriate timeframe is limited to the summer months of June-ish to August-ish. If you live in Arizona, for example, your window for the Shower Beer is significantly greater. Sometimes we can stretch it into May or September in Wisconsin, but the truth is, the limited duration during which to partake of it is what makes the Shower Beer such a special occasion, like a Shamrock Shake or eggnog...or *pon far*.

### **Why**

Because you deserve it. Essentially if you've been up to some hard work and you're dirty, sweaty and tired...this is why.

## How

We'll just take this step by step. Grab your beer, but don't open it. And only take one. You should be in and out of the shower with time for just one beer. And you only want one because they call it a *Shower Beer*, not a *Shower Beers*. That just doesn't make grammatical sense.

The goal is to get clean and refreshed in order to be able to drive after the shower, if need be, or just hit the couch to consume more beers. Besides, you don't want to be hanging out in your shitter getting tossed; that's a special kind of drunk reserved for points south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Take your beer into the bathroom with you. Open the bathroom window, if you have one and if it's not ninety degrees and the humidity isn't too high. The goal is to cool down, not be even more uncomfortable. Get undressed and step into the shower stall. Place your beer someplace where you can grab it, but far enough away from the water so you don't get water or soap into it when you do open it. I prefer to put it on the edge of the tub on the opposite end from the faucet and shower head, just tucked behind the edge of the shower curtain.

Have you opened your Shower Beer yet? No? Good, 'cause it's not time yet, son! Turn on the water and get it cool to lukewarm, at warmest. Colder if you prefer. Get yourself good and wet—rinse yourself off. Get the big dirt and sweat off. With that done, now you can go ahead and open that beer. Take a few swallows; you want to aim for drinking about a third of it at this point.

Put your Shower Beer down and wash and rinse your hair and your face, ears and neck. Yeah. You're ready for another four ounces. Drink another third of the beer.

Put it down again and wash your torso and arms. Scrub good, you been outside making your yard look good to keep up with your fucking neighbors. You've been digging in a garden or edging or ripping out bushes or hauling some dick's chimney to the dump a year after you helped him take it out, a year after you thought you'd never

see it again but no, all those cement chimney blocks and clay flue liners have been sitting behind his garage for a year just waiting for you to touch them again. Point is, wash your pits good because they stink. Then rinse.

Hear that? Yup, that's the beer calling your name. Drink the rest of it, the final third. Even if you're no good at fractions, at this point you just have to finish the beer.

Now, set it down and finish washing everything below the equator. Then rinse.

Cool. Turn off the water, dry off and get on with getting on.

The event is over.

**Warning:** There are numerous things this guy is doing wrong!



This dude looks like Thorny from *Super Troopers*.

- The water is not on.
- He is wearing clothing.
- He's drinking a Coors.

(Though it is in a can...half credit.)

- It's clear this fella never did anything in his life to deserve a Shower Beer.

- He's in a dorm shower, maybe a gym shower. Not one in a residence.

- That can holder is apocryphal. It goes against everything the Shower Beer stands for. It smacks of planning.

The Shower Beer is for spontaneous enjoyment, as in: "I just finished

digging up a tree stump outside. No way in hell was I going to pay some dick \$80 to do it in ten minutes with a grinder. Hey, you know what would be super

awesome right now? A beer in the shower!" (He does get points for getting the beer up high enough so it would be pretty tough to get water in it.

Well, that's about it. Sometimes the simplest things in life are the most enjoyable. I put the Shower Beer in this category right next to a day of watching '70's Charlton Heston sci-fi flicks, Buffalo wings, smoking a cigar with like-minded friends and beating up hobos.

John