

SHIPPING CONTAINERS



FACT SHEET

Are you thinking of placing a shipping container on your property?

Did you know shipping containers require development approval?

Whether it's your backyard workshop, storage, home office, granny flat or even a tiny house, shipping containers are more than their name suggests. Council embraces the many uses of shipping containers but regulates their placement and appearance so they don't create unsightly features or safety hazards.

Why do they need approval?

Before changing the use of a container, you need to obtain Development Approval.

This is because a shipping container is considered to be a building as defined in the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 as it is: *'a building or structure, or a portion of a building or structure, whether temporary or permanent, movable or immovable'*.

The type of application and information required will depend on what the container is being used for.

Generally shipping containers for minor domestic purposes should be designed to meet the following

- Should be one container high and should not be stacked
- Be placed a ground level on a base or pad (no more than 300mm high) and be tied down.
- Sited not less than 900mm from a property boundary
- Sited no less than 6m from a habitable building
- Roof runoff does not cause a nuisance to others
- Not erected over or near pipes (water, sewer or onsite waste disposal) or buried services such as electric cables.
- Be painted or clad in a neutral colour.

Shipping containers are a type of use that can be established successfully with careful design and articulation.

An application for a shipping container will require an assessment against the Planning and Design Code and will require approval by the relevant authority before being established.

It is an offence to establish a shipping container without the permission of the relevant authority.

Please always seek planning advice before establishing a shipping container on your property.



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