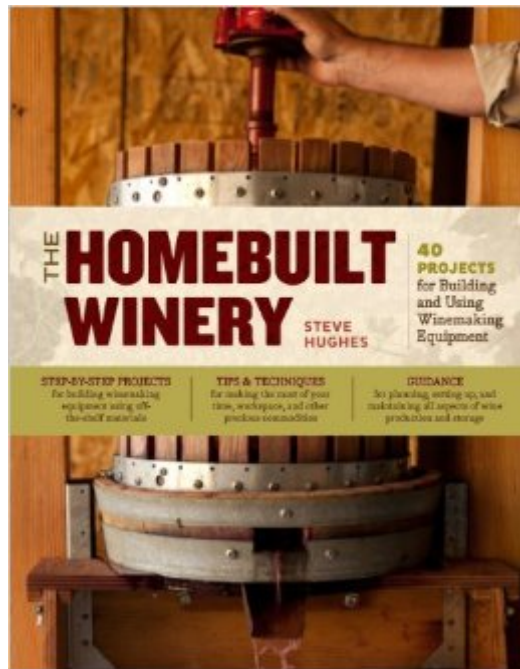


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# The Homebuilt Winery: 43 Projects For Building And Using Winemaking Equipment



## Synopsis

Build your own winery! Learn how to set up a home winery and construct all the basic equipment for just a fraction of what commercially manufactured products would cost. Leading you through the entire winemaking process, Steve Hughes includes building plans and step-by-step instructions for making more than 30 essential winemaking tools. From fashioning presses and pumps to the best way to fill and cork bottles, The Homebuilt Winery covers everything you need to know to affordably enjoy delicious, high-quality homemade wine.

## Book Information

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& Spirits > Wine

## Customer Reviews

I am rating this as a 3 star in hopes that people will read this review before trying to make any of the projects. Storey, the publisher, does a very poor job of editing their books. I have contacted them more than once to ask who does their editing, but just get the normal BS answer about doing their best. Many of the projects in the book cannot be built using the dimensions given in the project write ups. For example there is a full scale drawing for drive gears for a grape crusher on page 26, if you use the pattern the outer diameter of the drive gears are approximately 2 1/8 inches in diameter, the drive shafts for the two rollers driven by these gears are 2 1/4 inches on center, the gears, if built by this illustration will never mesh to drive the two rollers. The hopper (fig 2.4) of the crusher shows 1 foot wide pieces for the hopper bottom, this will make the crusher wider than the destemmer it is

suppose to fit into, plus will leave a gap of 3/4 inches on each end of the crusher rollers, dimensions for the bottom based on the rest of the write up should be 10 1/2 inches. These measurement errors continue through out the book. I sent a 2 page list of corrections for chapter 8 on the wine cellar to Storey and have not had the pleasure of their reply as of yet. I like the projects in the book and find them very functional. The utility of the projects are marred by the errors in the drawings and dimensions, will make you have to test fit every piece as you build to ensure proper construction. Since I am not being paid to be a proof reader, I doubt that I will send any more corrections to Storey. I have previously suggested some correction of perceived errors in the Storey book on building a wine cellar, they said I would be contacted by the author, etc, etc, but that never has happened and it has been over a years since I sent in the suggestions.

Really has far less projects than one would want. The de-stemmer and crusher are good, but the parts to build the press cost more than just buying a press. And things like a bottle rack and lab stand, or a punch down tool are so simple as to be embarrassing if you couldn't figure it out for yourself. And "things laying around your house" include items like PET food grade plastic and a vacuum pump. All in all, I'd say if you have the carpentry skills to translate his plans into reality, you have the carpentry skills to build these items yourself. There are some good tips in here, but as far as solid, money saving plans? Save your money.

I found this book to be too rudimentary, with insufficient details & descriptions on the "how to" stuff. I have built my own hydraulic wine press, motorized apple crusher, and a few other minor items which I use in wine & cider making, so I consider myself to be a pretty good improviser. I really wanted to get some basic ideas on how to make a decent grape destemmer, but was discouraged by the quality of the item shown & by the diagrams & instructions for building it. In glancing at other items in the book, I see similar quality, or lack thereof, mainly on the more complicated items. Wine bottle racks & barrel dollies are simple enough to do without an instruction book (IMHO).

I can't say I'm a woodworker but I decided I'd say "Screw it. I'm building my tools and bought the book. The instructions are pretty straight forward. I am working my way through the building the wine press. It calls for 1X2 and I can only find 2X2 slats . I had to adapt the project to accommodate the size. I'm sure someone could have ripped the wood down to 1X2 but I'm good with the new design of the bowl. That said I know if I follow the steps then I'll have great tools to continue making wine. Just building this press will have paid for the book because I will easily save \$100. This is well

worth the money.

Good ideas to inspire the creative mind some of this I will not make like the inert gas unit because it does not make sense to put a heavy gas into a bottle that's upside down. Some I will like the multi bottle fill station and wine racks.

Lots of good ideas for the advanced woodworker. I am not that person. Some ideas are great. Was hoping to build my own crusher destemmer, probably not. I will use the book for the other great projects.

This book will help educate the beginning (or mid-level) winemaker by guiding the building of good quality equipment and providing some rationale for it as well. The tools you use partly define how you make wine and can get in the way. This writer has been there, and will improve your wine making (and mine) .Very good job, well printed and already thumb tagged and dirty in my shop. That should say it all.

Very easily understood and good ideas. I love building and making things apart from homebrewing. It's not going to unveil any secrets (as far as wine making) but it has great info if you have the space and tools.

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