



Century Safe

The first planned time capsule was made for the American Centennial in 1876, known then as a "Century Safe." Time Capsules have been part of semicentennial celebrations since. South Dakota communities are encouraged to consider creating one of their own.

Guideline:

- Carefully consider placement and contents.
Placement can occur in storage facilities, cornerstones, and burial.
- Contents should be durable such as glass, stone, metal, and most ceramics. Things to avoid placing in a time capsule include wood, plastics, paper, photographs, and textiles.
- Posted selection criteria and a public call for materials that meet your criteria.
- Consider the length of time from placement to opening. The shorter the time, the more manageable the time capsule, but the longer the period, the more magical it is.
- If buried, a time capsule location must be marked.
- Hold a ceremony to place the time capsule.
- Under no circumstances are the materials to be offered to the South Dakota State Historical Society. The contents are curiosities and a test of survivorship.

