M is for Morrison Shelter



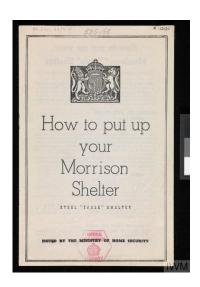
Courtesy of Imperial War Museum

The Morrison Shelter was designed for domestic use during the Second World War. The shelter was intended to protect the residents from fallen debris and masonry if the house was hit during an aerial attack, an air raid. It was a steel structure with mesh sides designed to be space saving, often serving as a table as well as a shelter.



Morrison Shelter from WW2 Gallery @The Time & Tide Museum of Great Yarmouth Life

The shelter takes its name from Herbert Morrison, a government minister and it was made available to householders in 1941. It would have been delivered in pieces and is said to have taken two people around two hours to construct.



The advantages of this type of shelter as opposed to the outside Anderson Shelter was that it enabled people to stay in their own home. For many Great Yarmouth households whose home had no outside space or a small backyard these were the only option for air raid protection. By 1945 there were over a million Morrison Shelters in use.

What do you think it would be like sharing the Morrison Shelter with your family?

How many people could you comfortable fit in?

What could you take with you to pass the time if you couldn't sleep?

Why not make your own curious collection of M objects from around your home?



#A-Z
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