

How to keep bears out of your cabin

Presented by:

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game

The Bear Necessities Coalition, Talkeetna, Alaska

Build bear barriers



Photo by Brian Okonek

Avoid this damage to your cabin.



Photo by Holly Stinson

Build bear barriers stronger than these.



Photo by Brian Okonek

When building bear shutters consider:

- using at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood.
- mount shutters as flush to the wall as possible.
- inset shutters inside the window frame.
- use fully threaded hanger bolt screws.
- make bear barriers easy to put up and take off.
- simple is good!



Photo by Brian Okonek

Hanger bolts and thumb screws make it easy to take shutters on and off.



Photo by Brian Okonek



Photo by Wayne Woller

Inset shutter secured with barrel bolts.



Photo by Brian Okonek

$\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood on a cable.



Photo by Brian Okonek



**Release shutter and slide away
from the window.**

Photo by Brian Okonek



Photo by Brian Okonek



Photo by Brian Okonek

Welded window covers.



Photo by Sheldon Ewing, Weld Air

The grating can be removed by releasing the horizontal bolts.



Photo by Sheldon Ewing, Weld Air

A rail system



Photos by Tara Petter

A pin secures the shutter.



Photo by Tara Petter

A hinged shutter secured with gate latches and a back up chain.



Photo by Brian Okonek



Another way to keep shutters or doors from being pulled open.



Photo by Katmai Nat'l Park staff

DOORS

- Ideally a door should open out.
- If your door opens inward design a way to keep it from being pushed in.
- Put an eye bolt through the door and chain the door to the outer wall.
- Build a bracket that will allow you to insert a 2 x 4 across the door.
- Block a 2nd door from the inside with 2x4 brackets lag screwed into the wall.



Photo by Brian Okonek

This construction will allow a bear to easily enter your cabin.





3/4 inch plywood attached with hanger bolts and thumb screws and mounted flush with door jam.

Steel brackets made to prevent a door from being pushed inward.





THERMA TRU

Photo by Diane Okonek

**Eye bolt through the door
with a chain back-up so the
door cannot be pushed in.**



**Steel security door
designed and built by
the owner.**



Photo by Brian Okonek

Welded door and window guards.



Photo by Sheldon Ewing, Weld Air

If you have a second door that opens in, you can secure it with brackets and a 2x4 from inside the cabin.



Photo by Brian Okonek

**To protect your property and keep bears wild
be creative and outsmart them.**



