

Robb Report

The Myth of the Wineglass Collection

Three experts weigh in on the glassware you need at home—and offer designs of their own to back their theories

BY SARA L. SCHNEIDER ON JULY 20, 2018

Judging by the intricate shapes and sizes advocated by high-end [wineglass](#) producers, if you're serious about wine, it seems that you need a set of glasses devoted to each region and variety stashed in the cupboards. There's the wide-bowled glass for red burgundy, a slightly different wide-bowled glass for West Coast Pinot Noir (because it has a different power, don't you know), and the list goes on. The choices are bewildering, and advice tends to make even the most consummate hosts worry they're getting it wrong when they pour for wine-savvy friends.

Where does the truth lie? Is a glass customized to each wine type critical to enjoying the nuances of that wine? What should our cupboards realistically contain, to showcase our best bottles proudly?

As it turns out, three consummate wine professionals have answered these questions by way of designing wineglasses themselves—glasses they believe offer maximum enjoyment of all great wine. Robb Report reached out to find out what, in their view, is most important characteristics of a wineglass, and why we might not need an annex just to house our [glassware](#).

The newest glass on the market—coming this fall—is from the [JCB Collection](#), presided over by inimitable vintner and design maven Jean-Charles Boisset, whose family produces a great deal of wine both in France and in California. Produced in partnership with the Baccarat crystal company, the **JCB Passion Collection**, so-dubbed in pure Boisset style, is channeling the seeming current collective consciousness with a single glass. Echoing Robinson, Boisset says, “I’ve never understood why white wineglasses are frequently smaller than those for red. Many whites are highly aromatic and deserve a larger bowl to honor their beautiful characteristics.” He, too, believes slight shape differences might showcase different varieties to advantage, but “those are such minor improvements that it’s unnecessary to feel you have to have the ‘right’ glass for each wine.”

Beyond the similar requirements of a large bowl for swirling and aerating and a thin rim, his priorities run more to the aesthetics than those of the designers above. Elegance, above all: “The shape and feel of the glass in your hand should inspire you and reflect the fine quality of the liquid in the glass!”