



StunGunMike's
Security Depot



Bug Detectors

How To Find Spying
Cameras and Bugs





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CHAPTER 1:

Questions Before You Begin

Where there's surveillance, there is sure to be counter-surveillance.

It's the nature of the cycle. If someone was watching you or listening in to your conversations, surely you would want to put a stop to it.

But, can you find bugs on your own? Do you need special equipment like bug detectors and RF frequency scanners to find hidden cameras and listening devices? The answer of course, depends on your situation. However, before you do anything, you need to decide if you have anything private worth spying on.

If you're not sure if you need a bug detector it may be a good idea to go over a few things in your mind...

Bug Detectors: How To Find Spying Bugs

- 1) What would people learn about your personal or business life if they've tapped into your phone line, bugged your home, car, or office, or are secretly watching you on a hidden video camera?
- 2) Are you ending a relationship? A divorce or dissolving a company?
- 3) Are one of your business partners or spouse overly suspicious?
- 4) Does it matter if someone could track your vehicle?
- 5) Do you conduct highly confidential meetings?
- 6) Have you noticed private or confidential information leaking out?
- 7) Does your phone sometimes ring once and then stop?
- 8) Do other people seem to know about conversations you have from the privacy of your car?

If you answered yes to any of the above, you may benefit from the use of bug detectors.

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Bug Detectors, Wiretaps, & Covert Cameras

A wiretap attaches to your phone line and either records both sides of the conversation or transmits the audio to some form of listening post where it is usually recorded. Wiretaps may not use a microphone since they often connect directly to the phone line, and if they do, it is usually a tiny self contained microphone inside the phone itself.

A Bug is a tiny listening device that is placed in an area of privacy in the hopes of gathering information covertly. Bugs can either records things directly to an internal device or transmit a signal to be recorder off premises.

As technology gets smaller, hidden cameras become easier to hide. They can watch you through a pinhole and be found in clocks, lamps, plants, stuffed animals, smoke detectors, books, mirrors, electrical outlets and more. In fact there are now hidden cameras like the sleuthgear xtreme life that can be placed in a rock with a 1 year battery!

In some cases, hidden cameras can only be found using a look through device.

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Bug Detectors – The Power Source of the Bug

Every Bug needs power for it to run. Wiretaps often use the direct current that is already in the phone line, but sometimes they do use a battery source. Bugs usually use a battery, but can be installed in a vehicle's or home's wiring system, which is why its a good idea to check your electrical outlets. Often it is easier to find the power source than the bug itself.

Wired or Wireless Bugs?

Hardwired bugs (those that are connected and powered by a wire) are harder for someone to set up, but more convenient if the person has constant access to the location they are spying on. By hard wiring a device, there is no need to charge the bug. They are also more difficult to find if installed professionally. (most times however, bugs are an afterthought and can be located with a thorough visual sweep)

Wireless Bugs can use audio or video and transmit a radio frequency that transmits the image or sound through the air to a receiver and/or recorder. These devices can be installed in a matter of seconds.

The rule of thumb though is “easier to set up, means easier to find”

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How Bugs are Set Up

If you have experienced a break in where nothing was taken, its very possible that you have been bugged. Even if something has been taken, it could just be a way to cover up the true purpose of invading your privacy. **Has someone offered to take your car in for servicing?** If so, you may have a bug.

Some listening devices or digital voice recorders are set up to start recording when they hear sound. This means they can lay in wait for days or even weeks recording conversations and then turning themselves off to save battery power when nothing is going on.

You can also use a cellphone as a bug. Simply by disabling the ringing feature, you can call the phone to access its microphone and listen in from anywhere. With a little tape of Velcro, you can hide it under a desk or coffee table with ease. **A telephone splitter can lead you to a wiretap**, but more importantly is to know that some phone splitters (and plug adapters) have built in transmitters that could be eavesdropping on your calls.

Lip Reading is another way people can find out what you are saying. **A lip reader can translate what you are saying from up to 12 feet away** with pretty good accuracy. This means all someone has to do is get a video recording of you and email the footage to a lip reading service for translation.

Key logger software and spy ware can also be placed on your computer by way of attachment or a physical device that loads the software via the usb port. Key loggers record every keystroke on your computer including passwords, email, document creation and more.

CHAPTER 2:

Sweeping an Area With Bug Detectors



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Exterior

Step 1 – Determine if the phone cable coming to the junction box comes directly from the telephone pole or from an underground conduit. If you determine that it comes from a conduit, you will need to locate your neighborhood telephone junction box.

When you locate the junction box you can open it with a flat head screwdriver. Once inside you will see a profusion of different wires. Occasionally, the terminals are labeled with their corresponding phone numbers, if not you can use a "butt set" and attach alligator clips to each pair of green and red wires. If you hear a dial tone, dial **1-800-444-4444**. You will hear a per-recorded message stating the number you are calling from. This will help you find your own line if they are not marked. If you hear a voice disconnect quickly, and if there is no dial tone, it means the line is not in service. (note: do not do this in the rain. Phone wires carry direct current)

When you find your line, mark it for future use. If there are other pairs of wires attached to you line going to another terminal, your phone is tapped. Check the number that is tapping your line the same way by dialing **1 800-444-4444**.

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Now that you have found your terminal you want to look carefully at it and compare it to terminals in the junction box to see if there is anything conspicuous. If you see anything attached to it that shouldn't be there you could be bugged.

Next you will want to visit the phone junction box attached to the outside of your home. Inside you will see the main cable that attaches from the telephone junction box or telephone pole. There will be a ground wire attached to a water pipe or other grounding mechanism and will most likely go into the ground somehow (no pun intended). You will also see black, yellow, red and green wires entering the house. These are the lines that connect your phones. If these wires are going anywhere else other than into your home, you may have a tap.

Next, look for any type of transmitting device that may be attached to one of the colored wires in the junction box. It may be powered by the phone lines its attached to, or it may have a small battery. They are often hidden wrapped in electrical tape.

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From the inside of your home, where the colored phone wires enter (usually there is a small plastic box) look for transmitters hidden in wire tape. Look for Fat sections of phone wire. Don't worry about the wires going throughout the walls, just focus on the parts you can see. If you find spliced wires, follow them.
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Next, examine the telephones themselves by taking the cover off. If you see alligator clips , you have a tap. If you see electrical tape, it means someone has been into the phone for some reason.

Interior

Outlets

Although there are spy cameras that plug directly into outlets like these:

And hidden cameras that look like wall switches and outlets like these:

Here we are going to focus on taps that you may find within a regular wall outlet you already have. Here you will need to remove the plate off the outlets in each room you want to secure against eavesdropping. Flash a light around the sides of the wall outlet, looking for anything attached to it, even a small wire (which could be an antenna!) If you suspect that the outlet is a bug (it may not look like the other outlets, or may be a different color etc) you should have a certified electrician replace it.

Next: **Room Sweep for Suspicious Objects**

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Room Sweep for suspicious objects

For each room you will need to do a room sweep. When searching with a bug detector, you want to start at the top of the room and work down. Pick one corner of the room and work your way around.

It helps if you make a drawing of the area showing possible hiding places for bugs and cameras. Make a list of places to pay extra attention to and mark them with phrases like;

- Microphone in picture frame
- Contact microphone outside window
- RF Transmitter in plant
- Microphone under carpeting
- Camera in electronic devices
- etc,

Don't move too fast, as some bugs are low in power and easy to miss. Once the walls are clean, move to the center of the room and check the floor and ceiling with the bug detector.

Look for anything out of the ordinary. This will include, baby monitors, recorders, cell phones, transmitters and hidden video cameras in everyday objects. Some you may be able to find easily, some you may need a bug detector to find. For example, the hidden camera in this digital picture frame is virtually undetectable:

To find the camera lens, you most likely need a device like the look through spy finder bug detector.

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The Roof

If you have Cable TV, Spying eyes will love you. An old TV antenna can be used to transmitt signals over a very long range. If you are not using the antenna, you may want to have it taken down.

The Attic

An Antenna in your attic can transmit your voice conversations for miles at a time.

Bugs are generally located in areas the you are known to carry on conversations and less likely to found in places like hallways and stairways, however that doesn't mean the attic is free from them.

You will want to look in your attic for antennas, recorders, and receivers, as well as checking for any splicing in phone wires that lead up there.

Next: Hidden Video Cameras, Spy Cams, and Transmitting Devices

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Hidden Video Cameras, Spy Cams, and Transmitting Devices

From a happy face button to a fully functional smoke alarm, they can be placed in almost anything. If you see an item that you don't recognize, you may want to ask yourself, "Where did this item come from?"

You will want to check things like clocks, calculators, plants, lamps (a favorite of the FBI) and even teddy bears. If you are going through a divorce its possible that new bear that you child came home with has a voice operated bug inside it.

Hidden cameras can be very hard to locate and may require you to go over everything with a magnifying glass looking for tiny pinholes in objects.

Bug detectors like the spy finder allow you to look through the red glass view hole to locate cameras. Originally designed by the government, the spy finder shines its leds at the pinhole camera and causes a reflection when it locates the lens. Sometimes, this is the only way to find the hidden camera.

You can use an ordinary flashlight to create a reflection from a camera lens, as well, but it is more difficult and you will have to be standing right in front of it.

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Bugging a Conference Room

Simply leaving behind a cell phone is the most common way to bug an office. It may be left behind in an obvious place as if someone "forgot" it, but more likely it will be dropped in a plant or hidden somewhere with a Velcro mount. Voice activated recorders are probably the next most common thing to look for and are often hidden the same way. (of course these are rarely left out in the open like cell pl



Note: Not relying on bug detection the [audio Jammer](#) protects room conversations where sensitive information information may be exchanged by generating a random masking sound that desensitizes any nearby microphone.

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Sweeping Your Vehicle

The Hood

The first place you want to check is under the hood. If you see a set of alligator clips attached to your vehicles battery, you've probably got bugs.

Antenna

Is your radio fuzzy? Try to find a cable going from the car's antenna to the radio. If you find another wire attached, bingo! That's probably it.

The Vents

Look into each air vent with a flashlight to see if you can locate any hidden microphone which may be hidden inside. You may need a magnifying glass to help you get a good view.

Crevasses

Look down beside the seats, on the back of the seats, under the visors and any other place that a microphone could be hiding. This is important because a bug detector can not find a signal if the transmitter isn't on. The good news is that a microphone has to be exposed for it to pick up sound, so you can probably find it with a visual search if you are thorough enough. Don't forget under the seats and under the Dash!

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GPS Devices

GPS Stands for "Global Positioning Scanner". They devices receive signals from satellites that allow the unit to map its location via longitude and latitude. The two main types of GPS units are "real time" (that record and broadcast the speed, direction, and positioning of your vehicle live every few seconds) or "Passive GPS" which records the exact position of the car internally where the information is later retrieved for viewing, usually through attaching it to a computer. The benefit is that passive GPS units do not have a monthly subscription.

These units are often placed under seats, inside the grill, the bumpers, fenders, under the rear window, under that dash, and sometimes magnetically attached to the vehicle fame itself.



Picture above of H6000 iTrail Magnetic GPS Tracking Device

Bug Detectors: How To Find Spying Bugs

Finding A Bug

Finding different types of bugs requires different types of actions. However, there is a general rule of thumb not to let the spy know that you know that they know so to speak. This means when you find a bug, hollaring or making accusations towards people is almost always the wrong idea. It is also, not a good idea to inform **anyone**. Not your spouse, friend, coworker, boss, etc.

When you find a bug via physical search, you want to see if it is still transmitting. You can do this by bringing a silent bug detector very close to it. Do not touch the bug, as it will alert anyone listening that they have been caught. Remember, where there is one, there may be more. So just because the bug you found isn't active, doesn't mean that other ones aren't.

Here are a few options to consider when finding a bug or eavesdropping device:

Do you want to take pictures?

Do you want a witness to look at it?

Do you want to disable the transmitter?

Do you want to leave it alone and provide it with Disinformation?

Are you a prominent social figure? If so, you could try calling the FBI

Once you find a bug, you should make it difficult for the privacy invaders to come back. This means securing your home (see article: How to Design a Complete Home Security Plane), Installing surveillance or an alarm system, and possibly starting or joining a neighborhood watch program.

CHAPTER 3:

Types of Bug Detectors



Bug Detectors Range for Simple Models for the Do It Yourselfer, Intermediate Models for Investigators, and Professional Counter Surveillance for Corporate and Government Security.

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Types of Bug Detectors

Bug detectors are designed to find and uncover covert surveillance systems consisting of cameras, cell phones, GPS and telephone monitoring devices, and at times sensors. Detectors are particularly designed to find infrared signals and radio frequencies. There are a variety of bug detectors available on the market today. Purchasing and choosing a bug detector can easily become overwhelming and at times confusing. Understanding the type of bug detectors on the market today is essential to choosing one that best fits your needs.

Auto RF Pen Detector with UV Light

The Auto RF Pen Detector with UV Light was designed to detect wireless signals and radio frequencies from mobile phones or hidden cameras. It even doubles as a currency checker that will identify counterfeits using the UV light to check for watermarks. However, it still writes as a functioning ink pen making it ideal for covert counter-surveillance. The signal strength of radio frequencies is conveyed through the flashing of the light at the tip of the pen and detection begins automatically searching for common radio frequencies emitted from audio recording equipment, mobile phones, and cameras.



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RF Camera Detector

The RF Camera Detector will find hidden video recording equipment, live cell phones, and other wireless transmitters such as a GPS monitoring device. It will find both high and low radio frequencies emitted from devices such as eavesdropping equipment and microphones from up to 32 feet from the device. This detector comes with earphones and is very compact for easy carrying in a purse or briefcase.

RF Signal Detector



The RF Signal Detector has been designed to be extremely user friendly and easy to operate. It will find wireless surveillance equipment such as cameras or audio recording equipment. The antenna is retractable and enables users to sweep an area quickly and discretely with reliable results. The detector can be set to alert the user of hidden equipment via the beep mode, vibration mode for covert sweeps, or deliver a beep via connected ear buds for convenience.

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Multi-functional Bug Frequency Detector



The Multi-functional Bug Frequency Detector is designed to find both wired and wireless recording equipment. The detector will scan for common radio frequencies emitted from such devices and will alert the user of its findings via an audible sound, vibration, or a silent LED flicker for covert counter-surveillance.

High Frequency RF Detector



The High Frequency RF Detector is designed to find audio and video surveillance devices that have been hidden or concealed. This detector will find radio frequencies commonly emitted from cameras or recording equipment and digital signals from devices such as Bluetooth devices and live mobile phones. It will alert the users of such devices via a connected earphone or vibration for covert counter-surveillance sweeps.

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Personal Spy Finder



The Personal Spy Finder is designed to search and find infrared lights often emitted by cameras. This unit acts as a personal hidden camera finder by highlighting concealed cameras that emit infrared lights not easily seen by the natural human eye. It is compact and will easily fit in a pants pocket undetected for covert sweeps of hotel rooms, offices, or homes.

Camera Detector Deluxe



The Camera Detector Deluxe is designed to find radio frequencies and infrared lights often emitted by hidden cameras. The radio frequency sensor will identify hidden cell phones or GPS tracking devices while the infrared filter identifies hidden cameras and video recording equipment. It has three alert modes via earphones for convenience, by vibration or silent LED flashing for covert counter-surveillance sweeps. This unit is very heavy duty and will perform in a variety of environments as it's weather resistant.

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Mini Gadgets CD Spy Hunter



The Mini Gadget CD Spy Hunter is sensitive and designed to detect hidden cameras and wireless signals. The telescoping antenna makes sweeping a room easy and efficient while the LED bar line detection display identifies the signals strength for reliable findings. It can also be set to vibration alert mode for covert counter surveillance sweeps.

Frequency Counter Bug Detector



The Frequency Counter Bug Detector uses microprocessor circuitry to find and store radio frequencies often emitted by cell phones or hidden audio and video equipment. Its wireless transmission helps to detect and display the actual frequencies on the LCD screen of the unit. The antenna will find both low and high frequencies so that as a room or space is swept for hidden surveillance equipment it's discovered quickly. This bug detector also has a silent alert mode feature which allows for covert sweeps.

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Personal RF Detector

The Personal RF Detector will silently detect radio frequencies from a cell phone or hidden audio recording equipment such as a camera. The unit comes with an earphone or can be put into vibration mode to alert its user of its findings. It also has a five section bar graph that will display the strength of the frequencies. This detector is rechargeable and typically has very low battery consumption rate for extended counter-surveillance sweeps.

The SleuthGear Defender Bug Detector and Hidden Camera Finder



The SleuthGear Defender Bug Detector and Hidden Camera Finder works to detect radio frequencies and infrared signals. A radio frequency can be generated by a cell phone while an infrared signal is typically generated by motions sensors or similar devices. This detector will detect even the faintest infrared signals such as a night vision camera or a remote control with hidden audio recording equipment. In addition, the IR-sensitive lens also gives you the ability to find cameras that are not in operation.

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Bug Detector



The Bug Detector offers a simple and reliable means of counter-surveillance. The attached antenna will find cell phones and simple GPS tracking equipment alongside hidden audio or video recording devices. This unit will last for almost 500 hours on standby or can be used continuously during a standard sweep for approximately six hours. This detector also has a five section barograph that details the strength of the discovered device and can be set to a silent alert mode for covert sweeps or the beep alert mode for standard sweeps. It is also rechargeable and comes with the adapter.

Multi-Functional Portable Sweep Unit



The Multi-Functional Portable Sweep Unit is designed for professionals needing to sweep and secure areas in a timely matter. The detector will find wireless tapping equipment, hidden cameras that are both wired and wireless, transmitters such as fax machine equipment or computers, GPS tracking devices, and telephone wires. The detector will then secure the area by preventing telephone and laser taps as well as recordings by activating its white noise generator. This counter-surveillance equipment comes complete with two telephone cables and a connector, an ear phone, and AC adapter for charging.

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Cell Phone and GPS Detection Device



The Cell Phone and GPS Detection Device is very compact in size and will easily fit into the palm of its user's hand. The detector is designed to track cell phones, mobile equipment, and GPS tracking and monitoring devices. The dual band dipole is omni-directional antenna gives the user a broader and more reliable detection area of more than 30 feet. It can also be set to vibrate upon discovering concealed devices or switch to beeper mode for normal use. This unit also has an operation time of up to 20 hours on a single charge, comes with an earphone, and is exceptionally lightweight. .

Cell Phone and GPS Detector



The Cell Phone and GPS Detector will identify cell phones and GPS tracking and monitoring devices that are live and actively transmitting. The detector will detect every text messaged sent or received, images sent or received, data transmission, and phone call audio. It's ideal for frequency engineers and technicians working to ensure proper mobile device functions. This unit also offers wireless signal detection and display through a simple snapshot of the scanned frequencies via the LCD display for user convenience. The Cell Phone and GPS Detector will last for up to 24 hours on a single charge and comes with an antenna and ear phone.

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Mini Wireless Cam Hunter



The Mini Wireless Cam Hunter is designed to automatically scan for cameras. This unit will display the frequency range on the high resolution LCD monitor while "locking in" to the frequency as it alerts the user. This feature is ideal for sweeps being conducted in unfamiliar surroundings. It is rechargeable and comes with a durable carry case and adapter for easy charging.

Professional Camera Detector



The Professional Camera Detector will tap into any camera feed and interpret those feeds so that the user may view what the camera sees. The feed is displayed on the miniature screen that has the ability to display NTSC and PAL video feeds in color. The detector is a professional counter-surveillance device that will also scan for a variety of frequencies across its three band antennas; making it more reliable and functional so that the user can be in the room with the camera without being physically present. This detector also has built-in speakers and earphones support for covert operations.

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Counter Surveillance Probe/Monitor



The Counter Surveillance Probe/Monitor is a broadband receiver that was designed to detect electronic surveillance equipment such as phones, body bugs, video transmitters, and audio recording equipment. The kit comes completely portable and enables users to sweep and secure a space within minutes and then can easily be packed away into a standard sized briefcase. The detector's probe will also find infrared transmitters and devices with an acoustic leak such as a "tapped" telephone line. The unit will alert the user via the pulsing single segment trip point on the 18 section bar graph displayed on the LCD screen.

Omni Spectral Correlator



This Omni Spectral Correlator is ideal for detecting eavesdropping equipment. It is automatic, portable, and simple to program. The system has a custom designed spectrum analyzer that will operate automatically to store all encounter signals and detect radio frequency transmitters alongside devices with infrared signals such as a color camera. This detector also has the OSCOR correlator which provides signal classification by correlating the demodulated audio of a received signal to the ambient noises of an environment. Thus if subtle changes are made in the environment the system will kick in and notify its user and even gives the user the option of printing its findings via its built-in printer.

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Non-Linear Junction Detector

The Non-Linear Junction Detector is a top of the line bug detector that will find hidden surveillance equipment that is hard wired, transmitting, radiating, and even turned off. It will find everything from cell phones to GPS monitoring and tracking equipment to video and audio recording devices. This detector is easy to set up and impressively lightweight. It can sweep rather large areas quickly while using wireless headphones and a graphic display to identify hidden surveillance equipment. The antenna has been revised in this model to be circular and polarized so that hidden devices are quicker to be discovered.

Orion Inspection Tool Kit



The Orion Inspection Tool Kit is made to accompany the Orion Non-Linear Junction Detector. The kit is compact and includes unique tools that are designed exclusively for the detector. Some of the tools include a stud finder, hammer, wire tracing system, and a borescope. The ultra-violet light is great for finding marks hidden in natural daylight and the marking pen helps the user make accurate conclusions. The accompanying flashlight, wire cutters, measuring tape, and pliers are included to round out the kit for quick tasks that may be needed to install or modify equipment.



Where there's surveillance, there is sure to be counter-surveillance.

Its the nature of the cycle. Hopefully after reading this you are now better prepared to protect yourself from privacy theft.

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For the Latest In
Counter Surveillance

<http://www.stungunmikes.com/bug-spy-rf-detectors.html>