

DID YOU KNOW?

Adapting a sea 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 and application forms, other planning & building information, or send an enquiry online.

CONTACT US:



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



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SEA CONTAINERS

Planning & Building
Guidelines



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



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

A sea 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 expired).

Can I put a sea container on the road verge?

You can apply to the Shire for permission to place a sea container on the road verge for up to 14 days maximum – please ask us for details of the conditions that will apply.

Can I use a sea container for storage on my property permanently?

The Shire's *Planning Policy No. 17.1* allows for the permanent use of sea containers as follows:

- **Not permitted** on any land in the Residential, Rural Residential, Rural Village, Rural Smallholding, Mixed Use, Tourism and Special Use zones
- **May be permitted** (subject to application) in the Commercial, Service Industrial, Industrial, Special Industrial and Rural (outside Townsites) zones

Sea containers must have Shire approvals before being brought to a property and be:

- In good repair, uniform colour, and stored neatly
- At the rear of a property (ie. behind other buildings)
- Not on a vacant property
- Not take up an area designated for car parking or landscaping
- Screened by landscaping, fencing or other means if directed by the Shire

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

A sea container is classified the same as a shed or outbuilding, and must not be used for living in or any similar habitable purpose.

A sea 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 adaptations to the container are signed off by an engineer to ensure structural integrity

