

# The Master Key Guide

## Unlocking Your Physical and Digital Legacy

*A My Last Words Resource*

As an executor, one of the most frustrating things you can find is a drawer full of unmarked, mystery keys. What do they open? A forgotten storage unit? A safe deposit box containing crucial estate documents? Or just an old padlock that was thrown away years ago?

The modern estate is locked behind two entirely different sets of keys: the physical brass in your pocket, and the cryptographic codes on your hard drive. Relying on your family to play a high-stakes guessing game with either is a recipe for chaos.

Use this guide to inventory your master keys. **Do not write your actual passwords or seed phrases on this paper.** Instead, use this as a checklist to ensure you have documented exactly what your family needs inside your *My Last Words* vault.

### Part 1: The Physical Keychain

Physical keys without context are useless. For every key you own, your family needs to know exactly what it opens and where that lock is located.

- [ ] **Primary & Secondary Real Estate:** Front doors, side doors, garage door codes, and alarm system PINs for your primary home, vacation cabins, or rental properties.
- [ ] **Secure Storage & Safes:** Keys and combinations for home safes, locked filing cabinets, and lockboxes.
- [ ] **Off-Site Storage:** Keys, gate codes, and the physical address for any rented storage units. (*Executors often don't know a storage unit exists until a late payment notice arrives in the mail*).
- [ ] **Safe Deposit Boxes:** The location of the bank, the box number, and the location of the physical key. (*Without this, courts often have to get involved to drill the box*).
- [ ] **Mailboxes:** Keys to P.O. boxes or community mail clusters, ensuring your executor can continue to receive critical final bills and notices.
- [ ] **Vehicles & Equipment:** Fobs and keys for cars, motorcycles, boats, ATVs, and heavy equipment.

## Part 2: The Digital Keychain

If physical keys open doors, digital keys unlock your identity and your assets. These are the master codes that must be secured before you are gone.

- [ ] **The Master Password:** If you use a password manager (like 1Password, LastPass, or Apple Keychain), this is the single most important key you own. Without it, the rest of your digital life remains entirely inaccessible.
- [ ] **Device PINs & Passcodes:** The numerical codes to unlock your primary smartphone, tablet, and computer. Biometrics (FaceID/TouchID) will not work for your executor.
- [ ] **Cryptocurrency Seed Phrases:** A 12-to-24 word recovery phrase. If you own digital currency on a hardware wallet and this seed phrase is lost, the funds are permanently gone. There is no customer service department to reset it.
- [ ] **Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) Backup Codes:** When you set up heavy security on primary email or banking accounts, they often provide a list of "backup codes" to use if your phone is lost.
- [ ] **Encryption Keys:** Any recovery keys for encrypted hard drives (like Apple's FileVault or Microsoft's BitLocker).

### The Next Step: Stop Hiding Your Keys

Putting tags on physical keys and hiding passwords in a desk drawer is a massive security risk; taking them to the grave is even worse.

**There is a better way.** Create your secure digital vault with *My Last Words*. You can upload photos of your physical keys with notes on what they open, securely store your master passwords and PINs, and lock them in a private drawer. When the time comes, your trusted delegates will receive the exact map they need to unlock your legacy—without the chaos of guessing.

Start organizing your legacy today at <https://mylastwords.life.vu/>

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