

CLAIMS:

1. An apparatus for preparing a brewed beverage, comprising:
 - a) a device (10, 11) for heating and conveying water;
 - b) a brewing chamber (6) into which the heated water is introduced;
 - c) a positioning device (19) for positioning a capsule (15) next to the brewing chamber with an ingredient for brewing a beverage at a lateral opening (20) of the brewing chamber (6), and
 - d) an outlet (22) with a switchable valve (23) on a bottom side of the brewing chamber (6);characterized in that an inlet for introducing the hot water is provided on an upper side of the brewing chamber (6).
2. An apparatus according to claim 1, characterized in that the volume of the brewing chamber (6) is at least twice as large as the volume of the capsule (15), preferably at least four times as large.
3. An apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that a screen (31) is arranged between an interior space (21) of the brewing chamber (6) and the capsule (15).
4. An apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a nozzle (14) with several openings (40) which are distributed over the circumference is provided on the inlet on the upper side of the brewing chamber (6).
5. An apparatus according to claim 4, characterized in that the nozzle (14) protrudes with a tip into an interior space (21) of the brewing chamber (6).
6. An apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a drive device (8) is provided, by means of which the brewing chamber (6) can be moved.
7. An apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a filler neck (25) is arranged in a brewing position above a passage (26) for filling

- the vessel (4) and in a rinsing position spaced from the passage (26) above a guide element (27) for collecting the rinsing liquid.
8. An apparatus according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the lateral opening (20) of the brewing chamber (6) is arranged above a collecting container (2).
 9. An apparatus according to claim 8, characterized in that the collecting container (2) comprises a grate (29) or screen in order to collect used capsules (15) above a collecting basin (28) for liquid.
 10. A method for preparing a brewed beverage, comprising the following steps:
 - a) positioning a capsule (15) with an ingredient for brewing the beverage at a lateral opening (20) of a brewing chamber (6) located next to the capsule;
 - b) heating and conveying water to the brewing chamber (6);
 - c) introduction of the heated water on an upper side of the brewing chamber (6);
 - d) preparation of the beverage in the brewing chamber (6) by filling the capsule (15) with heated water, and
 - e) opening of a valve (23) after a brewing time, preferably after at least 30 seconds, on the bottom side of the brewing chamber (6) on an outlet (22) and filling of a vessel (4) with the brewed beverage.
 11. A method according to claim 10, characterized in that after the brewing process the brewing chamber (6) is moved in order to eject the capsule (15) to a collecting container (2).
 12. A method according to claim 10 or 11, characterized in that after the brewing process the brewing chamber (6) is displaced together with a filler neck (25) in order to move the filler neck (25) from a filling position above a passage (26) for filling the vessel (4) to a rinsing position above a guide element (27) and to then rinse the brewing chamber (6).
 13. A method according to one of the claims 10 to 12, characterized in that the capsule (15) comprises a coating or marking which is read after the positioning of the capsule (15), and a controller then controls the preparation parameters

according to the coding or marking.

14. A method according to one of the claims 10 to 13, characterized in that tea is brewed in the brewing chamber (6) and capsule (15).