

DID YOU KNOW?

Adapting a shipping container by adding extra windows and doors can affect its structural integrity.

We recommend talking to a registered builder, building surveyor or qualified structural engineer for advice before starting your project.



MORE INFORMATION:



www.plantagenet.wa.gov.au

Find policies, application forms, and other planning & building information. You can also make an online enquiry.

CONTACT US:



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This information is provided as a general guide only - please contact us before starting your project.



Shire of
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SHIPPING CONTAINERS

Planning & Building Guidelines



Can I use a shipping container for storage when I am building?



A shipping container may be placed on a private property temporarily to store building materials while construction of a building is in progress.

A shipping container must not be placed on the property before a Building Permit has been granted by the Shire, and the container must be removed when construction is complete (or the permit expires).

Can I use a container when I am moving house?

A shipping container may be placed on a private property for up to 7 days without Shire approval.

Shipping containers are not allowed on a road reserve or other public land.

Can I use a shipping container for storage on my property long-term?

The Shire's Planning Policy No. 3 allows for the use of shipping containers as 'outbuildings' (ie. the same as sheds).

All shipping containers used ongoing are required to meet the acceptable development standards for outbuildings (**see Policy #3 or our 'Sheds' brochure for more details**).

Before bringing a shipping container to your property:

- Apply for a building permit (include details of footings and fixings/ tie downs)
- Apply for planning approval if you propose to have more than 1x 20ft container on the property (or more than 2x 20ft in the Rural Zone)

If you are thinking about a shipping container, please make sure that it:

- Is in a good condition of maintenance and repair
- Will be located at the rear of the property/ behind other buildings
- Will be screened from the street and neighbouring houses

Can I use a container as a habitable room or as part of a house?

A shipping container is classified as an 'outbuilding' (ie. a shed) and must not be used for living in or any similar habitable purpose.

A shipping container can potentially be adapted or used as a component of building a house provided that it:

- Is adapted to meet the Building Code of Australia standards for a habitable building (including fire resistance and energy efficiency)
- Is provided with and adequately attached to the building's footings or foundations
- All footings, fixings and alterations to the container are signed off by an engineer to ensure structural integrity

