

# Vault Pro Modular Shelter/Walk in Vault Overview & Installation Instructions

#### **OVERVIEW**

Vault Pro Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults are built for a lifetime of convenient use and provide a secure space for just about anything that needs safe keeping and protection from natural disasters, fire (when fireproofed) and theft. All Vault Pro Walk-in Vaults and Modular Shelters are built to meet and exceed FEMA 320, 361 and ICC 500 recommended standards and specifications. Vault Pro Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults include Vault Pro Vault Doors designed to be opened and operated securely from the outside using digital lock or rotating dial lock (if ordered) and

5-Prong Handle. All Vault Pro Vault Doors will allow occupants out from the inside, bypassing the lock using a manually operated Internal Release.

The following is a general instruction for installing, operating and maintaining your modular shelter or walk in vault. These are recommended general guidelines only. Locally accepted construction processes and procedures should be followed to ensure the ultimate lifetime of Walk-in Vaults and Modular Shelters installed on concrete slabs and some wooden floors so long as they are weight rated to exceed the weight of the shelter or vault.

Application Note: Vault Pro Modular Shelters and Walk-in Vaults, are intended for both commercial and residential building applications. Temperature variations between indoor and outdoor temperatures and humidity levels may cause condensation. Resulting condensation may become exacerbated in residential type applications. Environments with excessive moist, hot air are more susceptible to condensation, especially during winter months with colder temperatures. Proper ventilation, Air Conditioning and Dehumidifiers can be integrated in order to limit moisture and condensation.

### **INSTALLATION**

Vault Pro Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults are designed to be installed on flat and level concrete slabs of four inches or greater. Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults can be installed on concrete slabs less than four inches and some wood supported floors using different anchoring hardware only where the floor is weight rated to exceed the weight of the Shelter or Vault, its contents, and personnel.



# Tools and supplies required to complete installation (not included):

- A. Drill/Hammer Drill
- B. ½" concrete drill bit
- C. ½" diameter x 3" or 4" wedge anchors
- D. Alignment Tool or spike end prybar (not required for One-Piece units)
- E. Prybar (flat end, 2' or longer)
- F. Ratchet and ¾" deep socket.
- G. Box end wrench ¾" or adjustable wrench
- H. Level (two foot minimum)
- I. String Line (only on modular shelters/vaults)
- J. Fire-Calking or High Temperature Silicone
- K. Shims (steel or composite...wood not recommended)
- L. Rags (soft cotton or terrycloth)
- M. Materials Lift ("Small Piece Room/Shelter" only)

# Vault Pro builds three different types of Walk-In Vaults and Storm Shelters:

Please read all instructions before beginning.

- 1. One-Piece Room/Shelter, where ceiling and door are already assembled to room and there are no additional structural pieces to bolt together or assemble (both fireproof and non-fireproof).
- 2. Large Section Modular Rooms/Shelter, usually with the ceiling attached to each section and one or more of the sections will have the door (s) or escape hatch (s) attached (both fireproof and non-fireproof).
- 3. Small Piece Modular Rooms/Shelter, usually with panels that include uprights and ceiling panels that are separate as well as the door and escape hatches (both fireproof and non-fireproof).



#### One-Piece Walk-In Vault and Storm Shelter Installation

If Vault Room/Shelter is "One Piece": Set Shelter in place where it will be anchored to the ground and skip to "Anchoring" section of instructions.

# Large Section Modular Room/Shelter Installation

- 1. If room is "Large Section" with ceiling attached to each section: Start first by setting the back piece in place where it will ultimately be anchored to the ground.
  - a. If vault/shelter is fireproof or if you require a sealed or airtight room, run a thick bead (1/4" to 1/2") of fire-calking or high temperature silicone along the seam where the flanges are to press together and seal before bolting adjoining sections/panels together. This step is repeated for each section until room is completely assembled.
- 2. Set the next or adjoining piece in place. Bolt together using grade 8 bolts and locking nuts (provided).
  - a. Bolt together loosely at first until all bolts and locking nuts are in place, then tighten all bolts and locking nuts firmly together.
- 3. Repeat step two until all pieces are firmly bolted together and sealed (if required).
- 4. Using string along the inside of the vault/shelter, ensure that each wall is straight and aligned.
- 5. Skip to "Anchoring" section of instruction.

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## Small Piece Modular Room/Shelter Installation

- 1. If room is "Small Piece" with separate uprights, ceiling panels and vault door (s): All pieces are numbered and correspond to numbered CAD Drawing provided with the room/shelter.
- 2. Start by sealing (if required) and then adjoining two upright panels together (Starting in the back and at a corner is recommended but not necessary).



- a. If vault/shelter is fireproof or if you require a sealed or airtight room, run a thick bead (1/4" to 1/2") of fire-calking or high temperature silicone along the seam where the upright panel flanges are to press together and seal before bolting adjoining sections/panels together. This step is repeated for each upright section/panel until room upright sections/panels are completely assembled.
- 3. Repeat step two until all upright pieces are firmly bolted together and sealed (if required).
- 4. Set ceiling panels in place starting with the back pieces first, moving forward or toward door as required until all ceiling panels are in place.
  - a. If vault/shelter is fireproof or if you require a sealed or airtight room, run a thick bead (1/4" to 1/2") of fire-calking or high temperature silicone along the seams where the ceiling flanges are to press together and seal before bolting adjoining sections/panels together. This step is repeated for each ceiling section/panel until room is completely assembled.
- 5. Bolt together all ceiling sections/panels, loosely at first until all bolts and locking nuts are in place, then tighten all bolts and locking nuts firmly together.
- 6. Set Vault Door (s) and Escape Hatches in place and bolt to upright sections/panels and overhead sections/panels with grade 8 bolts and locking nuts provided.
  - a. If vault/shelter is fireproof or if you require a sealed or airtight room, run a thick bead (1/4" to 1/2") of fire-calking or high temperature silicone along the seams where the vault door flanges are to press together with the upright and overhead sections/panels and seal.
- 7. Using string on along the inside of the vault/shelter, ensure that each wall is straight and aligned.

## **Anchoring**

There is a 5/8" anchor hole punched every twelve inches around the inside perimeter of Vault Pro Walk-in Vaults/Shelters. Vault Pro Walk-in Vaults/Shelters are designed to be anchored to a concrete slab using one half inch diameter anchors with a minimum length of three inches. Four-inch or longer anchors are recommended if your slab is greater than 5" thick and able to accommodate them. Longer anchors provide more hold down strength and are advisable where able to be used.

Tip: Don't drill all the way thru a slab of concrete. Leave at least one inch of concrete below the drilled hole in order to avoid moisture issues coming up from below the slab.

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- 1. In order to ensure proper operation of doors & hatches, you will need to level the vault/shelter using shims underneath the bottom flange (between the bottom flange and the concrete slab).
- 2. Once properly leveled, begin drilling and setting wedge anchors loosely at first until all are set then tighten until firm.
  - a. Avoid overtightening anchors as it will have a tendency to bend the bottom bolt down flange out of shape.
- 3. Using fire calking or high temperature silicone, seal vault/shelter bolt down flange to the slab around the inside of unit.
- 4. Using fire calking or high temperature silicone, seal vault door threshold to the slab both inside and outside to ensure complete seal to slab or floor.
  - a. Seal vault/shelter around the outside to the slab if accessible.
- 5. Wipe down and clean all accessible surfaces of vault/shelter and door using mild soap and soft or dishwashing detergent and cotton or terrycloth rag.

#### **GROUNDING**

For the safety of its occupants, it is recommended that all Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults are properly electrically grounded. It is recommended that an electrician is used to ensure proper grounding.

#### **OPERATION**

Vault Pro Modular Shelters and Walk-In Vaults are designed and built for years of dependable security and are easily assessable with a vault door that includes either a rotating dial lock or digital lock. See "Vault Door Operation" as well as "Lock Operation" information for more details.

The basic components for door operation include Lock, Internal Release, 5-Prong Handle and Palusol Gasket (s).

Locks: While most modular shelters and walk-in vaults include a Digital Lock for fast
access, Vault Pro also uses rotating dial locks, direct drive locks, redundant & blue tooth
access locks, biometric and other assorted high quality locks, you will need to refer to
the lock information that was provided with the vault door in order to ensure proper
operation and combination change information.



- Internal Release: Internal release bypasses the lock in order to retract and extend
  locking bolts to accommodate interior locking and unlocking options from inside of the
  modular shelter or walk-in vault.
- **5-Prong Handle**: The 5-Prong Handle allows you to extend the locking bolts in to the locked position and retract the locking bolts into the door in order to open the door once the lock is properly accessed and unlocked.
- Palusol® Gasket (s): Palusol Gaskets are adhesive backed and create a fire-resistant seal between the door and door frame when closed.

# **MAINTENANCE**

- Vault Doors should be manually operated once a year to check performance.
- Lubricate moving parts such as locking bolts with a silicone spray lubricant as required to maintain smooth operation and opening and closing of the door. Do not over lubricate. Do not use regular lubricating oil as it can attract dust and grit.
- Non-moving parts can be cleaned with a mild soap or dishwashing detergent and water solution.
- Gaskets can be cleaned with a clean, damp, lint-free cloth. Do not apply mineral oils, vinyl dressings, or other lubricants to the gasket as they can cause the gasket to break down over time.
- If any questions arise during the operation or maintenance of the products, please feel free to call Vault Pro, Inc. at 800-299-6929.

Follow the maintenance instructions to ensure the long life and warranty of the product. Contact Vault Pro for information on replacing damaged parts.