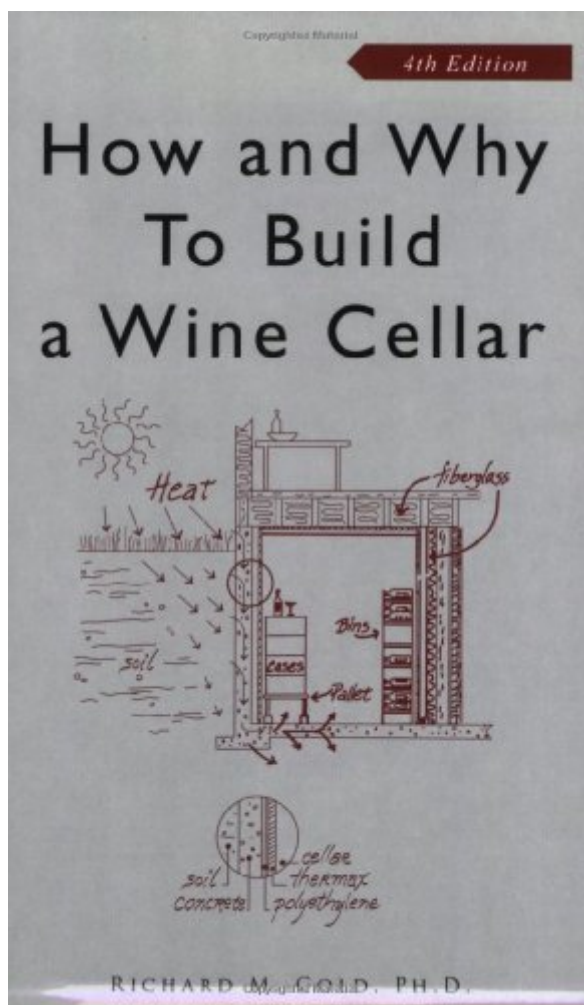


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# How And Why To Build A Wine Cellar, Fourth Edition



## Synopsis

This popular classic, which is based on the author's personal experiences of building a wine cellar in his home and collecting wines for fun and investment, is now completely updated for the modern wine collector. All of the essential construction specifications to maintain the ideal temperature and humidity conditions for long-term storage of wine are provided for the home craftsman or professional contractor. Insulation, refrigeration, and passive systems are detailed and the construction of racks and storage bins is also explained with helpful illustrations. A practical guide to selecting, recording, tracking, and enjoying your wines at their peak performance is included.

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## Customer Reviews

We were doing a construction project, so what the heck, lets add a wine cellar too. After doing a bunch of research it became clear that Gold's book was the best choice. It was recommended by many reviewers. I read the book thoroughly and incorporated a cellar into our construction plan. Reading the chapter on the vapor barrier and insulation are critical if you are going to pull off a passive wine cellar. Moreover, I wouldn't even try to go passive unless you are building mostly below ground. It is fairly obvious that the cooling systems that are available for non-passive wine

cellars are problematic and extremely unreliable, so passive is best. In our situation we had a mostly below ground basement level. We bumped up the insulation on the inside and added some outside as well since the building was already trenched. We also added a vapor barrier. The room so far stays very cool even though we aren't quite done. There is also a whole chapter about how to construct the perfect door. It turns out that it is almost impossible to buy an adequately insulated door, but it is not that hard to build one yourself if you are handy enough or can hire a contractor. If you are looking for a prestige wine cellar to show off and impress people with, be warned that Gold is pretty negative about these, and won't help you much there, this is about storing and protecting wine, and Gold doesn't care too much about impressing people. He does offer some great advice about how to build your own effective shelving system and how and where to buy wine that are quite insightful. If you are building a wine cellar, get this book, and maybe one for your contractor.

If you are like me and building a wine cellar, this has to be in your "Read Before Building" section. It has technical information on construction and engineering notes on everything from electrical to insulation. Most other books on wine cellar construction turn out to be idea books filled with lovely photos but no technical details. This book fills in the gap nicely.

I was giving serious consideration to building my wine cellar and decided to perform some research. The Gold book was by far, the most in-depth and informative material I read. A little high-brow in places but extremely thorough. Actually, I got freaked-out and never did build the cellar. My wife really frowned upon the idea of digging up the front yard to lay down a plastic barrier. When I suggested we drill into the concrete floor to create a dry-well, she took my last bottle of Haut Brion, poured it into the pasta sauce and said, "There- no need for a cellar now do we?" The book was over the top, scared the ba-gee-bees out of me and still, after 2 years of thinking about it, I haven't built the cellar. Good book, read it and make your own decisions.

Interesting book geared towards a true passive cellar and offers little of real value regarding indoor storage requiring a cooling system. At one point it says that these are adequate as far south as DC. Unfortunately, I live in South Carolina and need something different.

great read!!

The book is comprehensive but easy to read. Dr. Gold provides good examples and backs up his

opinions with some pretty astute observations. I actually feel that I can understand some of the complex concepts that the explains. Classic book.

I do believe that this is the best authority on the theory of building a wine cellar. Practical building advice is slim. Drawings of wall and insulation use are rudimentary at best. You will learn the importance of outside soil temperatures but no guidelines on what they may be in different regions of the country. This is a great book but it will leave you with questions. Not a step by step guide.

How and Why to Build a Wine Cellar was very good. I did not know so much had to go into it, after reading it I put in aside as I did the project. But it was a good book covered it all.

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