

DR. PATOCHE'S PLEA

FOR TERMINOLOGICAL PRECISION

“BLEND” IS NOT A WHISKEY! IT'S AN ART!

FOR YOU, FRENCH-SPEAKING WHISKY LOVERS ...

Too often, in our discussions or in our reading **in french**, confusion arises, oversimplifying the true nature of our passion: whisky. How many times have we heard or said, "**This blend is delicious!**"? It is imperative to re-establish a fundamental technical truth:

The noun "blend" can't, under any circumstances, refer to our whisky which is a finished product!

The **noun "blend,"** which translates into French as "**mélange**" or "**assemblage**," is **essentially a technical operation and not a whisky.** It is the noble and complex act by which the **master blender**, like a true conductor, harmonizes diverse aromatic profiles **to create a coherent whole.** It is a **compositional technique** that transforms individual distillates into a thoughtful and controlled expression.



Conversely, terms such as:

"**Blended Whisky,**" "**Blended Malt Whisky,**" or "**Blended Grain Whisky**" refer to the **finished products.**

"**Blended**" here is an adjective that translates to "**mélangé**" in French. These are the **regulated Scottish categories**, the tangible result of the technical process of **blending.**

Why is this distinction important? First, because **whisky lovers need to understand what they read or hear.** Second, because **the elliptical practice of calling a “blended whisky” simply “blend” obscures the magical expertise behind the bottle.**

One of the roles of the **Whisky Lovers Encyclopediae** is to name things precisely:

- The «**Blend**», “**l’ assemblage**” in French is the **process**, a compositional technique.
- The “**Blended whisky**” is the commercial and regulatory category, the final product that we will taste and appreciate in moderation.

Let's not allow our vocabulary to become impoverished. Precise language is the first step toward understanding complexity. Let's reserve "**blend**" for the **creative act of the master blender**, and use "**blended whisky**" to identify the precious liquid we are enjoying.

Réf :

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2009/2890/regulation/3>

