

A. COW PATTY

These two pics show my resin cast of a cow patty. I had collected 4 dried samples from the field in case my attempts to make a silicone mold failed. In the end I was able to make four different molds. The not so fun part was cleaning the cow poop out of the molds. I chose the pies with regard to space to hold a Lock and Lock container underneath.

Chopped up dried grass in a blender. With the epoxy resin I added the grass, some sand for strength and a bit of paint to help get the color more realistic. To finish, I re-enforced the cast with an extra layer of resin / sand mixture from underneath. The loop is to give a cache owner a means of securing the host container.

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B. BISON TUBES

Here is an example of larger bison tubes covered with resin and ground pine needles. I coat my creation in 3 layers. The final layer is not coated with resin to keep it looking more natural. I call it the wear layer.

I have moved on to using epoxy resin because it holds up better. Since I do sell these creations. However, the "poor man's" method that I originally used when I started these creations, was to use waterproof, outdoor rated PVA glue such as Tite Bond III for the protective coatings. The initial glue down would be with a Goop type glue. The marine version is also UV resistant.

The third image shows added epoxy putty to create a break in the containers geometric shape. It makes the camouflage more effective. Walnut grit that is used in sandblasting, is the first layer. The second and third layer was made of a wood chips and sawdust mix. The lid is where you can see a gap line. This was made as an example for a presentation I made at the 2017 mega.

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C. EARLY WORM

My version of the "pipe with holes and sticks to push the container up" cache. I wanted to make a segmented toroidal spiral I had seen on Ronald Walters youtube channel. Once built, I asked myself, now what? This geocache was the result. I found a spherical bison tube that fits well in the pipe. I cut off the key chain nub and using a Dremel tool, I cut some finger grips to help the cacher open and close the container.

The rubber duck is the lid for the pipe that contains a SWAG bag. This birdhouse is lifted up and over to reveal the game.

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D. WATER CACHE

My version of a water cache. You need to fill and stop the leaks. As you succeed, the float will raise a stick with coordinates to the cache box.

The parts shown are what is inside. Different sizes of water storage cause delays in "leaking". A water level probe will trigger a sprayer head hidden in the nearby cedar bush. A timer limits that spray to six seconds. Everyone needs to get wet, even mom who stands aside while the kids play! The lips leak water. Some require your finger, others just dribble and would not cause too much water loss. The cacher must figure that out. I made the lips around the holes because I have a friend who liked to cheat with duct tape. I hoped the embellishment would slow him down.

I hope to convert this to a more elaborate "smart" cache. Complete with sound effects and timer logic as you try to succeed. The lips could then spray water instead of just leak.

E. HALLOWEEN

Part of my Halloween caches. I bought a Halloween prop and added a bone I cast from another Halloween prop. Using JB Weld epoxy, I glued the bone onto the lid before adding "meat" on top of the lid. The meat is made from sawdust, some red acrylic paint added with the outdoor/waterproof rated PVA glue used to make it all a paste and packed into the leg. Line the leg with parchment paper to keep the meat from sticking. Remove after a few days of letting the wood meat dry. The PVC pipe is the cache container that will slip out with the bone. The other tubes are my coated preforms.

F. LABRYNTH

The simple climbing path game is what inspired this cache. I made two. The gadget cache is positioned vertically, not at an angle like the actual game.

The first one is in Swift Current. I had made it at the request of the Mega organizers back in 2017. They wanted a gadget cache. It is now the most favorited geocache in Saskatchewan. A ten minute detour off the Trans Canada Highway will bring you to some fun.

My second build, pictured here, is in my geocache area. I wanted the caching community to have fun. Not everyone can travel far for geocaches.

I made the gadget to be contained and automatically resetting. This will prevent game pieces from going missing. The glass marbles will return to the bottom to await the next player. Glass marbles were used to stop magnets from cheating the game. Two marbles, but only one is needed to play. The other is a spare just in case one marble became stuck. You need to play this cache to know how it fully works as a geocache. No spoiling all of it. Inside that box is a smiling bear painted on the back wall.

G. WORK BOOT

Beanbunny's old work boot is now a geocache. A magnet helps hold the safety toe closed. A pot of fake flowers were also glued into the boot, then this was all bolted down on a post. I tweaked the fit of the safety toe so that you cannot see the epoxy putty holding in the magnet like you do in the first photo. The design of the work boot allows for the cache container to be not accessible from the normal boot opening. It has some sort of liner that I pushed back towards the heel after cutting the toe area from the sole.

This simple cache has stumped a few folks trying to find the reveal.

H. ACORN

My version of a nano cache. I used waterproof paper and sealed the shell with Tite Bond III glue. Only the fish line will let water migrate to the paper, hence the use of Rite In The Rain paper.

I. CAMMO

I will cammo cover anything. The bark look is made using a silicone mat I had made from coating over a log with the homemade version of Sugru. It is my mixture of resin, walnut grit, fine sawdust and color buttered onto the mat, then pressed onto the sanded ammo can surface. Let it cure, then peel away the mat. The lid is resin and ground dried moss from our lawn. Three layers of course.

With all my ideas I have been banished from the kitchen. I had to find my own blender from a thrift shop.

J. ROCKS and LOGS

Rocks and logs I have made. Always looking at my former creation, I try and figure out what to do to make the next one better and more efficient to make. This has led to my latest versions you see here.

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K. BEER KEG

A beer keg turned into a gadget cache with many nooks to explore and a few surprises. End result, to access the log is to spin it. Works like a DeVinci's helicopter puzzle. Located in our main public library with permission. Our winters are cold. Need some indoor gadgets.

L. LOG PUZZLE

The nesting log puzzle was made by Beanbunny, my daughter that started all my obsession. The wood is treated well to keep the moisture away. Outdoors for 2 years. This is the remake. First one died when a cacher had mismatched parts and got it stuck. Then broke trying to unstick it.

Cut on a band saw, then soaked in Pentacryl for a week. It is a wood stabilizer that swaps moisture in the wood with a polymer. Then all the surfaces were varnished with a spar varnish. 3 coats. This could have been its third winter, but it was lost due to the property being razed for new construction. We will make another one someday.