OPENING DIAL COMBINATION SAFES

GROUP 2 MECHANICAL COMBINATION SAFE LOCK

TO OPEN:
Your lock may be set on a factory shipping combination, or it may be set on a true, three number combination. To open a lock set on a factory shipping combination of 50, turn the dial LEFT until “50” aligns with the OPENING INDEX (12 o’clock position on the dial ring) the fourth [4th] time. You must dial the combination precisely without backing up. Now turn the dial RIGHT until it comes to a complete stop. The dial should stop at about “Between 85 TO 95” indicating the lock bolt has been retracted. If your lock is set on a true, three-number combination, for example, 50-20-30, follow these steps to open:
1. Turn the dial LEFT (counter clockwise) until the first [1st] number of the combination 50 aligns with the OPENING INDEX the fourth [4th] time.
2. Turn the dial RIGHT (clockwise) until the second [2nd] number of the combination 20 aligns with the OPENING INDEX the third [3rd] time.
3. Turn the dial LEFT (counter clockwise) until the third [3rd] number of the combination 30 aligns with the OPENING INDEX the second [2nd] time.
4. Turn the dial RIGHT (clockwise) until it comes to a complete stop.
If the dial does not stop, carefully repeat the entire opening procedure. Remember to dial exactly to the number of the combination with which you are working. Dialing even a small amount past a number you meant to stop on will cause the lock to remain locked. This is part of the lock’s mechanism security.

Note: The dial should stop between 80 and 100 depending on where the dial was splined at the factory indicating the lock bolt has been retracted.
To RELOCK the combination lock, turn the dial FOUR complete revolutions to any NON-COMBINATION NUMBER.

NOTE: unless there is a zero in the combination, zero has absolutely nothing to do with the combination

Some Safes might have a Combination Dial Lock that is not Group 2. It is possible on some models of Fire Safes or Gun Safes with a more economical lock or an Old Safe. The economy lock does not need the final turn to retract the bolt, therefore just dialing the 3 or 4 numbers of the combination and stopping at the last number and trying the handle to open the safe is the method to try.

Combinations of this type might start by turning either to the LEFT or RIGHT to the first number at least the same number of times as there are numbers to the combination. If the combination were 25-50-75 for example then try turning 3 times right to 25, 2 times left to 50 and then once to the right stopping at 75 and try the handle, if that does not work, try 3 times left to 25, 2 times right to 50 and then left once stopping at 75 and try the handle.

One way that helps a skilled technician identify which type of lock is to turn the dial 4 times in one direction and then put a slight amount of turning pressure towards the opening position on the handle. As the dial is continuously turned after the 4 times around. If a click is felt in the dial or handle in a pattern of just a few numbers consistently as the dial is turned, then it might not be a group 2 lock.

Be aware though. There might be friction and or minor grinding detected or you might notice one set of numbers that there is little or no resistance and others that drag and these can mean many other things to a skilled technician.
You might want to copy the following as part of your combination instructions for future reference. Omit the lefts/ or /rights and other additional instructions that do not apply to your combination

5 times left/right stopping at _________ (this is uncommon, but there are some 4 wheel combination locks)

4 times left/right stopping at _________

3 times left/right stopping at _________

2 times left/right stopping at _________

Once left/right until stop/stopping at _________

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS That might apply for higher security manipulation proof locks that might be used on (Star) round doors on in the floor safes or certain other types of secure records safes (GSA)(Mosler)(DieBold)

Push dial in /and feel for slight click / and release / keep dial pushed in

Continue turning left/right until stop at _________

Turn handle Clockwise / Counterclockwise to open