

Know Maine's Laws!

Minor in Possession of Alcohol

It is a **civil violation** for a minor (anyone under age 21) to possess liquor except for work or in their home with a parent. Possession by consumption applies if there is any alcohol in a minor's bloodstream. A minor is in possession if alcohol is within arm's reach.

Fine not less than \$200 and up to \$600.

Providing Alcohol to Minors (Furnishing)

Providing a Place for Minors to Consume (Hosting)

It is a **criminal offense** for any person, adult or minor, to furnish liquor or imitation liquor to a minor or to allow a minor under that person's control, or in a place under that person's control, to possess or consume liquor or imitation liquor.

Fine of \$500 - \$2,000, and/or jail sentence of 6-12 mo.

If injury or death occurs due to the actions of guests, the person responsible for furnishing may be charged with a felony.

Maine Liquor Liability Law

In addition to any criminal charges, anyone who serves alcohol to a minor or visibly intoxicated person can be held liable for damages, injury and loss to a person or property in a civil action.

**Damages up to \$350,000 per person,
plus the victim's unlimited lifetime medical expenses.**

City of Portland Ordinances

Disorderly Conduct includes fighting or goading someone to fight or making disturbing noise: loud music, yelling, hooting, whistling.

Fine of \$100-\$500 plus court fees.

A **Disorderly House** designation occurs when police have visited a building 3-5 times in any 30 day period (depending on size) in response to disturbances created by the owner, tenants or guests, including loud music; noisy parties; public intoxication; and drug activity. **Repeated designations may result in the building being condemned and some or all tenants being evicted.**



Entertaining Friends . . . the Right Way

It's great to have friends over to your apartment, but it takes some special planning. Keep the night fun, safe, and trouble-free — with this checklist from 21 Reasons.

Beforehand...

- Talk with your neighbors.** Give them your phone number and ask them to call you if there are any problems.
- Know who is coming.** Tell guests whether or not they can bring friends.
- Have designated sober drivers,** or a phone number for a cab.
- Plan what to do if** uninvited guests arrive, guests are visibly intoxicated, or intoxicated guests plan to drive.

During...

- Plan to stay sober.** Limiting your own drinking will help you determine if a guest is sober enough to drive later.
- Manage guests.** Know who's there and don't allow more people in than you can control.
- Involve others in keeping things safe and respectful.** Ask roommates or friends to help you monitor the noise level.
- Ask guests to stay inside.** Keep them off roofs or balconies.
- Walk around outside to **check the noise level.**
- Pay attention** to people's drinking habits.
- Provide plenty of non-alcoholic drinks and food.**
- Don't serve alcohol to minors.** It's illegal, and you could be charged with furnishing if you allow minors to drink.
- Announce last call an hour before folks start leaving.** Make sure you've got water and coffee for guests.

Afterwards...

- Ask guests to keep noise down on the walk home.
- Clean up the yard, throw away trash.
- Check in with neighbors the next day.

If the police come...

- Speak with them directly, and don't argue.
- Take action so they don't have a reason to return
- Ask guests behaving inappropriately to leave.