



ULTIMATE STORAGE BUILDING BUYING GUIDE

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO ASSIST YOU IN
PURCHASING THE PERFECT STORAGE BUILDING



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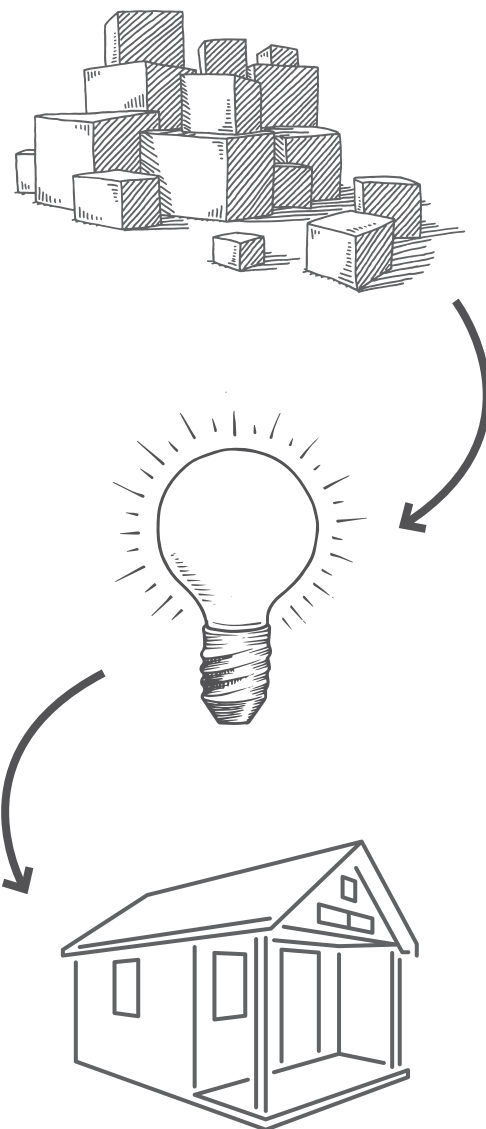
Step 8: Lay The Foundation

Ready, Set Go!

Introduction

If you're in the process of shopping for an outdoor storage building and find it to be overwhelming, confusing, or complicated, this guide is for you!

This guide will prepare you to make an educated choice and to know what to expect as you move through the buying process.



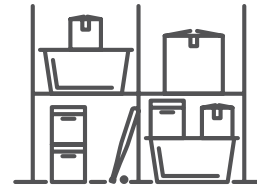
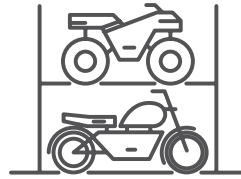
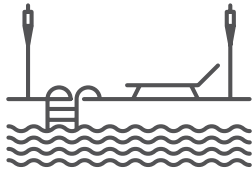
READ ON FOR THE 8 STEP PROCESS



STEP 1 IDENTIFY YOUR NEED

For what purpose will you be using the shed? Knowing your purpose will help you decide what style and size will best suit your needs.

Below are few shed use ideas along with suggested sizes. The list is not comprehensive but can serve as a reference.



Suggested Sizes: 8×10, 8×12, 8×14	Suggested Sizes:* 10×14, 10×18, 12×16, 12×20, 12×28, 12×32	Suggested Sizes:* 14×20, 14×28, 16×24, 16×32, 16×40
General Storage	Workshop	Workshop
Garden Shed	Home Office	Home Office
Pool House	Pool House	Woodshop
Chicken Coop	Hunting Shed	Equipment Storage
She Shed / Man Cave	She Shed / Man Cave	Boat Storage
Doghouse	Single Vehicle Garage	Business Expansion/ Extension
Art Studio	Double Vehicle Garage	
Single Motorcycle Storage	Multiple Snowmobile Storage	
Single Snowmobile Storage	Multiple Snowmobile Storage	
Single ATV Storage	Multiple ATV Storage	
Playhouse		

*Most large sheds either come with a standard garage door or the option to add a garage door.

STEP 2 DECIDE ON QUALITY AND PRICE POINT

Decide what level of quality you want. There are varying levels.

Plastic sheds & DIY shed kits: Plastic sheds and kits tend to be simpler in structure, made with less expensive materials, and more susceptible to damage, but they're economical. They range in price based on size. The larger the shed, the more it will cost. While you may not be able to customize your shed, you will be able to buy and walk away with your purchase the same day.



Conventional & custom sheds: Conventional sheds are a good option for those who know that they want. They come in a range of standard sizes but offer limited colors and feature options. They are sturdy, affordable, and can be found at almost any home improvement store.

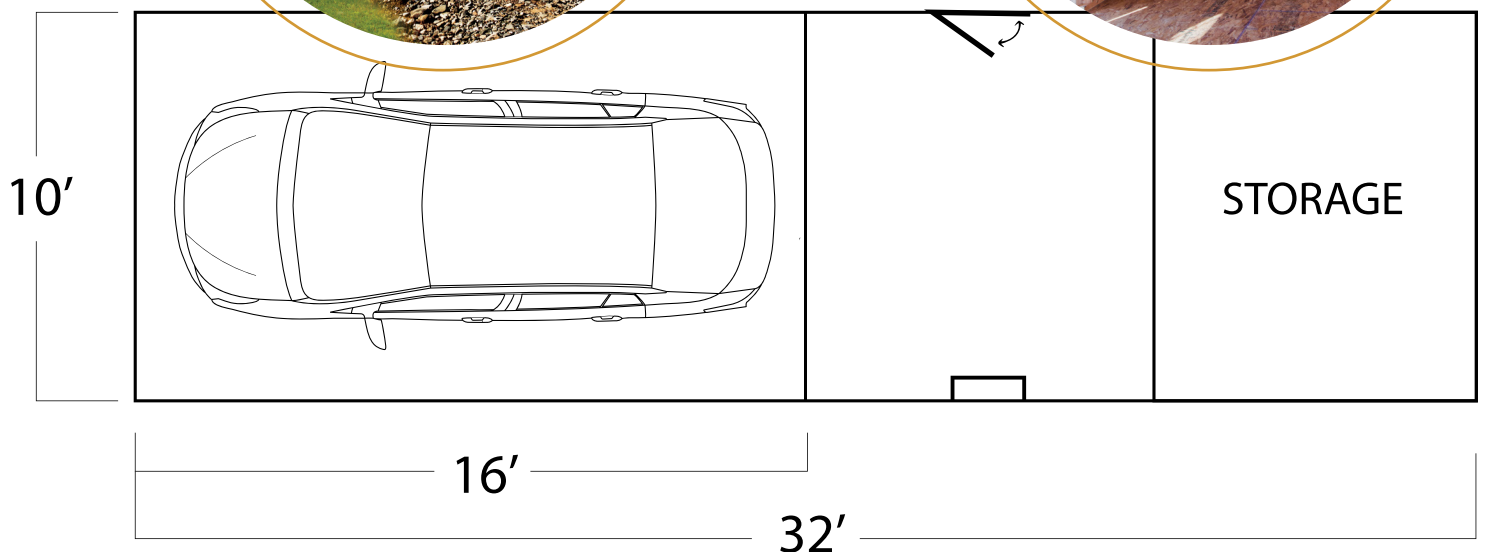
If you're not exactly sure what you want, going to a shed manufacturer may be better for you. The selection of shed types and styles will far outweigh those available at a home improvement store. Your choices will not be limited as they can build any outdoor storage building according to your specifications. Also, these sheds are of the highest quality and durability which means they cost more than their cheaper alternatives.

Plus, you can choose the windows and doors you want, have built-in shelves or lofts added, or ask for paint matching if you want your shed to match your house color.

At this point, it's beneficial to ask about payment options. In addition to buying outright, some companies offer rent-to-own and financing options. Which option allows you to purchase your shed easily and conveniently? Is there a certain payment method you prefer or need? If so, keep these things in mind as you shop for your shed.

STEP 3 CHOOSE A SIZE

The size of your shed will be based on your need as identified. Most residential storage buildings range from 8x10' to 10x14', but can be as large as 16x40'. As mentioned before, the size of your shed will affect the price, so consider this as you make your selection.



CUSTOMIZING MULTIPLE VARIATIONS AND SIZES

STEP 4 DECIDE WHICH STYLE YOU LIKE BEST

The roof structure determines the shed's style. If you're choosing a conventional or a custom shed, you will need to decide which style you prefer. There are several basic styles but, depending on the company, the names may vary.

A. Classic Gable

With a wider trim and steeper roof, the Deluxe style shed boasts a timeless look. Standard features include double doors with transom windows, two arched gable vents, and a trim package.



B. Ranch Gable

With its 5/12 pitch roofline, the Ranch style shed looks right at home in any residential neighborhood. The high walls provide ample space to hang tools or mount shelves.



C. Quaker Gable

Quaker Gable style storage buildings have an asymmetrical A-frame roof.



D. High Barn

The High Barn style shed brings country charm to any backyard. The classic loft roofline provides increased storage space and headroom.



E. Low Barn

Modeling a classic garden barn, the Low Barn style shed offers character and charm. Well-built, compact and affordable, this shed is an economical choice for protecting your lawn tractor or garden tools.



STEP 5 SELECT THE BEST INVESTMENT FOR YOU

The siding determines the shed's type. Shed siding comes in a range of materials, so deciding which one is right for you can be a tough decision. Your choice may depend on your budget, the look you want, or the amount of time you're willing to put into maintenance. Your price may change based on the siding you select.



A. Wood Lap Siding

Specially engineered lap siding has an overlapping framework of boards that helps to keep water away from the structure's interior and discourages pests from entering.



B. Steel Siding

Corrugated metal siding panels are dependable, long-lasting, and economical.



C. Vinyl Siding

Vinyl siding is a high-quality plastic that is exceptionally sturdy, resistant to harsh weather, and requires little maintenance.



D. Wood Panel Siding

Treated wood siding offers the beauty of traditional wood and can be painted to match any color.

STEP 6 SECURE A BUILDING PERMIT

Most buildings require permits, especially for residents in a town or city where there are restrictions on size, color, or placement of a building. Be sure to check with your local municipality, county, or city business officials about permit expectations in your area.

If a permit is required, it may be necessary to get it before you can order your shed. When applying for a permit, you will need to know the



STEP 7 CHOOSE BUILDING ON LOCATION OR DELIVERY

Most companies can either build your shed on-site or deliver it to your property.

When you choose to have your shed built on-site, it will be made in the factory, transported in sections to your property, and completed on location.

When you choose delivery, your shed will be delivered by truck. Upon arrival, the shed will likely be loaded onto a Mule for transport to the shed's permanent location. There may be a delivery fee.



STEP 8 LAY THE FOUNDATION

Laying the foundation for your shed is the last step before delivery.

1. Decide where you want your shed to be placed then measure the space and remove vegetation. Make sure the foundation's perimeter is slightly larger than the shed itself and that the depth extends past the frost line.
2. Construct a temporary frame. We suggest using 2x4' lumber to build the frame.
NOTE: The frame MUST BE properly leveled.
3. Fasten the frame to wooden or steel stakes from the outside to ensure easy removal of the frame after it is filled.
4. Fill the frame with at least 3-4" of your base material.
5. Slide a straight board back and forth over the top of the temporary frame to level the base material within the frame.
6. While this step is not essential, using a compactor to finish your new foundation will make delivery easier and minimize the settling of the shed over time.
7. Remove the temporary frame after the base material is compacted.

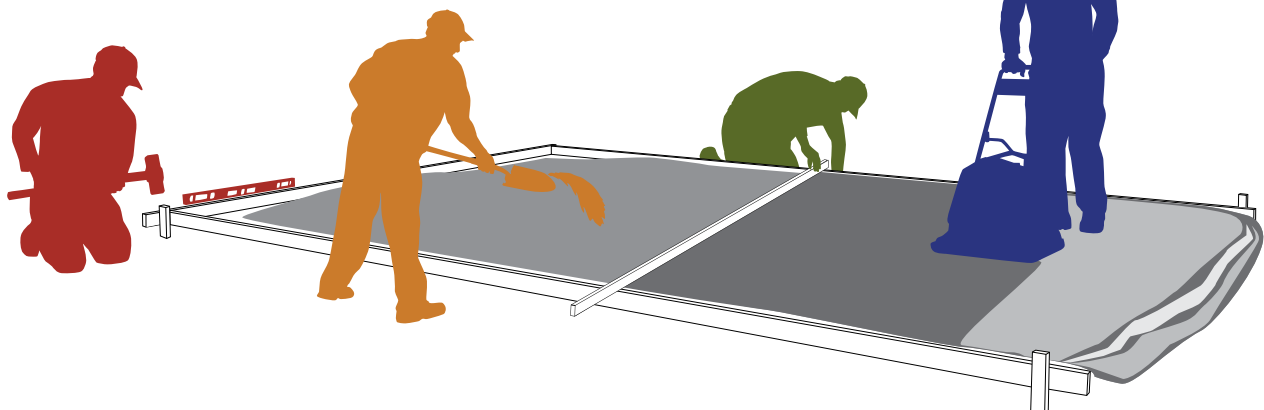


1. BUILD FRAME

**2. FILL WITH
BASE MATERIAL**

**3. LEVEL BASE
WITH SECRET BOARD**

**4. COMPACT
BASE MATERIAL**



Ready, set, go!

Do you feel like you have a better understanding of shed options and the buying process? You should! You know what to look for when choosing a shed and what to expect along the way. Now it's time to shop!

You can start by searching online, stopping at a local home improvement store or custom shed manufacturer, or - if you're in South Dakota or Minnesota - visiting one of our display lots or browsing our website.

START CONFIGURING
YOUR SHED TODAY

www.dakotastorage.com/custom-shed-packages



Dakota
Storage Buildings