

# A Long-Term Survival Guide - Hidden Storage and Secret Compartments:

(A Brief Guide)



Can Safes: Nowadays you can buy fake cans with hidden storage, that mimic many common consumer goods. These hideouts for your valuables are known as distraction safes, because they pretend to be common items.



A can safe could look like any type of canned goods, even pet food.



Some can safes are designed to look like beverage bottles, with liquid inside.



Almost any small object can contain a hidden storage area, like these fake candles,



Or this hollow plastic lettuce (designed to lurk in your crisper).



This sugar dispenser is very realistic.



Tiny Storage: These small items have tiny compartments, but they get the job done; just don't throw them away!  
Shown here are a fake battery and cigarette lighter, with enough space inside to hold bills or pills.



I like this fake lawn sprinkler, and who would look twice at a broken car cigarette lighter?



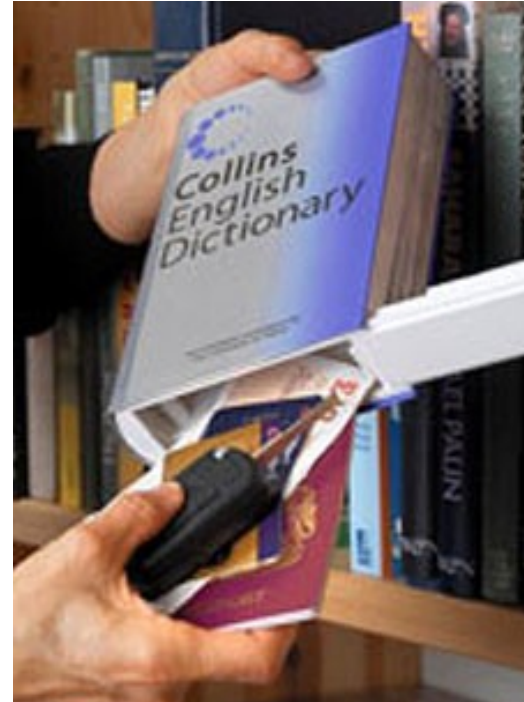
I keep all of my diamonds hidden inside fake bolts, like this one.



Another fun hideout is this fake power strip. The on / off switch lights up when it is plugged in.

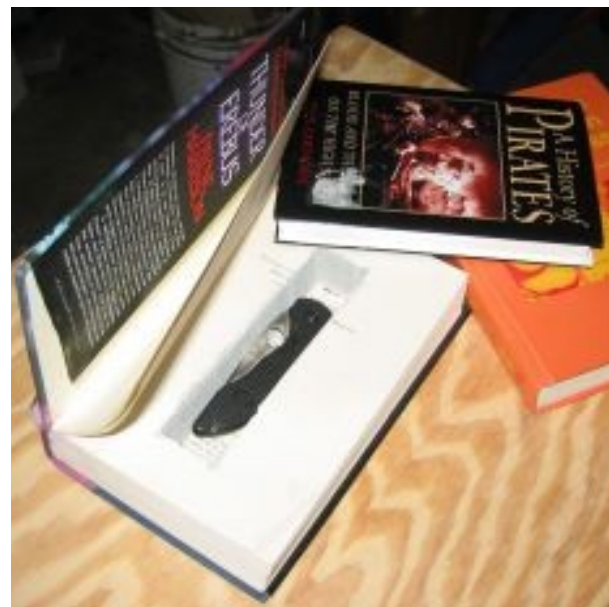


These shoes have small compartments in the soles, and will hide your cash on the street, or in your closet.

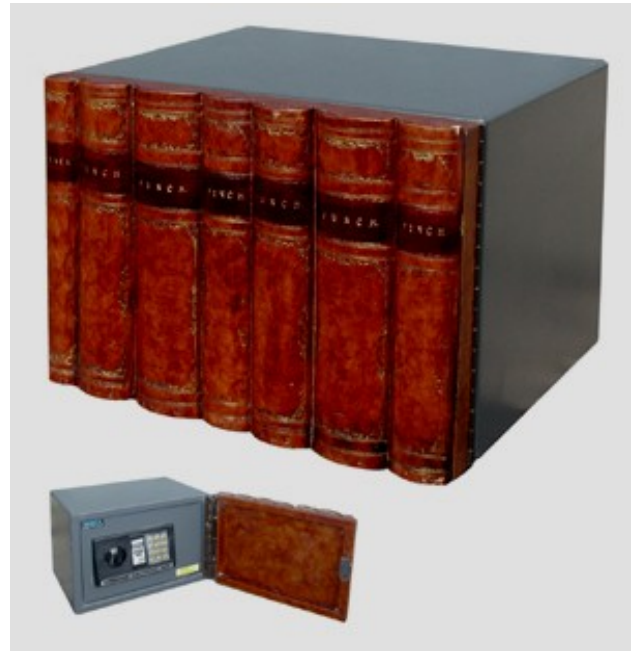


Book Safes: Real or fake books can have storage compartments, and ordinary books have also been used to hide paper money, documents, and maps, just by stashing them between the pages, under the book jacket, or behind a torn lining..

Messages have been hidden in books in a number of ways, such as by writing on the pages, circling, underlining, or highlighting words or numbers, cutting out holes in a sheet of paper (that reveals a message when laid over the correct page) and many other types of book codes.



Any book can be hollowed out, to conceal weapons, valuables, or contraband.



Multiple books (or similar objects) can be glued together to form larger storage compartments, or false fronts.



Here is a fake video tape, with storage inside. Since tapes are fast becoming obsolete, one of these mixed with a few real old tapes in a battered cardboard box (marked home movies, or anything similar) will never be stolen.



Here is a working clock, with hidden storage, and a wall thermometer, with a small hidden compartment.



This clock is large enough to hold a pistol, with room left over for ammo.



I like this clock, which makes clever use of space to fit a handgun inside.



This shelf has a secret drawer built inside.



This hollow picture frame conceals enough space to hide a variety of valuables.



This picture frame has room for a pistol, and a variety of accessories.





A hinged picture is used here, to hide a medicine cabinet sized wall niche.



Any other picture, or similar object (like the noteboard on the right), can cover a hidden wall space, or wall safe.



Wall safes have flat fronts, and many are designed to fit between existing wall studs, for easy installation.



This Picture frame is large enough to hold a compact assault rifle.

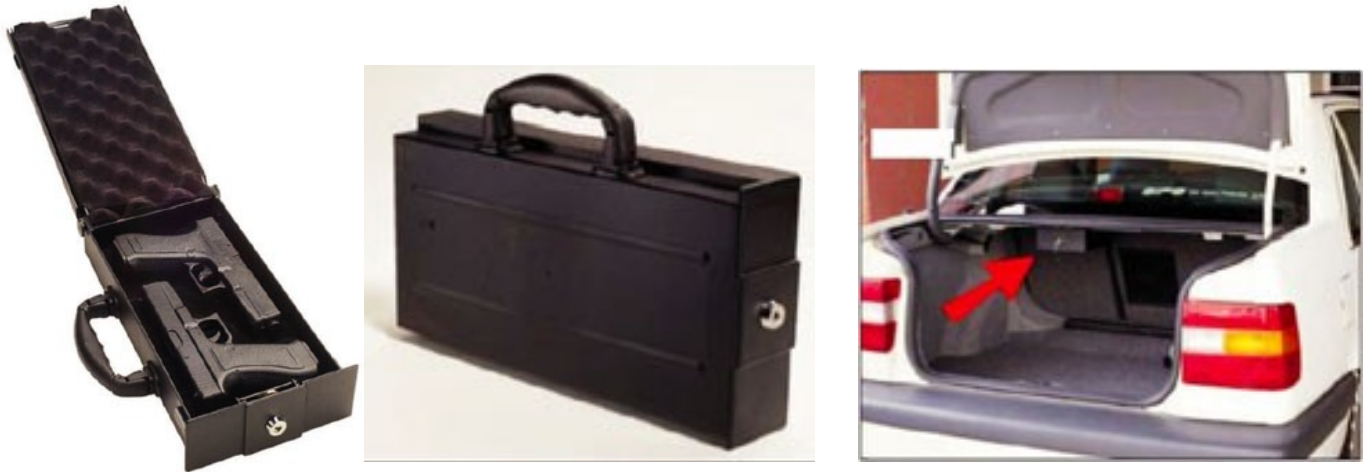


The storage space has plenty of extra room for ammo and accessories.



This hidden gun storage unit can also be mounted upright, if desired.

Caches In Vehicles: A car or truck can also be equipped with hiding places for guns or other valuables.



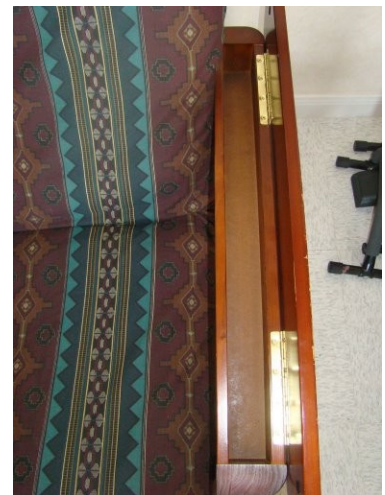
Lock Box: This is one type of lock box, that is suitable for mounting inside a vehicle.



Truck Vault: These vaults are large drawer safes, designed to mount in the cargo beds of SUVs.



False-Bottom Box: Any box, chest, or similar container can have a (shallow) storage area, under a false bottom.



This couch has concealed storage spaces hidden inside each arm-rest.



The entire base of this bed is actually one large hidden storage area.



A variation of the false-bottom box is furniture with a false-bottom drawer, or a hidden drawer, like this example.



The top of this dresser can be slid forward, to reveal a secret space behind the top drawer.



This bed frame conceals a clever hidden storage drawer.



The storage drawer will hold several long guns, or lots of smaller items.



Gun storage cabinets can be disguised to look like curio cabinets, with the guns hiding behind false fronts.



Here is another type of hidden gun storage cabinet, based on the same principle as the first example.



False Vents: Fake heat or air conditioning vents can conceal storage compartments, and so can other fake utility covers, such as electrical outlets, drains, gas main covers, circuit breaker boxes, false pipes, or fake water heaters.



Floor Safes: Floor safes come in several styles. This example is designed to fit between floor joists.



Some floor safes, like this one are made to be set into solid concrete floors.





Bookcases are traditional places to build hidden doorways, that lead to concealed rooms, or secret passages.



The pegboard at the back of this broom closet hides the door to a large gun safe.



Hidden Doors: Walls with sections of wooden panels make excellent places to conceal a doorway.



A built-in bookcase is another good candidate for a secret entrance to a hidden room.



Here is another secret door, that is masked by a built-in bookcase.



This hidden room (cut open to reveal the inside), was reached through a hidden panel, at the back of the cabinet.



This small staircase lifts up on hydraulic arms, to reveal a hidden room underneath.



Trap Doors: A trap door is an easy-to-hide entrance to a secret space; just cover with a throw rug, to conceal it.



Trap doors are usually made in corners and closets, where people are less likely to walk over them.



A traditional way to hide a trap door is to cover it with a rug, then place some heavy furniture on top.



Who says a trap door has to be inside a building? These tunnel entrances are easily covered by leaves, or dirt.



An outdoor trap door can lead to a small storage space, or an entire underground shelter.



This trap door leads to a private cave, with almost unlimited storage space.

## Underground Storage Caches:



Cache containers shown are 12 inch pvc pipe with end caps, plastic 55 gal drum, 120mm ammo can, and 50 cal ammo cans.

These cache containers are weather-proof, and can be buried directly in the ground, in strategic locations.



Smaller PVC pipe caches can hold things like ammo, gold and silver coins, swords, or gun barrels.



Fake Boulders: This giant boulder in the back yard is actually a fiberglass fake, with hidden storage inside.



Some fake boulders are really large hinged boxes, like this one, which is four feet high.



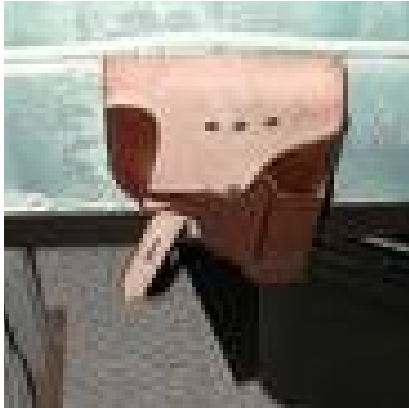
Other fake boulders have open bottoms, to cover unsightly outdoor items, but they could also hide valuables.



Are these women really strong, or are they placing a fake rock treasure chest?



## Bedside Weapon Hiding Places:



Any surplus gun holster can be secured to your mattress or bed frame, to keep a handgun within reach.



A plastic or metal square, bent 90 degrees to make an L shape, can be slipped between your mattress and bed springs, then weapons and other items can be held in place by Velcro strips, as shown in these examples.



This rack slips between the mattress and bed frame, and lets you keep a long gun handy, alongside your bed.