

We all know that when it comes to food storage, space can be an issue as well as trying to keep track of what you have and how much more you need. (Not to mention trying to keep straight what is the oldest so you can use it first.) Here are a few suggestions that may help out.

Rotation Ideas:

Rotating Shelves: Pre-fabricated shelves can be bought with pre-drilled holes so you can adjust the height of the shelves. If you put one end of the shelf one hole lower than the other side your cans will rotate.



You can also purchase shelves that are made to rotate cans. There are many options online and occasionally the stores will carry them.



Store items that you use frequently in 5 gallon buckets. Keep one of the buckets in your pantry with "Gamma Seal" lid on it. They are easy to get in and out of and when it is empty, you can just open another bucket, dump it into the bucket with the gamma seal lid and refill the empty bucket. This is easy to do on your own time with no special equipment. (Put items in them that you use frequently so you can rotate through them—for example, flour, sugar, powdered milk, etc...)

*Don't forget to put oxy packs in the buckets that you seal. If they are full, you will need about 4 oxy packs per bucket. They do not need to be in the buckets with the gamma seal lids. You should be in and out of those frequently. You can purchase oxy packs at the cannery for \$.07 each.



Storage Ideas:

Under the bed: Put plywood on the floor under your bed with wood dividers nailed onto it. This will allow you to put cans in on one side of the bed and take them out from the other side of the bed. Don't forget the plywood, the cans are difficult to push to the front if they are on carpet.



In closets: Extra shelves in closets are an excellent idea. If you have extra space but no shelves in your closet, purchase some shelves. They come in all shapes. Just check the weight limits on them.



Disguised as furniture: Deep freezes can be used as side tables, water barrels with a round piece of wood and a table cloth can be used as night stands, boxes of canned goods stacked up can be stacked with a piece of plywood on top and covered to be a coffee table. This may sound really crazy but get creative and you may be surprised with the outcome.



In the basement if you have one: Purchase or build shelves to store your food on. Again, just make sure to check the weight limits and store the heavier stuff on the bottom.



The idea is to have a "Family Store" in your house.



Tip: When you make your grocery list, make it from your food storage. NOT your pantry.

PS...Don't forget to store some WATER!!!!

Make a table out of a 15 gallon



barrel.

Store 5 gallon barrels on their side with spout for easy use. (instructions available at FoodStorage.MikesWorld.org)

