In-the-Floor Safe Installation Recommendations

You have taken an important step in protecting your valuables with the purchase of this in-floor safe. Because of installation variables due to home or office construction/design, there is no one correct method to install your safe. How you install your safe is just as important as the decision to purchase your safe and the installation instructions below will help guide you through this process.

Please note that the ability of a safe to deter theft is a function of the time a burglar has to work on the safe as well as the tools used. Generally, burglars seek quick and easy targets for theft and your safe will present a formidable challenge. Therefore, installing your safe in a concrete floor offers the maximum degree of burglary protection.

Plan Ahead: Make sure there are no underground electrical, plumbing, heating, telephone, or other wires present in the location where the safe is to be installed.

Important: If the safe is to be located in an area where a high water table may exist, or moisture could be present at a future time, the external application of tar or heavy gauge plastic wrap should be used to cover the outside body of the safe. The procedure is recommended regardless of conditions. *Most floor safes are not water tight or water proof. Important articles should be placed in watertight containers in case of flooding from broken water pipes or water from a fire hose.* When installed in a concrete floor, with minimum of (3) inches of concrete on each side and bottom, this safe will give you some degree of untested fire/heat protection.

Although it is possible to install most floor safes yourself, we recommend a qualified safe installer or contractor do the work.

NOTE: FOLLOW THESE STEPS BEFORE INSTALLING THE SAFE:

1. Always work the combination at least six (6) times to become familiar with the operation of the safe before installing it or placing valuables in it.
2. Prior to installations, all models should have “dust covers” or lids on and sealed with masking tape to prevent water or cement from entering the safe during installation.
3. Forty-eight (48) hours of cement drying time is recommended prior to use.

EXISTING CONCRETE FLOOR INSTALLATION:

Measure the outside dimension of the safe body and add four (4) inches to ensure enough room for installation of concrete around the body of the safe. Layout and score the area for installation. Use an electric jack hammer to break through the existing concrete to the desired size. After the concrete is removed, dig out the hole to accommodate the safe. Make the hole at least three (3) inches deeper than the safe size. Pour enough concrete in the bottom of the hole to form a firm base for the safe to set on level. Insert the safe on top of the concrete base. Finish filling the hole with cement and add any reinforcement necessary to maintain position. Finish off concrete level with the floor. Make sure the top of the safe is kept level with the floor.

WOOD FLOOR INSTALLATION:

Build a retaining form of wood or a mesh wire basket lined with roofing paper and attach to the floor joists, between the floor and the ground. Cut a hole in the floor and set the safe using the same directions as noted above for concrete floor installation. Reinforce joists as necessary to compensate for weight. If a wood form is used, remove wood after cement is set to prevent pests from traveling into your structure.

NEW CONCRETE FLOOR:

Dig the ground to provide a form as in the concrete floor installation noted above. Put the safe into position in live concrete and adjust to proper level, etc. prior to finishing of the floor. It is better and recommended to “block out” a hole for the safe, leaving four (4) inches of room on each side to be installed. Install the safe after the walls and roof are up to eliminate climate damage.