

Storage Tips

VEX Equipment Storage Tips

Organizing your VEX workspace and helping student teams manage their VEX creations and equipment is an absolute must for maximizing instructional and build time in the classroom or laboratory.

Once your VEX equipment is unpackaged for the first time, you'll need to store and care for it. Each situation is different, and knowing your own space, storage needs, and classroom/lab setup is paramount. You'll also have to decide how portable your equipment needs to be and decide if you'd like some storage containers to fit inside of other storage containers. However, here are some suggested ideas for storing and managing your VEX equipment. Based on a single VEX Robotics Classroom Lab Kit, the following summarizes some suggestions for storage and care of equipment.

Mechanisms Being Built and Robots in Process and Transmitters

Space Requirement MINIMUM: 14" long x 14" wide x 14" high

Possible Storage Solutions:

- Secure labeled shelf space
- Stackable flip-top container
- Stackable tub



Example of a flip top container



Example of a tub container

Large VEX Parts: Wheels, Microcontrollers, Long Chassis Metal, Etc.

Space Requirement MINIMUM: 6" long x 14" wide x 6" high

Possible Storage Solutions:

- Secure labeled shelf space
- Toolbox
- Storage container



Example of a toolbox

Small VEX Parts and Tools: Fasteners, Most Gears, Switches, Wrenches, Etc.

Space Requirement MINIMUM: 10" long x 14" wide x 3" high

Possible Storage Solutions:

- Closable storage container with compartments
- Plastic food containers with lids
- Re-sealable plastic bags
- Baby food jars



Example of a storage container with compartments



Example of a storage container with compartments

Additional Considerations

Here are a few more hints from some of our VEX Robotics veteran classroom users.

- **Label Your Equipment:** Using markers or printed labels works great. Label by team/group number or any way that makes sense for your needs.
- **Battery Charging Stations:** In most cases it's best to manage the VEX rechargeable battery packs as a single "charging station" where every team/group is responsible for its own batteries. Nothing slows down a project more than the lack of available batteries.



Example of a battery stationbox

- **Phone Cable Tethers:** If you are not using WiFi for controls, we suggest all teams/groups have a phone cable for a tether. This allows for most testing to take place without crystals. Please see your VEX materials for proper use of tethers.
- **Crystal Storage:** It may be best for an instructor/lab leader to manage all crystals rather than the teams managing them. See your VEX materials for proper use and care of crystals. We suggest the use of tethers for most testing when possible and practical, then distributing crystals for Amaze Phase Challenges and competitions.
- **Antenna Care and Storage:** These tend to bend and break if not properly cared for. Again, if tethers are being used, there is no need to use antennas. They can even be unscrewed and stored separately until they are needed to use with the crystals.
- **Challenge and Project Supplies:** Don't forget that the Amaze Phases call for some additional materials such as tennis balls, etc. You will occasionally need some additional storage space, so plan accordingly.