

FAQ for burying the Future Line Cylinder Capsules

Can you please let me know how many years the 08624 & 08652 will last after buried?

No, I cannot. Because of the way this time capsule is sealed and because it can be placed in so many different ways, there's no way for me to guess how many years it should last to successfully keep your items in good condition while in storage.

I *can* tell you that it's made of stainless steel, 304, and that its welds and closure were inspected before they left our facility.

There are practical considerations to think through before burying any time capsule. For this one, it's recommended that it be placed vertically, to take advantage of the stacking strength of the cylinder shape. Next, you should never place the capsule in an area that receives regular watering, such as in a garden.

Contrary to recommendations given by *others* for *other* time capsules, our time capsules should **never** be wrapped in plastic. Do nothing that would hold water to the container for any length of time.

We recommend using the wax version of our silicone sealant and following instructions for same. Allow time for curing before placement. It's recommended to place the capsule at least 18" below the surface to minimize changes in temperature in most areas. However, your location may have particular traits to consider. Is it below sea level? Is the ground saturated? Is the ground loose or prone to collapse?

The sealant has a life of 50 years or so; the wax extends that lifetime somewhat, and this particular style of capsule has a large threaded area which is good too. Stainless steel itself of this type is expected to last 100 years or more – but even stainless steel will rust if it's waterlogged for long periods of time.

Should your conditions be such that you need to bury any time capsule for an extended length of time, you might consider covering it completely with a bituminous coating. Some customers have had good luck with an enclosure to assist with physical and mechanical protection (see page 6 of our time capsule catalog). If you do use such an enclosure, be sure that it's not going to hold water in such a way that the capsule is sitting in it. If you are 'below sea level' or close to it, you'd need to protect the enclosure from the bottom; if above sea level, protect from the top. In any case, be sure the capsule is not sitting in water.

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Nothing in this advice should be construed to assume liability.