

# Wine Bottles!



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Let's talk a little about wine bottles shapes and sizes.

When walking down the aisle in your favorite wine shop, you see an assortment of different shapes of bottles. The first question we get is: Does the shape of the bottle affect the flavor of the wine? No! There are four basic shapes to wine bottles. The most popular ones used are the Bordeaux style, and the Burgundy style. Both named from the region in France that they originated from.

The Bordeaux style is tall and slender with straight sides and high shoulders, and a large punt. It gets its name from the Bordeaux region of France. This type of bottle is used by most wineries for [Cabernet Sauvignon](#), [Merlot](#), Malbec, and most Meritage or Bordeaux blends.

The Burgundy style has gently sloping shoulders and a smaller punt. The Burgundy style a wider girth than the Bordeaux style. You see this style with many whites as well as some red wines. It is widely used in New World Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs.

You'll notice we used the term punt. If you haven't guessed yet, the punt is the indentation on the bottom of the bottle.

In the 1970's the United States decided to make the standard wine bottle size 750ml. Which is about 25 ounces.

Two other common bottle type are the Champagne, and the Hoch. Fans of German wines will be familiar with the Hoch. This is the tall slender bottle most German, and Alsatian wines come in. The bottles are named for the regions they come from. Mosel is the green bottle from Germany and Alsace. Rhine is the brown bottle from Germany. The Champagne bottle if made thicker, with a larger punt to handle the pressure from the carbonation.

"My Grandmother is over 80 and still doesn't need glasses. She drinks right out of the bottle."  
- Henny Youngman.

When looking at bottles larger than 750ml bottle, they are usually found with sparkling wine. The bottles have unique names.

Half Bottle=375ml,      Magnum=1.5 Liters,  
Jeroboam=3 Liters,      Rehoboam=4.5 Liters

The largest bottle of wine is the Maximus. Produced by Beringer Vineyards, with the equivalent of 173 bottles of Beringer 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon. Only one of these was ever made.

Now you have a basic understanding of the shapes and sizes of wine bottles. Remember to never drink any wine before its time. Guess what? IT'S TIME!

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