

## How to recreate “A Shocking Geocache” (GC4VKVG)

By: WVTim



What makes this geocache special? The geocache is housed in a birdhouse, making it easy to place in a high muggle area and yet not be noticed. It uses an easy to find toy to “power” the geocache. It’s unique and creative but its design is fun for kids of all ages. The geocache page is very important; it “sets up” the geocache find with some fun info.

To solve for the letters needed to open the lock, a geocacher will have to allow electricity to flow through their body. See the [geocache page](#) for a better understanding. The geocache page causes that tiny bit of doubt that has the geocacher ask, “Am I going to be shocked?” Solving for the solution on this geocache puts a big smile on the geocacher’s face.

### Supplies:

- Wood to build a blue birdhouse-like house. A bluebird house will work, but it doesn’t have to be exact.
- An “energy stick”, found at most toy stores or available online.
- A Master lock #1590D
- 2 hinges and one clasp big enough to hold a lock with a 1” shackle
- 160 degree Wide Angle Door viewer - purchased from Lowes

### How to Build:

#### *The Big Picture*

You will be building a “birdhouse” big enough to house an energy stick. The bottom board of the house will be hinged; this holds a geocache container of your choice. Various random screws, nails, and assorted hardware will be on both sides. The geocacher will touch the one correct item on each side, completing a circuit which will light the energy stick, giving the geocacher the letters they need to open the geocache when looking in the door viewer, which is just below where the bird would go in.

#### *Step-by-step Instructions*

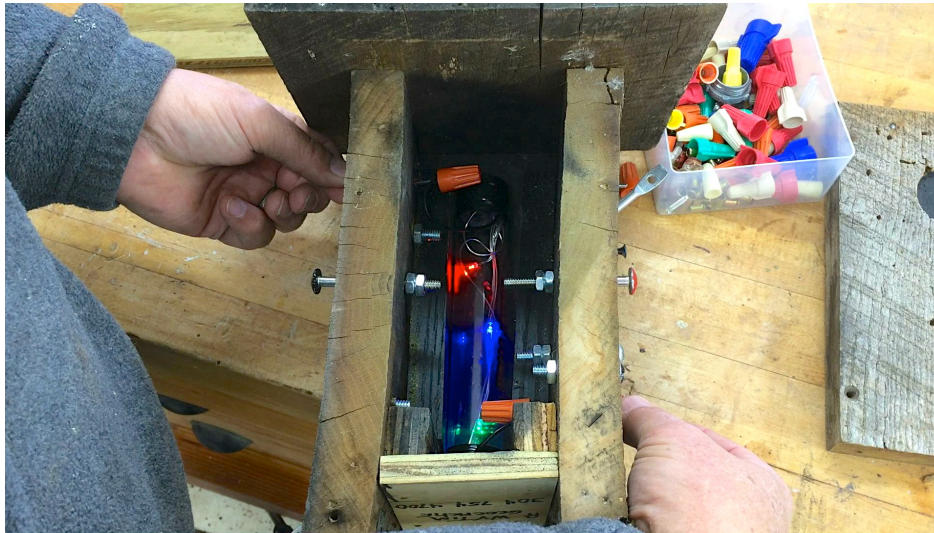
1. Build a birdhouse big enough to house the energy stick (a bluebird-sized house will work and plans are readily available on the internet). Build a false floor in the house about 1-2 inches from the bottom. Then attach the bottom with hinges and add a clasp for lock. Drill an indentation for the bird entrance and paint it black to make it appear real from a distance. Drill pilot holes for outdoor wood screws to attach the front. Use screws to allow for easy access to the energy stick. (See below.)



2. Cut two pieces of wire, each ~6 inches long. Strip ~2 inches on each end. Attach the stripped part of the wires with black electrical tape to the energy stick (see below). Secure energy stick vertically into birdhouse. Cable ties would work.



3. Attach various nuts, screws, and/or nails on each side. The more choices the harder it will be to solve. Attach one wire of the energy stick on a nail on the right side and the other to a nail on the left side. Be sure to choose a nail that conducts electricity well (like a finish nail). Attach with wire nuts (see below).



4. Below the “entrance”, drill a hole and insert your door viewer. Birdhouse wood will not be as thick as a normal door, so a small piece of wood will have to be added on the inside to hold the viewer.

5. **Test:** You should be able to touch the two “correct” nails and the energy stick will light up and make a sound. Then look in the viewer. I placed my energy stick so the red light was UP. The geocache page tells the geocacher to put the first three letters of the highest color in the lock. RED. Set the lock so it opens on R-E-D.

*Editor's Note: See a YouTube video with step-by-step instructions made by WVTim [here](#).*