



# Espresso Tasting Cheat Sheet



Variables for dialing in espresso

Dosage - Grind Size - Water Temperature - Water Input

#### Dosage

The amount of ground coffee going into the portafilter Dosage is the micro adjustments to the taste of the shot The target numbers for dosage are 17 grams to 18 grams

### **Grind Size**

The size we are grinding the beans down to
Grind size most directly impacts the extraction time
The target extraction time is between 27 - 33 seconds
Finer = smaller = sand

Coarse = larger = rocks

On our grinder, coarse is to the right/ bigger numbers, finer is to the left/smaller numbers Our grind size is typically a notch or two below 3 to 3.5

#### **Water Temperature**

The water temperature used for extracting espresso
Typical range is 197°F and 205°F
The lighter roasted the coffee, the higher temperature used

#### **Water Input**

The amount of water used in the extraction process There is typically around 20% loss due to puck saturation The end weight of the shot of espresso should be around a 1:2 ratio of the dosage I.e. 17 g = 34 g shot of espresso

# Dialing in Process Pull a shot, is it between 27 seconds and 33 seconds?

Yes
The grind size is most likely already ok!

If the shot extracted in under 27 seconds, go finer on the grind size

If the shot extracted in over 33 seconds, go coarser on the grind size

No

Adjust until the shot is within 27 - 33 seconds

## Now move to tasting espresso

If the shot tastes sour, increase dosage slowly by .1 or .2 until it feels balanced between sour and bitter

If the shot tastes bitter, decrease dosage slowly by .1 or .2 until it feels balanced between sour and bitter

You should now have a tasty shot of espresso that is pulling between 27 - 33 seconds!

#### Remember:

Finer grind = more contact time = more extracted and stronger Coarser grind = less contact time = less extracted and weaker Target is 27 - 33 seconds

Once you have locked in grind size, taste espresso:

More dose = more espresso = towards bitter on spectrum

Less dose = less espresso = towards sour on spectrum

Bitter is tasted on the back of the tongue Sour is tasted on the sides of the tongue

Good espresso =
In the middle of the spectrum between bitter and sour
Heavy or syrupy body
Noticeable sweetness
Notes of fruitiness or citrus acidity