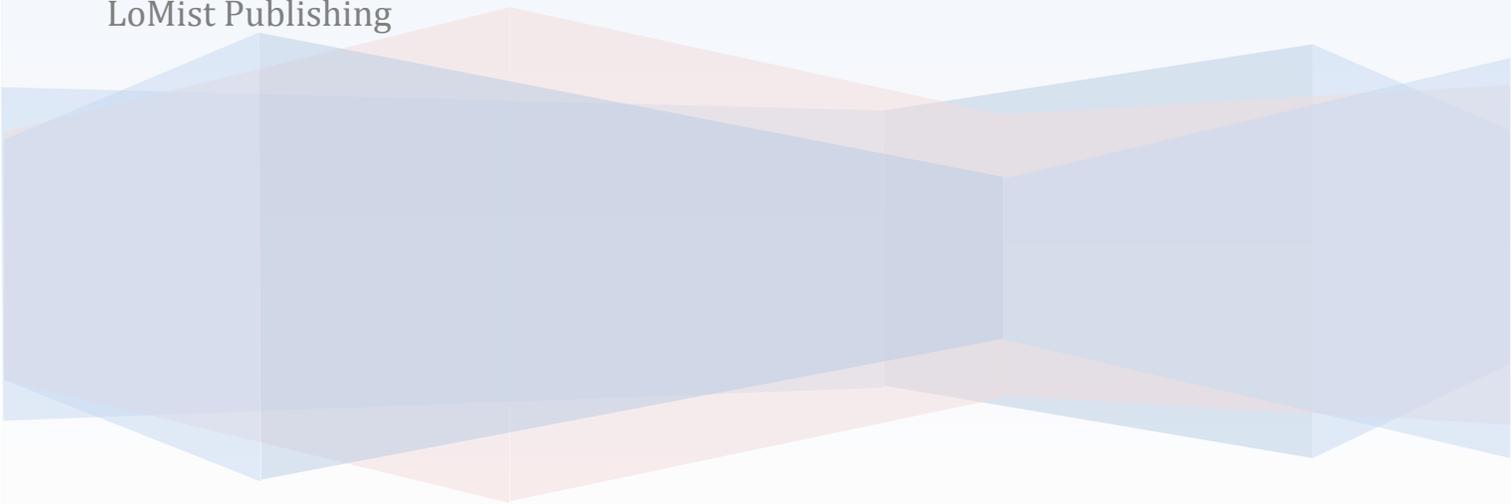


# The Basics of Biometric Gun Safes

Learn Why the Biometric Gun Safe is  
Your Best Choice in Small Safes

by Bill Cash  
LoMist Publishing



## **Preface**

Thank you for downloading this ebook. With this small ebook we hope to show you a few things, namely:

- The importance of keeping your firearms safe
- Your choices of gun safes and a few things to look for in them
- The basics of biometric gun safes
- A review of one of the more popular manufactured fireproof gun safes. While you may not go with this brand, what you learn in the article can help you make a wise choice when shopping for one.
- A review of a Biometric gun safe. Again, you may not go with this brand, but you should be able to learn a few things more so you can make that wise decision of which to get.

## **Special Notice**

One note before we begin -- this ebook can be given away for free or sold. You just do not have permission to edit or change the content found anywhere in this ebook.

So thanks for downloading *The Basics of Biometric Gun Safes*. We hope you find it to be useful.

For more information on Biometric or [Fingerprint Gun Safes](#), please visit [www.BiometricGunSafeReviews.com](http://www.BiometricGunSafeReviews.com)

© 2010 LoMist Publishing

## **Guns And Home Security**

Guns have always been a sure way to protect your home, your family and your self. But with this ability to protect and "right to bear arms" comes responsibility.

Not only must a gun owner protect his personal property and family, he must also protect his firearms. In short, firearm owners must never allow them to fall into someone else's hands.

One sure way to accomplish this is to have his/her firearms securely locked away in a gun safe or cabinet.

Gun safes and cabinets come in a variety of sizes and shapes. Deciding on which to get is up to your needs and wants.

As mentioned, gun safes come in quite a few varieties. The type of lock on the safe is one variable. It could be a combination lock, a keyed lock, a number touch pad or a biometric lock. All these locks have their advantages and disadvantages. The best one is which ever one you like and thoroughly understand.

Another option you have to decide is if you want it to be fireproof or waterproof. Contrary to popular belief, many gun safes are not built to withstand fire or water. These are special characteristics that you must consider or look for when purchasing a gun safe.

Fireproof gun safes offer just that – the ability to protect your firearms, and anything else in it, from the heat and flames of a fire. Although you may lose all your other possessions, a fireproof gun safe should survive the fire with all the valuables inside it safe.

Fireproof safes, as with all other gun safes, will also keep guns away from children. Since children are curious and like to get into things, it is imperative that your firearms be securely locked away from their grabby little hands. Unsecured guns around the home will almost always be found by children – no matter how well they are hidden.

For safety sake, many advise to not store firearms loaded with ammo. Some say store the ammo in the same safe and others say you should store it elsewhere. The decision is up to you.

In short, if you have both firearms and children in your home, you should do two things, 1.) make sure your firearms are locked up (and not just hidden) and 2.) teach your children about proper gun safety.

A child who is brought up with guns and is properly taught about them, should not be afraid of them and should not be so curious around them. These two things can go a long way in keeping your family safe while still offering you the protection that you so desire.

The bottom line is if you have firearms in your home, they should be locked up in the proper type of safe to keep them safe and to keep your children and family members safe too.

## **How Safe Is Your Gun? A 12 Year Old Can Open Most Gun Safes.**

A safe is essential if you have a gun at home. It is also essential that your safe is easy for you to use but difficult to access without your authorization.

Safes are made from tough, heavy gauge steel, typically half an inch thick. The safe may have two sheets of hard steel, with ball bearings sandwiched between the two layers. The ball bearings make drilling through the door or sides very difficult.

The door and lock are inherently the weakest points of any safe. Locking the safe door should operate hardened steel or titanium bolts on all four sides. Hinges are internal so that they do not present a weakness to an intruder.

Locks may be key, combination or fingerprint operated. The best safes have combinations of different types of lock and time delays before a lock will open.

Key locks can be picked. Even the most complex key operated lock can be picked by an expert. An expert can find a combination code on a rotary combination dials fairly easily. A keypad combination is the best if you have a combination lock. There are no moving parts to go wrong, or to give clues to a safe cracker who is listening to the lock as he or she operates it.

It is important to keep the keypad clean. Dirty or clean keys give clues to anyone trying to get into your safe. Make sure the combination you choose bears no relationship to phone numbers, birth dates or any other data that can be guessed.

The best option is a fingerprint-operated lock or sometimes referred to as biometric locks. Then you can have absolute confidence that while your fingers are attached to your body that nobody will be able to open your safe without your knowledge.

A fingerprint operated lock combined with a keypad combination lock, or a second fingerprint operated lock set up for a second person provides the best security for guns or valuables

Fire protection is sometimes built into home safes, with layers of insulating material and expanding door seals that exclude oxygen and prevent combustion of the safe contents. However, with many gun safe manufacturers you have to buy special fire proof safes since the standard gun safe is not fireproof.

## Are Biometric Gun Safes Safe?

Okay, you have finally decided that you want a gun safe, and in particular, you want a biometric (or fingerprint) safe. So are they your best choice? Looked at in another way - what are the drawbacks of a biometric gun safe?

Before we begin, in case you don't know - biometric deals with those things which are unique to an individual, like your retina or voice. But in this case, it will be dealing with your fingerprint.

A biometric gun safe will have a little pad which will read your fingerprint. If your fingerprint matches a fingerprint in its memory (which also means you can enter more than one into its memory) you will be able to open its door in a matter of seconds.

Now this all sounds good, simple and fast, but what are the drawbacks to one of these safes?

First, there is the size of the safe. If it is just big enough to hold a handgun or two, someone can walk off with it and then break into it later. This means, if you are using a small gun safe, you need to bolt it down to the floor or a wall or tether it to something strong so it can't be moved. This applies to any small safe - no matter if it is a biometric safe or not.

Second, what are the chances that it won't open for me when I put my finger on the pad. Safe manufacturers claim that the chance of that happening is between 0.00066% and 1.0%. These are pretty small odds, but if it ever happens, just keep reading and you'll find out below.

Third, what are the odds that some unauthorized person will get into it. Again, safe manufacturers put less of a chance on this happening and say 1 in a thousand to 1 in a hundred thousand. Again even lower odds.

Fourth, what do I do if the safe won't recognize my fingerprint? This is something you need to check out before buying one since these things vary with manufacturer. In most safes, there is a "back door" entry, such as a key, which you would have to obtain and unlock the safe with.

Fifthly, will the safe keep my guns from harm caused by water or fire? Probably not. If you want fire or water protection you have to order a safe that specifically states that it is built to protect the valuables against water and/or fire.

So in the end, is a biometric gun safe safe? Well, it is probably as safe, or maybe even safer, than your regular locking gun safes. The only thing that makes it different from other small gun safes is its locking mechanism and that is the

fingerprint pad. With other safes you have to fumble around for a key or remember a combination - two things which are difficult to do if you are being rushed or are scared.

It is this quickness and ease of entry that sells these biometric safes and makes them so popular.

## **Bighorn Fireproof Gun Safe Review**

Bighorn gun safes are one of the most popular gun safes on the market today. The reputation of this American company can't be beat. Each safe is carefully built to order and is of the highest quality.

Bighorn safes are large safes. They are about 59 inches high, come in a variety widths and can hold 8 to 30 rifles. Their biggest safe stands about 6 feet tall and can hold about 50 guns.

What makes these safes so great are all the features that go into them. They are made from 10 gauge steel (vs the thinner 12 gauge by their competitors) which give it thickness and weight. In addition, there is patented "RhinoPlate" armor behind the steel. This "RhinoPlate" is a specially designed material to prevent tampering or drilling by would-be burglars.

Bighorn gun safes are designed and built to keep your firearms safe from the common (and not so common) burglar. These special safe features include patented relockers, anti-tamper linkages, and drill--proof crankshafts - to name a few. You may not know what all these things do but you can rest assured they are there for a purpose and that is to protect your valuables.

Another feature of these Bighorn safes are their ability to withstand fires. Tests have shown these safes to withstand 50 minutes of hot hot temperatures while other models of the same Bighorn brand have withstood fires of 150 minutes. This fire resistant capability is due to the thick steel, purposely designed features to help withstand fires, an advanced heat-activated door seal and two thick layers of fireboard. These all combine to provide protection and insulation for your firearms and/or valuables.

The bottom line is these Bighorn gun safes provide all the protection you could possibly ever ask for at a reasonable price.

## **Barska Biometric Gun Safe Review**

This Barska gun safe measures about 16 inches wide, 14 inches deep and 7 inches high. It is quite big enough to hold jewelry, medicine, important papers, or, the more typical - guns. One fellow has six guns stored in his safe.

It goes without saying, that since this is a "fingerprint safe" it can be easily opened with the touch of a finger - whether it be yours, your spouses or some one else's. The advanced technology of it allows up to 30 fingerprints to be stored. This means you don't have to fumble for keys or quickly try and remember (and enter) its combination. Simply "touch and go".

The biometrics of it runs on four double A batteries.

Now you may be thinking, what if it doesn't recognize my fingerprint, or what if the batteries die. How do I get into it? Well, this manufacturer doesn't give the details of failure rates, but assuming it is the same as other biometric safe manufacturers, its failure rate should be much much less than 1%.

But have no fear. The safe comes with special keys that allow you to get into the safe in the event that there is a malfunction with the electronics or something.

This biometric gun safe weighs about 30 pounds. Most of the weight is in the door. It comes with pre-drilled holes so that it can be easily mounted in a wall or attached to a shelf or counter top. You can also securely double bolt it by bolting it to a shelf and the wall behind.

Lastly, this Barska biometric gun safe review would not be complete without a short list of advantages and disadvantages.

### ***Advantages***

- As mentioned above, the advanced technology of this safe allows you to enter 30 different fingerprints. This allows you to enter someone else's fingerprints, but, more importantly, it also allows you to enter multiple fingerprints of your own.

You can do this by positioning your finger a little bit differently every time you store a print. That means you will have less problems and will get the safe opened quicker if you have these multiple prints of your own stored in its memory.

If you had just one print stored, you'd have to place your finger almost identically every time you open it. By having multiple fingerprints stored, you are allowing for variations in finger placement when touching it.

- With many biometric safes you are buying them without knowing everything. Barska eliminates this by putting the manual online so you can read it first and know what you are getting into. You can learn how to do everything you need before you ever buy. This instills a lot of confidence in your purchase.
- This Barska biometric safe is probably one of the best combinations of price and quality safes that are on the market today. At the time of this writing, you can get one for well under \$200.

### ***Disadvantages***

These really aren't disadvantages - just little things to know.

- The safe is made out of the steel, with the door bearing most of the steel and security. The sides of the box, while very sturdy, could be broken into with the proper tools. This is one reason why you might want to mount it somewhere. (Besides, mounting it keeps someone from walking off with it)
- When closing the door you have to push the "wake up " button, next to the fingerprint scanner, and hold for a few seconds. This insures that the door closes properly.
- This is probably no different than any other biometric safe but if you only have one fingerprint of a person stored in the memory, you may have to try a few times until you get your finger positioned just right and it opens.

In short, Barska Biometric Gun Safes are very popular and very well liked by those who have purchased one. They are of high quality and carry the reputation of Barska who are known for their high quality sport optics found in binoculars and various a sundry scopes.

For more information on biometric or [Fingerprint Gun Safes](#), please visit [www.BiometricGunSafeReviews.com](http://www.BiometricGunSafeReviews.com)