Wine Cork Mouse

Because you needed a reason to pop open a bottle.

You need:
- 2 wine corks
- Wire, such as paperclips
- Box cutter or exact-o knife
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun (optional but recommended) or other glue
- Things to decorate, such as markers, sewing pins, pieces of felt, etc.

1. Plug in your hot glue gun and place at a safe distance.
2. Using your box cutter, very carefully cut two rounds from the end of one wine cork. This works best by placing the blade and moving the cork under it.
3. Decide where you want your ears to be on the second cork, and use your blade to cut notches on top. We will be gluing the ears in place but this makes it much easier.
4. Straighten two paper clips. Wrap one end into a circle, for a foot. (I wrapped mine around a pencil.) Fold the circle so it is bent at the "ankle." Use your scissors to cut each clip in half; set aside the other half.
   Being aware of which side is the face of your mouse, poke the legs into the bottom of the cork. If you are careful, you can make your mouse stand up, but I thought it was just as cute sitting down.
5. Unbend another paper clip and make it into a squiggly shape. Push into the back of the cork, at the bottom, for a tail.
6. The other two half paperclips will be the mouse's arms. Remember that the top half of the cork is your mouse's head; you want to push these wires into the sides of the mouse at a little bit below the halfway point, one on each side of the cork.
7. Using your hot glue gun, place a small glob of glue into one of the notches on top of your mouse's head, and push a cork slice in for an ear. Repeat with other ear.
8. Your mouse is almost complete! If using a straight pin for a nose, carefully push it in as far as you can. You can draw eyes with marker, glue on googly eyes, tie a little felt scarf, use extra wire to make tiny glasses, give him an eensy bit of paper cheese—this mouse can be anything you want him to be!