Bottle shapes and definitions for Glassrite

Wine bottles

There are three basic wine bottle shapes:

- Bordeaux (also referred to as Claret)
- Burgundy
- Hock (also referred to as hoch, Rhine Riesling and Schlegel).

Generic examples are shown in Figures 1-3 below. All three bottles can be flint (clear), green or brown, with variations in shade and occasionally other colours such as blue. Historically, shape and colour was determined by the style and region of origin of the wine, although modern wine producers are less confined by these traditions. All three bottle types are available with both traditional cork closures and screw top closures.

Figure 1: A typical Bordeaux/Claret bottle shape, shown with a screw top closure

The classic Bordeaux/Claret bottle shape is characterised by straight sides and rounded shoulders, as illustrated in this example. The punt may be deep or shallow.

There are no specific dimensional limits, but the diameter for a 750ml Bordeaux/Claret is typically in the range of 70-80mm, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 280-340mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Bordeaux/Claret bottles are also readily available in 500ml and 375ml sizes. Other sizes may also be available but these are less common.

Bordeaux/Claret bottles are available with both traditional cork closures and screw top closures.
The classic Burgundy bottle shape is characterised by straight sides and sloping shoulders, as illustrated in this example. The punt may be deep or shallow.

There are no specific dimensional limits, but the diameter for a 750ml Burgundy bottle is typically in the range of 80-90mm, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 270-315mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Burgundy bottles are also readily available in 375ml. Other sizes may also be available but these are less common.

Burgundy bottles are available with both traditional cork closures and screw top closures.

The classic Hock bottle shape is characterised by a narrow bottle with straight sides, sloping shoulders, and an elongated neck, as illustrated in this example. The punt tends to be shallow.

There are no specific dimensional limits, but the diameter for a 750ml Hock bottle is typically in the range of 75-80mm, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 310-350mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Hock bottles are also readily available in 375ml. Other sizes may also be available but these are less common.

Hock bottles are available with both traditional cork closures and screw top closures.
**Spirit bottles**

There are a number of basic spirit bottle shapes covered in the Glassrite database, although there can be considerable variation in shape and style within each category, depending on design preferences and intended applications. The generic shapes covered are:

- Round
- Square
- Rectangular (including Bookshape)
- Oval (sometimes referred to as an Oval Flask)
- Flask (sometimes referred to as Concave)

Generic examples of the shapes included in Glassrite are shown in Figures 4-7 below. All bottles can be flint (clear), green or brown, with variations in shade and occasionally other colours such as blue.

Although there are certain bottle shapes that are typically associated with certain spirits (for example, classic round whisky bottles, classic round vodka bottles, square and book shape gin bottles) there are no hard and fast rules. All bottle types are available with both traditional cork closures and screw top closures. Nonetheless, flint bottles with screw top closures dominate the spirits sector. There is slightly more colour variation within the round bottles category, with green and amber coloured containers also available, although still relatively uncommon compared to the prevalence of flint containers.

*Figure 4: Examples of typical round spirits bottle - vodka bottle shown with a screw top closure on left, whisky bottle shown with a cork closure on right*

Round bottles are used for a wide range of spirits. There are some classic shapes and styles associated with certain spirits (e.g. Congnac bottles, vodka bottles, whisky bottles) but there are many generic stock round bottles available for use with any spirits. Dimensions vary considerably, but the diameter for a 70cl spiriti bottle is typically in the range of 70-95mm, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 225-330mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Round spirit bottles are readily available in a number of sizes including 350ml, 500ml, 700ml, 750ml and 1litre. Other sizes are also available but these are less common. Flint is the most common colour for round spirit bottles, but bottles are also available in green and amber. Predominantly screw top closures are used, but cork closures are available.
Square bottles are used for a wide range of spirits. There are some classic shapes and styles associated with certain spirits (e.g. square gin bottles) but there are many generic stock square bottles available for use with any spirits. Dimensions vary considerably, but for a 70cl spirit bottle the base is typically in the range of 70-85mm square, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 235-285mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck. There may also be shape variations, such as square bottles with a bowed front or bottles with bevelled corners.

Square spirit bottles are readily available in 700ml and 1litre sizes. Other sizes are also available but these are less common. Flint is the most common colour, but bottles are also available in green. Predominantly screw top closures are used, but cork closures are available.

Rectangular bottles are used for a wide range of spirits. There are some classic shapes and styles associated with certain spirits (e.g. the distinctive book shape gin bottles) but there are many generic rectangular bottles available for use with any spirits. Dimensions vary considerably, but for a 70cl spirit bottle the base dimensions are typically in the range of 70-79mm by 80-90mm, and height of the bottle is typically in the range of 220-280mm, depending on the bottle base dimensions, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck. Book shape bottles are a particular size of rectangular bottle, with base dimensions of approximately 98mm by 61mm.
70cl rectangular spirit bottles are readily available. Other sizes are also available but these are less common. Flint is the most common colour, but bottles are also available in green and amber. Predominantly screw top closures are used, but cork closures are available.
Figure 7: Example of typical oval spirits bottle shown with a screw top closure

Oval bottles are used for a wide range of spirits. They are very similar to rectangular bottles, but with rounded ends. There are many generic stock square bottles available for use with any spirits. Dimensions vary considerably. For a 70cl spirit bottle examples of base dimensions include variations between 89mm by 68mm to 158mm by 59mm. Height of the bottle is also highly variable, usually within the range of 200-340mm, depending very much on the bottle base dimensions and also the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Oval spirit bottles are readily available in 500ml, 700ml and 750ml sizes. Other sizes are also available but these are less common. Flint is the most common colour and predominantly screw top closures are used, but cork closures are available.

Figure 8: Example of typical flask spirits bottle shown with a screw top closure

Flasks have a very distinctive curved shape when viewed from above or below, which makes them comfortable to hold. They are typically used for smaller volumes of product, and are readily available in 200ml and 350ml sizes. Other sizes are available right up to 70cl, but these are less common.

Flasks are used for a wide range of spirits. There are many generic stock square bottles available for use with any spirits but dimensions vary. For a 350ml spirit bottle examples of base dimensions include variations between 43mm by 86mm to 45mm by 90mm. Height of the bottle is also variable, usually within the range of 190-205mm, depending on the bottle base dimensions and also the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck. Flint is the most common colour and predominantly screw top closures are used, but cork closures are available.
Beer, ale, cider and perry bottles
There are three basic bottle shapes used for these alcoholic beverages:

- Traditional (short neck) beer bottle
- Longneck bottle
- Stubbie

Figure 9: Example of (left to right) traditional, longneck and stubbie bottles used for beer, ale, cider and perry, all shown with crown closures

Traditional beer or ale
Traditional beer or ale bottles are available in flint, amber or green. They are mostly used for beer and ale, but there are examples of them being used for cider and perry.

The shoulders of the bottle are usually rounded. Crown closures are most common, but screw top closures are available. Dimensions vary, but for a 500ml container the diameter is usually in the range of 65-75mm. Height of the bottle is typically in the range of 235-260mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Traditional beer or ale bottles are readily available in 330ml and 500ml sizes. They can also be found in the 660ml sharing bottle size. Further sizes may also be available but these are less common.

Longneck
Longneck bottles are available in flint, amber or green. They are regularly used for beer, ale, cider and perry.

The shoulders of the bottle may be rounded or slightly sloping and the neck is elongated. Crown closures are most common, but screw top closures and swing tops are also available. Dimensions vary, but for a 500ml container the diameter is usually in the range of 65-70mm. Height of the bottle
is typically in the range of 225-280mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.

Longneck bottles are readily available in 250ml, 275ml, 330ml and 500ml sizes. They are also available in the 660ml and 750ml sharing bottle sizes. Further sizes may also be available but these are less common.

**Stubbie**
A stubbie is shorter and flatter than standard bottles. Available in flint, amber or green, they are regularly used for lager-type beers in smaller sizes, in particular 250ml and 330ml sizes. Other sizes are available, but these are less common.

As the name suggests, the neck of the bottle is shortened. Crown closures are most common, but screw top closures are also available. Dimensions vary, but for a 250ml container the diameter is usually in the range of 56-60mm. Height of the bottle is typically in the range of 146-185mm, depending on the bottle width, the height of the shoulders and the length of the neck.