

Cheers!



Extravagant home wine cellars are a hot trend in the luxury home market. Wine enthusiasts are building elaborate cellars and tasting rooms, some featuring Italian-inspired décor, terracotta walls and slate floors, in their homes. These ultra-high-end cellars can cost up to six figures to build. And that's not including the wine.

Fortunately for wine lovers, there are several less expensive options for storing your vino. If you can't dedicate an entire room to wine storage, a temperature-controlled wine cooler may do the trick. Resembling a small refrigerator, these wine storage systems might fit in your kitchen or basement. Depending on their size, prices start at approximately \$400. The experts at www.wineenthusiast.com say a cooler is a great option if your wine collection is relatively small (in the 30- 50-bottle range).

But your home might already feature a suitable, even less expensive storage solution. Wine should be kept at a constant temperature between 50 and 70 degrees in a dark, vibration-free area that is not too dry. Your basement or a dark closet might fit the bill. Store bottles on shelves or in a wine rack to keep them off the ground, and be sure to keep wine away from windows, heating vents or household appliances.

Whether you're a casual drinker or an oenophile, keeping your wine in a safe place that protects its quality and allows it to mature (even if it's only for a couple months) is essential. And it's something you can do no matter what your budget

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