

PANTRY SHELF

HOW DO I ROTATE MY FOOD STORAGE?

We saw an "ingenious idea" presented at our Stake Preparedness Fair called the **PANTRY SHELF**. These shelves are installed on the back of your *existing pantry door* and they have the advantage of adding **more space** in your pantry, **displaying all of your food storage** items in "clear" easily accessible containers. Not only does this help reduce the need for having clumsy #10 cans in your pantry but now these items are **within reach** so you don't forget to use your food storage. What a wonderful invention!

STEP BY STEP PROCESS

▼ STEP 1: Measure Space Behind Pantry Door

Measure the space you have behind your pantry door to the edge of your existing shelving in your pantry (depth measurement). Our measurement was 8-inches.

▼ STEP 2: Purchase Materials

Purchase your white wire shelves, shelf mounting screws and wire clasps (shelf clips), wire cabling, wire crimps for crimping your cabling together, and "touch up" Plasti Dip paint at your local hardware store. We got most of our supplies at Lowes. Here are those items:

- We bought 3 of the **Closetmaid wire shelves with the dimensions of 72" wide by 12" deep** at Lowes.
- We bought the mounting hardware made by Closetmaid- **screws and wire clasps (shelf clips)** (Item #75615 at Lowes).
- We bought **16-gauge wire cabling** to use as support wires on either side of each shelf.
- We bought **"Ferrule & stop" 3/32-inch wire crimps** to loop each end of the "support wire" together around the end of each shelf end and other end of the wire mounted to door.
- We bought **White Plasti Dip** to cover the cut ends of each shelf so they weren't sharp. You can purchase Plasti Dip at Home Depot but we couldn't find "white" when we were doing this project. So we visited our local paint shop "Space Age Paint" in Mesa, AZ (Country Club Rd. just south of Broadway Rd.: 480-835-0971) to purchase "white" Poly Shield which is the same thing as Plasti Dip.

▼ STEP 3: Measure How Many Shelves Will Fit On Your Pantry Door

We measured how many shelves will fit on our pantry door. You need to take into account the door lock hardware and make sure your shelf there doesn't conflict with the

door opening and closing. You also need to make sure your shelves on the top and bottom are slightly smaller (1/4-in to 1/2-inch) than the rest of the shelves to not conflict with the framing of your door (with the framing conflict your door won't shut with these shelves installed!). We were able to "mark off" **7 shelves** on the back of our pantry door.

🔧 STEP 4: Cut Wire Shelves

We cut each shelf using a Dremel tool with cutting wheel attachment. Each shelf for our pantry was 21.5-inches long except for the top and bottom shelf, and the shelf by the door lock hardware. Those shelves were about 21-inches long.

🔧 STEP 5: Bend Wire Shelves

We bent each shelf over our work bench. We placed each shelf down and put an **old cutting board on top** of that, and **anchored each one** with a clamp. Then we put **2 bricks on top** of the cutting board and **leaned our "body weight"** to bend each shelf at the "flat end" at the 4-inch mark. Each shelf is 12-inches deep, and our "depth measurement" in STEP 1 was 8 inches, so we needed to bend each shelf at the *4-inch mark* so they would fit in our pantry- **see pictures here:**



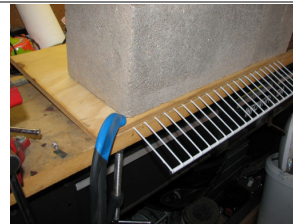
A Closetmaid shelf you buy at Lowes that we cut to size.



Method for starting to bend the shelves.



We used two bricks to bend shelves.



Hold down shelf with clamp and lean your body against the bricks to bend shelf.



Shelf is bent!



Testing fit with temporary mount using duct tape.

▼ STEP 6: Install Shelves

We installed each shelf starting from the base of the door and working our way up. Install the bottom door by putting a **shelf clip** and **mounting screw** around the end of the **bent side** of the shelf (as done in STEP 5). Screw that into the pantry door only *part way*. *Then*, take your cable wire and cut that to a length of 13-inches and create a loop at each end of the wire. Crimp *only one side* of wire into a loop with your "**Ferrule & stop**" **wire crimps**. We used a pair of vise grip pliers to do this crimping. Install "looped end" of wire onto screw you mounted shelf to the door and tighten screw all the down now. Repeat this process for the wire to mounting screw on other end of shelf. *Finally*, take "loose wire end" and loop that around the *front end* of the shelf (end that has lip on it from the factory). Crimp down "front end" of wire loop with a wire clasp (shelf clip), as done on back end of wire, with vise grip pliers. Now each shelf should be secured with wire supports on each end of each shelf. See pictures here to see **finished pantry shelves**:



Bottom shelves installed- shorter for clearance!



Upper shelves installed- shorter for clearance!



Top shelf shorter for smaller "Pete" containers.



All shelves installed!

Repeat shelf installation process for each shelf as stated above until all shelves are installed.

▼ STEP 7: Verify No Door Obstructions

We had to make a few adjustments on the bottom shelf, top shelf, and door lock hardware shelf due to **conflicts with the pantry door framing and door lock hardware** when we tried to close the door. You may not experience these conflicts, but be aware that they *may exist* and you might have to *remove the shelves* in these areas and trim off a 1/4-inch to 1/2-inch on each end of these shelves to resolve the conflict with your Dremel tool. If no door obstructions exist, proceed to STEP 8.

▼ STEP 8: Touch-up Ends of Each Shelf with White Plasti Dip

Take your **White Plasti Dip and a small painting brush** and dab a small amount of paint on each end of your shelves to cover up the parts you had to cut with your Dremel tool in STEP 5. Once this paint dries, you will have a nice **rubberized coating** on the once **exposed metal**. No sharp areas should exist when you are through painting so it might require several coats of Plasti Dip to get this desired result.

▼ STEP 9: Load Shelves With Pete Containers And Fill!

We purchased all of our "Pete" containers from a local store called Honeyville Farms (33 South 56th Street Suite 1, Chandler, AZ 85226, or the corner of 56th St. and Chandler Blvd.: 480-785-0892). We purchased 23 large "Pete" containers and 6 small "Pete" containers. See photos of our **loaded shelves here:**



All food storage in Pete Jars!



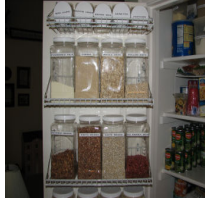
Labels put on "Pete" jars and view of Top shelf.



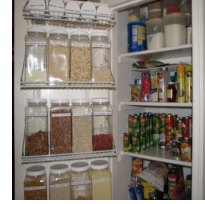
Side view of "Pete" containers with shelf supports.



Bottom shelves loaded!



Front view of "Pete" containers with shelf supports.



Pantry upgrade overview!