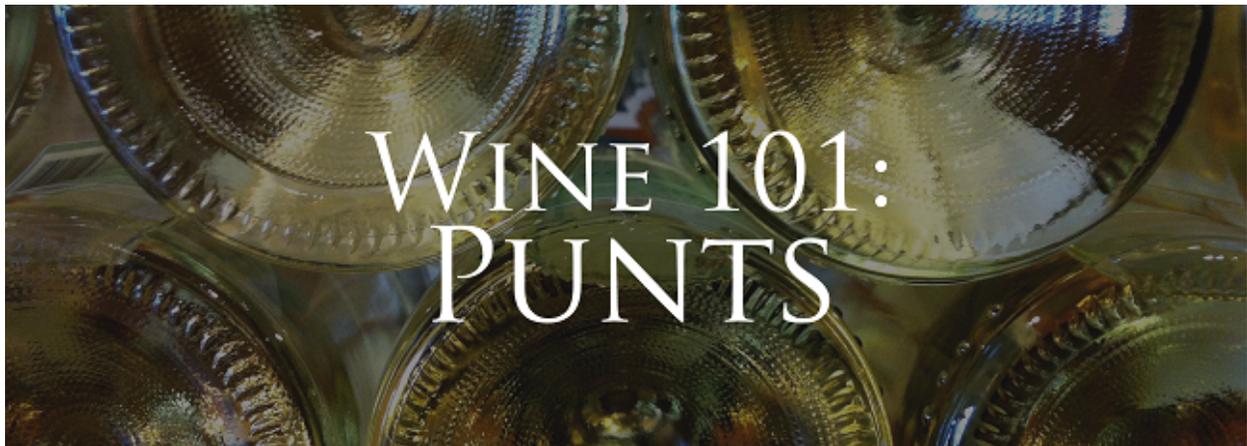


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## Wine 101: Punts

In the spirit of the Super Bowl this past weekend, we're going to talk about punts. What do punts have to do with wine?

A punt is the indentation that is found on the bottom of some [wine bottles](#). Its purpose and origin are a bit of a mystery, but we'll discuss some of the more popular theories.

Some theories about the role of the punt in a wine bottle are that it makes the bottle more functional. Back when glass wine bottles were mostly hand-blown, it was thought that adding a dimple to the bottom of a bottle would improve its strength and stability; it would be less likely to tip over or to shatter when dropped. Likewise, for sparkling wines, it is thought that the punt allows the bottle to withstand the greater internal pressure that comes from carbon dioxide bubbles. Yet another theory posits that the punt may help catch sediment in the bottom of bottles of [aged wine](#).

Another theory suggests that punts made it easier to transport and store wine in bottles. The punts allowed the bottles to be stacked into each other, which reduced how much they moved while in transit. Similarly, punts made wine storage easier; the neck of one bottle could fit into the punt of another, which was more space-efficient.

A common misconception about the punt is that it allows wineries to put less wine in a bottle. This is false because wine bottles are measured in volume, which is federally regulated. [Standard wine bottles](#) contain 750ml of wine whether they have punts or not. If a bottle has a punt, it will simply be designed to account for that space to make sure that the bottle still holds 750ml of wine. So fear not—you will not get less wine in a bottle that has a punt!

You'll notice that some of our wine bottles have punts—like [Domaine du Sac](#) and [Port](#)—while others don't—like [River Gold](#) and [Blushing Rose](#). Today, punts are little more than a design element. That is, they're as much a part of the bottle's appearance as the label or the color of the glass.