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## **Cigar Guide (Quickstudy: Compact)**

*Inc. BarCharts*

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# CIGAR GUIDE

**QuickStudy**

**Know It Now...  
Use It Always™**

## Contents:

- building a cigar
- cigar types
- colors
- cigar manufacturing
- cigar tobacco
- the wrapper
- drinks that complement cigars
- cutting your cigar
- lighting your cigar
- shapes and sizes
- glossary of cigar terms
- popular cigar brands
- fine vintage cigars
- and more!

## IN THE BEGINNING

Tobacco was cultivated by Native Americans of the pre-Columbian Americas. It was smoked in pipes for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Christopher Columbus brought tobacco leaves and seeds with him back to Europe. Columbus called smoking, "tobacco," when he introduced it to Spain. The Mayan verb "tikar" is interpreted as "to smoke" and became the Spanish word "cigarro." Columbus claimed the island called Ceiba by the Native Taíno Indians and the Spaniards renamed Ceiba "Cuba." The Spaniards also created a name for the practice of smoking and called it "cacha."



In America, farmers began to grow cigar tobacco during the 19th century. Attempts were less than successful, and the West Indies (particularly Cuba) remained the chief source of cigars. It is estimated that, at the turn of the century, there were over 4 billion cigar smokers in the US. The popularity of the cigar continued to grow until the reign of Cuba's Fidel Castro in the 1950's. The resultant embargo on Cuban cigars caused many other countries (the Dominican Republic, Honduras and much of Latin America) to increase production of cigar tobacco, but to this day, no country is considered to produce tobacco quite like that grown in Cuba.

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