

# **Lock Picking Cheats, Hacks, Hints, Tips, And Tricks That Every Lock Picker Should Know**



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## **Introduction:**

Welcome to the world of lock picking! Whether you're a professional locksmith, a security enthusiast, or just someone who wants to learn how to pick locks, this book is for you. Inside, you'll find a wealth of information on the tools, techniques, and tricks used by experts to pick locks of all types and styles. From basic pin and tumbler locks to high-security deadbolts, we'll show you how to open any lock with ease. In this book, you'll learn about the different types of locks and their internal mechanisms, the various tools and equipment used for lock picking, and the step-by-step process of picking a lock. I'll also cover advanced techniques such as impressioning and



decoding, as well as tips and tricks for picking locks without causing damage. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced lock picker, this book has something for everyone. I'll take you through the basics of lock picking and help you to develop the skills and confidence you need to pick locks quickly and efficiently. So, let's get started and discover the exciting world of lock picking!

## **1. Invest in good quality lock picking tools:**

A good set of lock picking tools will include a tension wrench and a variety of pick tools. Tension wrenches come in different shapes and sizes, and it's recommended to have different types of them to fit different locks. The most common shapes are L shape and Z shape, L shape is mostly used in pin tumbler locks and Z shape is mostly used in wafer locks. Pick tools come in different shapes and sizes as well, such as hooks, rakes, and diamonds. Each shape is designed to interact with the pins of the lock in different ways.

## **2. Learn the different types of locks:**

There are many different types of locks, including pin tumbler locks, wafer locks, and disc tumbler locks. Pin tumbler locks are the most common type of locks found in homes and businesses. They have pins that need to be lifted to a certain height in order for the lock to open. Wafer locks are similar to pin tumbler locks, but they have wafers instead of pins and they operate by aligning the wafers with the corresponding cuts in the lock body. Disc tumbler locks are less common than the first two types, and they have rotating discs instead of pins or wafers, each disc has a notch, by aligning the notches the lock can open. Each type of lock requires different techniques and tools to pick it.

### **3. Start with simple locks:**

When first learning to pick locks, it is best to start with simple locks, such as padlocks or single-sided deadbolts. These types of locks are relatively easy to pick and will help you get a feel for the process. Once you become more proficient, you can move on to more

challenging locks, such as double-sided deadbolts or high-security locks.

#### **4. Use a tension wrench to apply tension:**

A tension wrench is used to apply tension to the lock, which is necessary for manipulating the pins inside the lock. The tension wrench should be inserted into the bottom of the lock, where the key would go, and turned slightly in the direction that the lock opens. This applies tension to the lock's plug, keeping it from turning while you work on the pins.

#### **5. Use a pick tool to manipulate the pins:**

A pick tool is used to manipulate the pins inside the lock. The pick tool should be inserted into the lock, and used to gently push the pins up until they reach the shear line. The shear line is the point at which the pins align with the cuts in the lock body, allowing the lock to open.

#### **6. Practice, practice, practice:**

The key to becoming good at lock picking is to practice. The more you

practice, the better you will become at identifying the right tools and techniques for different types of locks. It's recommended to practice on a variety of locks and to use different types of pick tools to get a sense of how they interact with the pins.

## **7. Learn to feel the pins:**

One of the most important skills in lock picking is learning to feel the pins as you work on them. This is known as "feedback" and it will help you understand the progress of the lock picking process. You should be able to feel when a pin is set (when it reaches the shear line), or when it's binding (when it's stuck in the lock), which can help you to know when to move on to the next pin. To develop this skill, it is recommended to practice on different types of locks and to use different types of pick tools to get a sense of how they interact with the pins.

## **8. Use a lock pick gun:**

A lock pick gun is a tool that can be used to quickly set all of the pins in a lock at once. It works by using a rapid, vibrating motion to push the pins up to



the shear line. This can be a helpful tool for more experienced lock pickers, but it's important to note that it's not a replacement for learning the traditional lock picking techniques.

## **9. Try different techniques:**

There are many different techniques that can be used to pick a lock, such as raking, single pin picking, and impressioning. Raking is a technique where a pick tool is inserted into the lock and moved back and forth in a sweeping motion in order to set multiple pins at once. Single pin picking is a technique where each pin is picked one by one. Impressioning is a technique where a blank key is inserted into the lock and the lock picker manipulates the pins until the key turns, and the lock opens. It's important to experiment with different techniques to see which one works best for you and the lock that you are trying to open.

## **10. Keep your tools in good condition:**

It's important to keep your lock picking tools in good condition so that they work effectively. Clean and lubricate your tools regularly to ensure

that they are working smoothly. Lubrication will help the pick tools glide smoothly over the pins and will help prevent binding.

## **11. Learn the different types of security:**

There are different types of security that can be added to locks, such as security pins, spool pins, and mushroom pins. Understanding how these different types of security work will help you to pick locks more effectively. Security pins are designed to make lock picking more difficult by adding an extra pin that needs to be set in order for the lock to open. Spool pins are designed to bind when they are not set properly, making it more difficult to pick the lock. Mushroom pins are designed to bind when they are not set properly, making it more difficult to pick the lock.

## **12. Use a lock picking card:**

A lock picking card is a thin, plastic card that has small, bendable tools built into it. Some of these cards have picks, hooks, and rakes that can be used to manipulate the pins inside the lock.



It's designed to fit into a lock like a credit card, and can be used to manipulate the pins inside the lock when you don't have access to traditional lock picking tools. However, this method is usually less effective than using real tools and it's recommended to have previous experience in lock picking before attempting to use one.

### **13. Use a bump key:**

A bump key is a key that has been filed down to the lowest possible depth on all of the cuts. When bumped with a small tool, such as a screwdriver, it causes the pins in the lock to jump, which in turn opens the lock. This method is more advanced and it's recommended to have previous experience in lock picking before attempting to use one.

### **14. Use a snap gun:**

A snap gun is a tool that uses a spring-loaded mechanism to rapidly push the pins inside a lock up to the shear line, allowing the lock to open. This is a more advanced tool and it's recommended to have previous experience in lock picking before attempting

to use one. It's also important to know that this method can cause damage to the lock and it's not recommended for locks that are valuable or need to be used again.

### **15. Use a pick set:**

A pick set is a collection of different pick tools, each with a unique shape, that can be used to manipulate the pins inside a lock. This can be a useful tool for lock picking as it offers a variety of options for different types of locks. Each tool in the set is designed to interact with the pins in a specific way, and it's important to understand how each tool works before attempting to use it.

### **16. Use a decoder:**

A decoder is a tool that can be used to determine the correct key for a lock. This can be useful when you don't have access to the original key and need to create a new one. This method is more advanced and it's recommended to have previous experience in lock picking before attempting to use one.

## **17. Use a lock picking practice padlock:**

Practice padlocks are locks specifically designed for lock picking practice. They come in different levels of difficulty, and can help you improve your lock picking skills by allowing you to practice on a lock that is similar to real locks but is not as difficult to pick. They are a great way to improve your lock picking skills, especially when you're just starting out.

## **18. Watch lock picking tutorials and videos:**

There are many tutorials and videos available online that can help you learn and improve your lock picking skills. These can be a great resource for learning new techniques and tricks. Some of these tutorials are free and some of them are paid. Some of them are targeted for beginner and some of them are targeted for experts. It's important to choose the tutorials that suit your level of knowledge and experience, and to watch the tutorials multiple times to fully understand the concepts.



## **19. Join a lock picking community:**

Joining a lock picking community, such as a lock picking club or forum, can give you access to a wealth of knowledge and experience from other lock pickers. You can share your own experiences, ask for advice, and learn from other people's experiences. You can also participate in lock picking challenges, competitions and events.

## **20. Use a lock picking trainer:**

A lock picking trainer is a tool that is designed to help you practice and improve your lock picking skills. It can be a padlock with a transparent body, which allows you to see the inner workings of a lock, or it can be a training kit that includes different types of locks, different types of picking tools, and detailed instructions on how to use them. These trainers are a great way to learn and improve your lock picking skills.

## **21. Take a lock picking class:**

Many locksmiths and security experts offer lock picking classes. These classes can provide you with hands-

on experience and instruction from experienced lock pickers. They can teach you the basics of lock picking and provide you with guidance on how to improve your skills. They can also provide you with access to different types of locks and tools, which can help you to learn how to pick different types of locks.

## **22. Keep a record of your progress:**

Keeping a record of your progress as you learn to pick locks can help you identify areas where you need to improve. Write down the locks you picked, the tools you used, the time it took you to open the lock, and any other relevant information. This will help you to track your progress and to identify areas where you need to focus more. This can be a physical notebook, or an electronic one, or you can use a lock picking log app.

## **23. Use a feeler pick:**

A feeler pick is a tool that is used to feel the position of the pins inside a lock. It is a thin, flat tool that can be used to help you understand how the pins are interacting with each other,

which can help you to pick the lock more efficiently. It can also be used to identify binding pins, which are pins that are not set correctly and need to be adjusted. Feeler picks come in different thicknesses and are used to test the space between the pin and the plug of the lock.

## **24. Try different types of locks:**

Different types of locks have different mechanisms and require different techniques to pick them. Try practicing on different types of locks, such as pin and tumbler locks, wafer locks, and lever locks, to improve your lock picking skills. Each type of lock has its own unique characteristics and requires a different approach. For example, pin and tumbler locks require the use of a tension wrench and a pick, while wafer locks can be opened using a slim jim or a rake.

## **25. Use a lock picking simulator:**

A lock picking simulator is a tool that allows you to practice lock picking in a virtual environment. It can provide you with a realistic experience and help you to improve your lock picking skills



in a safe and controlled setting. These simulators usually have different levels of difficulty, different types of locks, and different tools that you can use. They can also provide you with feedback on your progress and help you to identify areas where you need to improve.

## **26. Use a magnifying glass:**

A magnifying glass can be a helpful tool when you're trying to pick a lock. It can help you to see the pins and tumblers inside the lock more clearly, which can make it easier to pick the lock. This can be especially helpful when working with small locks or when trying to pick a lock in low light conditions.

## **27. Keep experimenting:**

Lock picking is a skill that takes time and practice to master. Keep experimenting with different techniques and tools, and don't be discouraged if you don't succeed right away. With time and practice, you will improve your lock picking skills. Keep track of the locks you pick, the tools you use, and the techniques you employ, this

way you'll be able to see your progress and identify areas where you need to improve.

## **28. Use a lock picking graph:**

A lock picking graph is a tool that can be used to help you understand the internal mechanics of a lock. It can show you the layout of the pins and tumblers inside the lock, and can help you to identify which pins need to be set in order to open the lock. The graph can be a physical paper or a digital one. It can also indicate the depth of the cuts on the key of the lock, which can help to identify the key of the lock.

**29. Use a lock picking hammer:** A lock picking hammer is a tool that can be used to help you set the pins inside a lock. It can be

used to strike the top of the lock in order to help set the pins more quickly and efficiently. The hammer can be used to apply slight pressure on the lock, which can help the pick to set the pins. It's important to use the hammer gently, to avoid causing damage to the lock.

### **30. Use a lock picking scope:**

A lock picking scope is a tool that can be used to help you see the inside of a lock more clearly. It can be inserted into the lock in order to help you see the pins and tumblers inside the lock more easily. This can be especially helpful when working with small locks or when trying to pick a lock in low light conditions.

### **31. Use a lock picking gun:**

A lock picking gun is a tool that can be used to quickly and easily open certain types of locks. It uses a spring-loaded mechanism to rapidly push the pins inside a lock up to the shear line, allowing the lock to open. This method is more advanced and it's recommended to have previous experience in lock picking before attempting to use one. It's also important to know that this method can cause damage to the lock and it's not recommended for locks that are valuable or need to be used again.

### **32. Use a lock picking tweezers:**



A lock picking tweezers is a tool that can be used to help you manipulate the pins inside a lock. They can be used to pick up and move the pins inside the lock, and they are also useful for removing broken keys from locks. Tweezers are a useful tool for fine manipulation of the pins and can be used to set the pins with precision.

### **33. Use a lock picking needle:**

A lock picking needle is a tool that can be used to help you manipulate the pins inside a lock. It is a thin metal rod with a pointed tip, and it can be used to push and lift the pins inside the lock. The needle can be used in conjunction with a tension wrench, and it can be an effective tool for picking locks that are difficult to open with traditional picking tools.

### **34. Understand the lock mechanism:**

Before attempting to pick a lock, it is important to understand the mechanism of the lock. Different types of locks have different internal mechanisms, such as pin and tumbler, wafer, and lever locks, and each one requires a different approach. Understanding the

mechanism of the lock you are trying to pick will make it easier to identify the correct tools and techniques to use. For instance, pin and tumbler locks have a cylinder that is divided into several chambers, each chamber contains a pin, the goal is to align the shear line by lifting the pins to the correct height. Wafer locks are a bit different, they have wafers that move in and out of the lock to allow or prevent the lock from turning.

### **35. Use the right tools:**

Having the right tools for the job is essential when lock picking. Different types of locks require different tools to pick them, such as tension wrenches, picks, and feeler tools. Make sure you have the right tools for the lock you are trying to pick and that they are in good working condition. For example, a tension wrench is used to apply tension to the lock while you work on the pins, a pick is used to lift the pins, and a feeler pick is used to identify the binding pins.

### **36. Develop a consistent technique:**

Consistency is key when lock picking. Develop a consistent technique that you can use on different types of locks. This will make it easier to pick locks and will help you to identify areas where you need to improve. For example, you can start by applying tension with the tension wrench and then using the pick to lift the pins one by one. A consistent technique will also help you to be more efficient when picking a lock, allowing you to pick it faster with less mistakes.

### **37. Use lubricant:**

Lubricant can be used to help the lock pick move smoothly through the lock mechanism, which can make it easier to pick the lock. A small amount of lubricant can be applied to the lock mechanism using a small brush or a lubricant pen, or a graphite powder can be used. Lubricant can also help to reduce friction, making it easier to set the pins.

### **38. Take your time:**

Picking a lock takes patience and time. Rushing through the process can cause mistakes and can lead to damage



to the lock. Take your time, be patient, and work methodically. This can help to reduce the risk of making mistakes and damaging the lock.

### **39. Learn how to pick locks without causing damage:**

Some lock picking techniques can cause damage to the lock, especially when the lock picker is not skilled. It's important to learn how to pick locks without causing damage, so that the lock can still be used afterwards. This can be achieved by using the correct tools and techniques, and by being patient and precise when picking the lock.

### **40. Learn how to open locks without picking them:**

In some cases, it may be possible to open a lock without picking it. This could be done by bypassing the lock mechanism or by using other tools such as a bump key, a shim, or a decoder. This can be useful when faced with a lock that is difficult to pick, or if you want to avoid causing damage to the lock.

### **41. Be aware of your local laws:**

It's important to be aware of the laws and regulations in your area regarding lock picking. In some areas, lock picking without the permission of the lock owner is illegal and could result in serious legal consequences. It's important to check your local laws and regulations and to only use your lock picking skills for lawful purposes.

## **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, lock picking is an art and a science that requires patience, practice, and the right tools. With the information provided in this book, you should now have a solid foundation in the basics of lock picking. You understand the different types of locks and their mechanisms, the tools that are used for lock picking and how to use them. You also have an idea of the techniques and tricks used by experts to pick locks of all types and styles, including the advanced techniques such as impressioning and decoding. Remember that lock picking should be used only for lawful purposes, such as opening a lock that you have forgotten the combination to or have lost the

key for. Attempting to pick a lock for illegal purposes, like breaking and entering, is a criminal offense and could result in serious legal consequences. It's also important to note that some of the techniques and tools presented here may cause damage to the lock and should be used with caution. As you continue to practice and improve your skills, it's important to always be aware of the local laws and regulations regarding lock picking, and to only use your lock picking skills for lawful purposes. Lock picking is a challenging and rewarding hobby, but it's important to remember that it is not something to be taken lightly. With the right knowledge and tools, you can open locks with ease and gain a deeper understanding of the inner workings of locks and the art of lock picking.