

# Locked and Unloaded Secure Firearm Storage



## Before You Begin

- Before you secure the firearm with a locking device, make sure it is not loaded.
- You should store ammunition in a locked container separate from the firearm.
- If you cannot safely ensure that the firearm is not loaded, do not touch the firearm and contact local law enforcement or a trusted individual that can assist you with securing your firearm.
- Enrolling in a firearm safety course can ensure that you are educated in all aspects regarding the handling and secure storage of firearms. For a list of local firearm safety courses and other firearm safety materials, scan this QR code to visit the [Clinton County Health Department's website](https://www.clintoncountyhealthdept.com).



<https://bit.ly/4utGWMX>

## Warning

No single lock will fit all firearms. If the lock does not fit your firearm, contact the manufacturer of your firearm to find out the type of lock recommended for it. A local firearms retailer or law enforcement agency can help as well.

## Firearm-Related Terms

Several terms will be used throughout this handout to describe parts of different firearms. If you are unaware of any of these terms, we recommend scanning this QR code or visit the [Association of Health Care Journalists' Firearm Violence Glossary](https://www.aahcjournalists.org/glossary) for a description of these terms.



<https://bit.ly/4rtmWra>

## Trigger Locks

(Video demonstrations are available online.)

**Lock and Key:** Separate the lock into two pieces using the key provided with the lock. Next, insert the cylinder through the trigger guard behind the trigger so the trigger cannot be pulled. Then attach the second piece of the lock and remove the key.

**Combination:** Separate the lock into two pieces by entering the number combination and flipping the locking mechanism switch. Next, insert the cylinder through the trigger guard behind the trigger so the trigger cannot be pulled. Then attach the second piece of the lock and flip the locking mechanism switch to the locked position.



Trigger Lock in a Rifle



Trigger Lock in a Shotgun



Trigger Lock in a Pistol

## Cable Locks

(Video demonstrations are available online.)

To unlock the cable, turn the padlock's key to the furthest position and pull on either side of the cable (only one will release from the padlock). Follow the steps for the specific firearm below. Then, to lock the cable, insert the loose end of the cable back into the padlock. With the cable inserted, turn the key opposite of the way you turned it when unlocking and remove the key. Verify that the cable is seated in the proper, locked position.

### Autoloading Pistols

Remove the magazine and move the slide back into its locked position. Insert the cable downward through the ejection port so that it feeds out through the magazine well.



### Revolvers

Release/open to expose the cylinder. Insert the cable through either the barrel or the empty cylinder chamber.



### Autoloading and Pump Action Shotguns

Slide action back into locked, open position. Insert the cable through the ejection port and down (out) through the loading port.



### Autoloading and Bolt Action Rifles

Remove the magazine and place the action into the open/locked position (you may also choose to remove the bolt in a bolt-action rifle). Insert the cable through the ejection port and down (out) through either the receiver assembly or the magazine well.

OR:

Remove the bolt from the rifle. Insert the cable through the ejection port and out through the end of the receiver assembly.



### Lever Action Rifles

Empty the magazine, place the lever in the closed position and wrap or intertwine the cable around both the stock and the lever to prevent the lever from being cycled.

