

## RUST PREVENTION

Technoid,

I have a question about the best way to store my shotguns in my home. I don't have a gun safe and my major concern is gun maintenance rather than safe storage. I have AC for the summer but in the Spring and Fall when I'm not using the AC or the heat it can get a little humid in my house. If you think the only good answer is a gun safe could you suggest what to look for. If there are other good alternatives I'd love to hear them.

I enjoy your column. Thanks for the advice.

Graham

Dear Graham,

If you are in a humid environment and do not want to go to the expense of a \$1000 gun safe, you might try any kind of closed cabinet arrangement with one or two "Golden Rods" installed. The Golden Rod is simply a low wattage, constant heating source. It raises the dew point just enough in the enclosure to keep the humidity down. They are used in boats and for gun storage. Just about any large gun store should carry them, but they are a bit expensive

The standard Golden Rod use is to place it inside the gun safe where it raises the temperature very slightly. I am sure that it would be equally effective in any other type of enclosure- such as a locker. If you put your guns in a larger closet, you may want two. You can also use a 25 watt light bulb left constantly on, but you will find out that the light bulb burns out quite often, while the Golden Rod lasts forever.

As an aside, I really do think that it is a good idea to store your guns in a gun safe. Not only is it a good place to safely store your firearms, but you can also put family valuables in there when you are off on vacation. It also has all those neat empty rack notches just waiting to be filled! Shotguns are like sheep- they love company. By the way, don't forget to store your guns muzzle down. It keeps errant oil from soaking into the wood and keeps the stocks from taking a set.

Best regards,  
Bruce Buck  
Shotgun Report's Technoid