

Buying & Serving **Wine**

FOR
DUMMIES[®]

in a
day

Ed McCarthy
Mary Ewing-Mulligan

***Buying & Serving
Wine
In A Day***
FOR
DUMMIES®

by Ed McCarthy

Certified Wine Educator

and

Mary Ewing-Mulligan

Master of Wine



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John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Buying & Serving Wine In A Day For Dummies®

Published by
John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
111 River St.
Hoboken, NJ 07030-5774
www.wiley.com

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Published simultaneously in Canada

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ISBN 978-1-118-37689-8 (ebk); ISBN 978-1-118-37688-1 (ebk); ISBN 978-1-118-37687-4 (ebk)

Manufactured in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



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Introduction



Wine is a rich and complex field. Wine tastes like nothing else, it has an amazing variety, and it brings people together at the table. We could go on and on (and have in many of our *Wine For Dummies* books) about wine, but all you want to do is enjoy a nice bottle of wine with your friends and family occasionally. That's why we've put together this e-book on buying and serving wine.

When you walk down the wine aisle of your neighborhood grocery store or venture into your local wine shop, you may be intimidated by the sheer number of bottles, the colorful labels, and the foreign words. But with information gleaned from this book, you can become more confident about trying and buying bottles of wine.

Of course, you need to know what to do with the wine when you get it home. Everything you need to know to serve wine is covered here, from getting the cork out to serving the wine at the right temperature to storing any leftovers.

As a bonus, we also tell you how to order wine in a restaurant and participate in the presentation and pouring of the bottle. With this book, you'll be on your way to becoming a wine connoisseur in no time.

What You Can Do In A Day

The goal of *Buying & Serving Wine In A Day For Dummies* is to help you understand the basic characteristics of wine, choose a good wine, and serve it with confidence. This book can help you better enjoy wine, whether you spend a free afternoon with it or dip in and out whenever you find a few spare minutes.

We start by explaining the basic types of wine, how to taste it, and how wines are named. Then we move on to practical wine matters — in the wine shop, in your home, and in the restaurant. Find out how to decipher wine labels, remove

stubborn corks, and decode restaurant wine lists. You can read through the book once and take away just what you need, or you can return to it again and again as you develop a greater appreciation for wine. How you use this book is up to you!

Foolish Assumptions

We assume that you picked up this book because you want to know more about how to select good wines and serve them properly. After all, serving wine isn't like serving a soft drink. There's a bit of an art to enjoying a glass of wine, whether at home or in a restaurant. We help you make the most of enjoying wine anywhere.

Icons Used in This Book

We've included handy icons to help you focus on important information to remember as you develop your wine knowledge. Here's what they mean:



Advice and information that will make you a wiser wine drinker or buyer is marked by this bull's-eye so you won't miss it.



There's very little you can do in the course of moderate wine consumption that can land you in jail — but you could spoil an expensive bottle and sink into a deep depression over your loss. This symbol warns you about common pitfalls.



Some issues in wine are so fundamental that they bear repeating. Just so you don't think that we repeated ourselves without realizing it, we mark the repetitions with this symbol.



Take a break from the text for a quick exercise designed to help you improve your wine smarts. You may do a bit of research, practice pouring wine, or try identifying tastes and aromas in wine. This icon tells you what to do.



When you see this icon, head to this book's companion website at www.dummies.com/inaday/buyingandservingwine. Online, you'll find more-detailed information about topics that we cover in the book.