

Suggested Ways of Installing In-Floor Safes

Concrete Installation Enhances Resistance to Burglar and Fire Hazards

Choose to do-it yourself with installations for the handyman; or, contact a carpenter for installation service. Either way you'll want to invest in an in-floor safe. The following are four common methods used:

Concrete Floor (permanent)

The basement floor is recommended because of its relative remoteness and heat-dissipating properties.

Position the safe with the bolts facing a wall or other obstruction to hinder use of attack tools. With a star drill and sledgehammer produce an opening in the floor and approximately 3 to 6 inches longer and wider than the safe. Remove dirt to a depth 3 inches greater than safe height. Undercut the floor slab to increase holding strength.

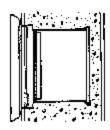


To avoid soiling the safe and obstructing its locking mechanism, seal the unit in a plastic trash bag before pouring cement. Mix a 3 to 1 aggregate of Portland Cement. If available, bolster mixture with any commercial adhesive concrete additive. Pour 3 to 6 inches of cement into the hole and position the safe so its top is 1 to 2 inches above the floor surface. (Flush or recessed installations are recommended) if the safe is to be hidden under carpeting.) Pour cement up to 3 inches from top of hole and place rebar around safe. Fill remainder of hole with cement and finish top to match floor surface. When dry, trim excess plastic bag from safe.

(The process described above is for retrofit installations. When building a new home, it is recommended that the safe be installed at the time basement concrete is poured.)

Concrete Walls (permanent)

Use same guidelines as floor installations. To negate counterbalance spring effect in door hinge, clip spring ends at the point at which they enter the hole in the safe body prior to installation. Cover hole with a zinc plug button. Before installation, double check spring condition.



Decorator Half-Barrel or Coffee Table (portable)

A desirable and effective home installation because it allows the safe to be transported when moving from one home to another even thought it is too heavy to be moved by burglars. Cement is poured into container per guidelines for concrete floor installation. Careful installations can completely camouflage the safe.



Chest Encasement (portable)

Like barrel or coffee table installations, however, the safe can be positioned precisely to physical or operational requirements. Unit can also be tilted to facilitate easier access.

