



Cool and collected

If you have a growing collection of fine wine, but have nowhere suitable to store it, JOSIE BUTCHART has a simple answer: get a wine cabinet

THAT precious case of Haut-Brion has been languishing under the stairs since it arrived from the bonded warehouse six weeks ago. The time to find a more permanent home, so it can mature and develop undisturbed, is long overdue. But finding the ideal spot for your wine at home can be a mind-bending exercise.

Most wine lovers would prefer to have at least some of their collection close at hand for spontaneous celebrations, but many modern houses don't have cellars, and with central heating systems all too pervasive, your best bottles won't last long unless a suitable location is found.

If a basement cellar isn't an option, a wine storage cabinet, complete with

temperature and humidity controls, is the next best thing. Such cabinets come in various sizes and are one of the more economical ways to create cellar conditions, making the most of any spare corner. Most can cope with ambient temperatures as low as -5°C , allowing any redundant areas, such as the garage, to be transformed for wine storage. The added advantage is that, unlike a wine cellar, you can take a cabinet with you when you move.

TEMPERATURE

The good news is that for long-term ageing, one storage temperature suits all types of wine. Think of a traditional stone cellar, where all the wine would be at one

