

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:



(08) 9892 1111



info@sop.wa.gov.au



PO Box 48
MOUNT BARKER WA 6324

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 to be placed on the 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 2 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

