

# **HOW TO RE-HYDRATE** **DRY/HARD CORKS**

Your corks need to be only soft enough to be useable in your corker.

If too dry, they can crack and are very hard to insert into your bottle.

***But, can they be too soft/moist?***

**The answer, is a big *yes!***

**Too moisturized is far worse than a bit too dry.**

Here's why:

- Corks are a terrific seal because they have “expandability”. Compress an inch, expand an inch.
- They need to be just “slightly compressible”. This is exactly 5% - 8% moisture content.
- Above 5% - 8% moisture, the cork cells become over-hydrated, waterlogged and fully expanded.
- If over-hydrated, they lose their ability to expand and contract.
- If over-hydrated, they become hard to remove, cracking and breaking apart.

**How to re-hydrate your corks to the perfect 5% - 8%:**

- Use Clean Corks (dust and dirt free).
- Add ***Distilled Water*** (**no sulfite**)

- Add .4 ml / 10 corks
- Add 4.0 ml / 100 corks
- Add 40.0 ml / 1,000 corks

- Seal in plastic.
- Wait 2-7 days for corks to rehydrate.