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Make your trashcan bear-resistant



Before you can modify your trashcan to be more resistant from bears using the following methods, turn it on its side and stand on it. If the can collapses or the lid bends easily, modifications will not keep a bear out. Also, be sure to contact your waste service provider to ask if they will service a modified can. For a permanent solution, ask your waste service provider for a commercially manufactured bear-resistant trashcan. **Trash should be kept secure until the morning of pickup.**

These methods work for a variety of cans, but before buying materials, check your specific can dimensions and adjust construction materials as appropriate.

NOTE: These designs may not stop bears from accessing your garbage.

Hasp Design

Materials and Tools Needed:

- (1) Heavy-duty Trashcan
- (18) #10 Nuts
- (18) #10-24 x 3/4" or 1" Long Machine Screws
- (18) #10 Washers
- (2) Steel Fixed Eye Double Hinged Hasps*
- Wrench
- (2) Small-sized Carabineers (Turn-lock Style Preferred)
- Power Drill
- (2) 9" Lengths of Steel Chain
- 3/16" Drill Bit
- (links large enough to fit carabineers)

(*If wood screws come in the hasp package, replace them with machine screws.)



1. Pre-drill 3/16" holes for the hasp hinge in the two top, front corners (A) of the body of the can.

NOTE: Some models of cans may be better adapted to apply the hasps to the two top, side corners (B).

2. Screw the hinge onto the base of the can with machine screws through the pre-drilled holes. On the back of each machine screw place a washer then a nut. Tighten all nuts so the hinge does not move.



3. Lay the hinge over the lid to mark the best position for the eye of the hasp. Make sure the hinge can be locked and unlocked easily. Pre-drill 3/16" holes in the marked spots on the lid of the can for the hasp eye.

4. Attach the eye of the hasp onto the lid with machine screws through the pre-drilled holes. On the back of each machine screw, place a washer then tighten on a nut so the hasp eye does not move.

5. Repeat steps 2-4 on the other front corner of the can.

6. Fold the hinges over the can lip and use carabineers through the hasp eye to secure can contents.

7. Use one screw, nut, and washer to attach one end of 9" chain (not pictured) to the can body near one hasp. Run a carabineer through the last

link on the opposite end of the chain to prevent the carabineer from getting lost. Repeat the process near the second the hasp.

Instructional video: <https://vimeo.com/327273075>

Alternative Designs:

A) Reverse application of hasps so the eye is on the can body, instead of the lid.

B) Apply (1) hasp on all four corners or two on the front and one on each side.



4 Strap Design

See front page for important notes before completing this modification.

Materials and Tools Needed:

- (1) Heavy-duty Trashcan
- (16) #10 Washers
- (8) #10-24 x $\frac{3}{4}$ " (L) Machine Screws
- (8) #10-24 Lock Nuts
- (4) 4" (L) x 1" Nylon Webbing (1000 lb. rating)*
- (4) 10" (L) x 1" Nylon Webbing (1000 lb. rating)*
- (4) 1" PS22 Plastic Side Release Buckles (300 lb. rating)
- *Marker*
- *Wrench*
- *Awl*
- *Power Drill*
- *$\frac{3}{16}$ " Drill Bit*
- *Flame (*SEAL ENDS AFTER INSERTING INTO BUCKLE COMPONENTS TO PREVENT FRAYING)*

1. Pre-drill (4) $\frac{3}{16}$ " holes in the top of the **lid** of the can at locations A-D for the webbing and male part of the buckle. The holes should be on flat areas of the lid.
2. Slide (1) 4" piece of webbing through the slot on the male part of the buckle, then fold the webbing over on itself and ensure the cut ends are even with one another and seal each end.*
3. Place the webbing over one of the pre-drilled holes in the lid $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the cut ends of the webbing. Then pass the awl through the doubled over webbing and pre-drilled hole to create a hole for (1) screw in the webbing.
4. Place (1) washer on (1) screw and pass the screw through the hole in the doubled over webbing and the pre-drilled hole in the upper surface of the can lid with the buckle end hanging over the edge of the lid.
5. Place (1) washer on the end of the screw and secure with (1) lock nut on the underside of the lid.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 for the three remaining pre-drilled lid holes.
7. Slide (1) 10" piece of webbing through the slot on the female part of the buckle, then fold the webbing over on itself and ensure the cut ends are even with one another and seal each end.*
8. Pass the awl through the doubled over webbing $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the cut ends to create a hole for (1) screw.
9. Fasten the female part of the buckle to the male part of the buckle already attached to the lid.
10. Gently grasp the cut ends of the webbing with the female part of the buckle attached and pull downwards on the webbing with it touching the outside of the can body to determine where to pre-drill holes in the body of the can for the attachment of the female part of the buckle's webbing.
NOTE: The strap should be snug enough to prevent a bear from accessing the inside of the can, but not so tight the buckle cannot be fastened. When construction is complete, no more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap should be present when the buckle is fastened and upward force is applied to the lid.
11. Mark the location of the pre-punched hole in the webbing on the body of the can with a marker.
12. Pre-drill a $\frac{3}{16}$ " hole in the body of the can at marked location.
13. Place (1) washer on (1) screw and pass the screw through the pre-punched hole in the doubled over webbing and pre-drilled hole in the body of the can.
14. Apply (1) washer on the end of the screw and secure with (1) lock nut on the inside of the can.
15. Repeat steps 12 - 15 for the remaining three strap locations.



Design adapted from Jim Durocher. Jim's instructional video can be found on YouTube @ [JimTheKayakGuy](#). For more information on how to live BearWise, please visit [MyFWC.com/Bear](#).