

Sheds Buying Guide



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Whether you need more space to store important items, or you want to add some personality and flair to your backyard, consider adding a shed. In recent years, homeowners have gotten more creative with how they use their shed spaces, with the rise of “she sheds” and other hobby purposes taking over. Whatever you need a shed for, whether it be work or play, Tractor Supply carries **outdoor sheds** for every homeowner. Learn more about how to choose the right shed setup.

Using Sheds to Upgrade Your Backyard Setup

Sheds can be great for adding storage space and creating a designated area to organize a variety of items. However, sheds can also be used for many other purposes. For example, hobby sheds have boomed in popularity, allowing homeowners to have spaces to promote creativity and relaxation. This means sheds aren't only great for storing items, but also adding functional, useful spaces and maximizing your backyard's capabilities.

When it comes to finding the right storage solution for your backyard, you should consider what you want to use your shed for. Sheds can have a variety of purposes, and homeowners are becoming more and more creative with how they utilize their shed space. Consider turning your shed into a relaxing hobby area, such as:

- Shed bars
- Workspaces/home offices
- Gardening rooms
- Woodworking spaces
- Craft sheds
- Man caves
- Game rooms

Some shed types, such as our textile options, can even hold small animals for use as a makeshift barn.

To complete your perfect backyard setup, you should consider landscaping around your shed. This can help make shed setups seem purposeful, tying your shed with the rest of your backyard landscaping and design. **Garden beds** surrounding the shed can add a pop of color and visual interest, while **vine trellises** against the walls can offer a whimsical backyard feel. However, you should avoid placing sheds in areas with overgrowth and dense trees, as this can lead to the potential for roof damage, reduced airflow and mold growth.

Shed Types to Consider

Before purchasing a shed, there are many aspects to think about in terms of your backyard size, town and HOA regulations, intended shed use and weather. Large sheds can hold a variety of backyard supplies, such as pool products or **lawn mowers**. Small sheds can fit smaller accessories, such as **lawn tools**. However, town or HOA regulations may restrict building projects or require you to obtain the right permits. You should research all available options before deciding on the right shed.

Sheds can come in many types and materials. The shed you choose should stand up to typical weather in your area, plus offer enough space to store all the items needed. The different types of sheds we sell include:

Metal Sheds

Metal sheds can be a great option for those looking for an affordable, low-maintenance storage solution. Find options with **sliding doors** to allow for easy access to your items, as well as rust-resistant properties to help maintain their structural integrity for longer. Our metal sheds range in size anywhere from small to industrial, so you can find the ideal coverage area for your space.

Below are some of the most notable pros and cons of purchasing a metal shed:

Metal Shed Pros

- Doesn't require as much maintenance as wood or alternative types
- Metal material allows it to stand up against harsh weather
- Resists mold, mildew and rot, as well as rodents and bugs
- Offers more fire resistance than other shed materials

Metal Shed Cons

- Metal material that can easily become scratched and damaged
- Can potentially cost more upfront than other shed types
- May be challenging to assemble depending on the size
- Provides limited customization options when compared to other shed materials, such as wood

Resin Sheds

Resin sheds, or plastic sheds, are ideal for homeowners wanting the look of a real wood shed – without the cost or maintenance of wood. Featuring **standard-duty** durability, our resin sheds come in all shapes, colors and sizes. You can consider sheds with more than one entrance for easy in and out and convenient accessibility from anywhere in your backyard. You can even find ones with built-in windows so you can relax in your shed and enjoy some fresh air.

Great for outdoor storage, resin sheds are most often do-it-yourself (DIY) solutions, with some kits only requiring **partial assembly**. These sheds can also come both in horizontal and vertical designs to give you the options you're looking for. Here are some common pros and cons of purchasing a resin shed:

Resin Shed Pros

- Material resistant against many types of weather, such as rain or snow
- Requires little maintenance, with no re-painting and other upkeep necessary
- Resists mold, rot and mildew, as well as bugs
- Easy assembly
- Convenient to move around your backyard space if needed

Resin Shed Cons

- Material that holds little insulation, meaning storage spaces may be cold
- Can potentially break and crack over time
- Offers limited customization options compared to other shed materials
- May not perform well in windy conditions
- Color susceptible to fading from the sun

Textile Sheds

If you're looking for a temporary storage solution, **textile sheds** (or fabric sheds) are the way to go. Textile sheds are also great for camping purposes, as well as providing coverage for ATVs, lawn mowers and other machinery. Made with weather-resistant fabric, canvas or **polyethylene** materials, our textile sheds stand up via sturdy metal interior frames. The fabric used for textile sheds are often treated with UV-resistant properties and anti-fungal technology.

Textile sheds are an inexpensive shed solution that offer quick, convenient assembly. They're also ideal for those who need a suitable place to house animals, including **cattle, goats, horses and sheep**. With **zippered door options**, roll-up window and door styles and peak shelter designs, you can find exactly what you need.

The following are some pros and cons of adding a textile shed to your backyard:

Textile Shed Pros

- Often the most cost-efficient shed option compared to other materials
- Offers easy assembly and disassembly, as well as convenient portability
- Does not require building a foundation before assembly
- Great for instances when temporary storage is needed
- Not much maintenance required other than routine tightening/readjusting

Textile Shed Cons

- Fabric that can easily become torn or damaged

- Construction less likely to hold up against harsh weather
- Fabric possibly becoming noisy in windy conditions
- Provides less security than other shed types

Wood Sheds

Those who seek a classic, durable shed with a natural appearance may want to opt for a **wood shed**. This is the most common shed choice among other options. Wood sheds offer enhanced customization capabilities, making it easy to match with the style of your home's exterior.

Because of their durable construction, our wood sheds can withstand harsh winds and hot weather. Featuring **swing-out doors**, as well as vertical and horizontal configurations, wood sheds can be a great addition to any backyard space. To accommodate your unique needs, we offer sheds with coverage areas ranging from **25 to 50 square feet**, **51 to 80 square feet** and 245 or more square feet.

Here are some pros and cons of purchasing a wood shed:

Wood Shed Pros

- Provides a rustic, natural look in your backyard area
- Offers enhanced customization with many siding and design options
- Versatility in style, as they can be painted and finished in any color you desire
- Durable design allows for year-round storage
- Ideal for those looking for storage solutions on a budget
- Strong enough to stand up to wind and snow

Wood Shed Cons

- Must conduct regular upkeep and maintenance, such as re-staining and re-painting
- More susceptible to rot, mold and mildew than other shed materials
- Can be more expensive upfront than other types
- Prone to damage from pests like termites, mice and other bugs and animals

Choosing the Right Shed for Your Backyard

When it comes to selecting a shed for your backyard, you must make several considerations, from the size of your yard to the weather in your area. You may also want to think about options with built-in organizational features, allowing you to set up your shed with ease and efficiency. Other aspects to consider include:

Shed and Roof Materials

The type of material your shed is made of can determine its longevity and maintenance needs. Our sheds are comprised of metal constructions, such as **aluminum** and **steel**, or they might be built with non-metal materials, such as **polyethylene**, **resin** and **wood**. We also offer multiple roof types, including:

- **Polyethylene:** This reliable material is more durable than other polymer plastics, boasting water, corrosion, and impact resistance for a long-lasting shed and roof.
- **Steel:** In addition to its durability in many conditions, steel offers a sustainable, recyclable option for eco-conscious consumers.
- **Resin:** A resin roof withstands inclement weather and is often resistant to mold and mildew, also offering minimal maintenance and easy assembly.
- **HDPE:** Flexible yet tough, high-density polyethylene (HDPE) can resist impact, mold, mildew and rot. With a high strength-to-density ratio, HDPE is strong yet lightweight.
- **Asphalt:** Durable and long-lasting, asphalt makes a great choice for a shed roof.
- **Polycarbonate:** This material is highly durable, as it resists impact, heat and UV rays.
- **Stainless steel:** These options can bear significant wear and tear, and they are resistant to corrosion, impact and possible fire and heat. They maintain their sleek appearance through it all.

Shed Colors

Whether you want a neutral color that matches your home's exterior or a contrasting color to add a pop of visual appeal to your backyard, we have plenty of color options to choose from when it comes to finding the right shed. Browse through our abundant color choices, including **brown**, **gray** and **green**, to find the shed that will look the best on your property.

Indoor vs. Outdoor Sheds

While sheds are mostly used outdoors, homeowners shouldn't underestimate the power of an **indoor shed**. These work best in garages and other spacious areas, giving you added organizational opportunities within your home. We are proud to offer a complete lineup of **indoor and outdoor sheds** to help you get the most out of your space.

Shed Finish

Some shed finishes may withstand certain weather conditions better than others. To choose the right finish for your shed, you'll want to consider the weather in your area. Powder-coated and **steel shed finishes** provide enhanced durability against harsh weather, while colored finishes, such as black or brown, offer a natural look and feel.

Shelter Style

Another important aspect to consider when choosing the right shed is the shelter style. From **peak-style sheds** to other designs, you can find a variety of options that match your home's aesthetic perfectly. Wood sheds offer more customization, meaning you can style your shed to look exactly like the exterior of your home. Think about matching specific elements of your shed with ones in your home, such as door and window styles, to give your backyard a cohesive appearance.

Lockable vs. Unlockable Doors

Whether you're looking for something casual to store seasonal items or want heavy-duty, secure storage for storing equipment, you can browse our selection of lockable and unlockable doors. Lockable doors offer a designated space to add a lock and keep items secure, such as with most **swing-open doors**, while unlockable sheds do not have this feature.

Shed Size

Before determining the right size shed for your backyard space, you'll first want to determine how you're going to use your shed. For instance, small sheds can fit small garden or pool supplies, and medium sheds can house lawn mowers and a few other items. Meanwhile, large sheds can be big enough to fit vehicles or other power equipment.

Additionally, you'll want to consider the size of your backyard space. This ensures you find a shed that works perfectly with the area. Small sheds consist of anything measuring under 36 square feet, while medium sheds measure approximately 37 to 100 square feet. Large sheds can measure anything from 100 square feet or more.

Ensure to check with local building ordinances and HOA regulations before deciding on a size. Sheds that are too large may not be allowed on your property, or you may require certain building permits.

Installation

Whether you're looking for pre-assembled parts or an option that must be fully assembled, you are in the right place. DIY shed solutions allow you to customize the look of your shed, as you can build it however fits your backyard best. On the other hand, pre-assembled sheds make installation easy, as you only need to assemble a few parts, and your shed is ready to go.

Shed Location

Just like local building ordinances and HOAs can regulate the size of the shed you're allowed to have, they may also have rules that dictate where your shed should be located. Because of this, it's imperative to complete research into your local ordinance and HOA policies. In addition, you should avoid placing your shed in areas that collect rainwater, as the pooling of water around the shed can harm its foundation.

Weather Rating

Depending on the area in which you live and the weather conditions most commonly affecting it, you may want to choose sheds with specific weather ratings. Waterproof and water-resistant sheds are great for areas with frequent or heavy rain. Sheds can also have wind ratings, which rate how much wind your shed can take before becoming damaged. If you live in a windy area, you should find a shed with a high wind rating.

Sheds can also come with snow ratings, which measure the amount of snow a shed can withstand, such as light, heavy or icy snow. Regardless of your shed's snow rating, you should remove accumulating snow from your roof to avoid safety complications.

Shed Accessories to Consider

Whether you want to create a designated space to show off your hobbies, or you are simply looking to store extra items, think about adding important accessories to your shed. While it's common to think that sheds are a one-size-fits-all solution, there are many ways that homeowners can customize their sheds. Consider adding **shelving**, windows and **vents** for natural light and enhanced air circulation.

The **shed accessories** you add should provide functionality to your space and keep it accessible. For example, hooks and pegboards can help hang and store essential tools, such as ladders or hoses. Lighting ensures ample visibility in low-light conditions, while **anchors** can keep sheds steady through strong winds. Decorative elements, such as French doors, window boxes and shutters, add a charming touch to your shed space.

Frequently Asked Questions About Sheds

What should I do to prepare my property for shed installation?

When it comes to building a shed, the right prep work is necessary to ensure a long-lasting, durable build. You should start by clearing the area of any vegetation, debris or rocks and leveling the ground to ensure stability. Next, you should consider creating a foundation for your shed to help avoid moisture building up underneath it. When building a shed foundation, you'll also want to consider proper rainwater drainage around the shed.

What can I expect my shed setup to cost?

The cost of installing a shed depends on many factors, such as size and types of materials used. Prefabricated shed kits offer an affordable shed option, typically costing anywhere between \$1,500 to \$4,000, while building a shed from scratch may incur additional costs.

What are my color options for sheds?

We sell many colors that help to fit the design of your backyard space, including neutral colors, such as **clear**, **white**, **beige** and **brown**, as well as **red** options if you want to mimic the look of a barn.

How do I determine the best shed size for my backyard?

To decide on the best shed size for your space, you'll want to consider what you're going to use your shed for. Do you need to store small items, such as garden tools or pool equipment? Do you need much space to store larger items, such as lawnmowers, outdoor furniture or bikes? You'll also want to consider the size of your backyard to ensure it fits well.

Will I need a permit before building a shed in my yard?

Depending on the area in which you live, you may need certain permits before building a shed on your property. You may also need specific building permits depending on where you plan to build your shed and its size. Some areas may require you to have both zoning and building permits. Other areas may only ask you to get one of the two. Some homeowners might not even need a permit at all. You should complete research on the regulations and standards in your area to ensure smooth installation.

What are common shed maintenance tasks?

Just like other elements of your home, your shed also requires maintenance and upkeep to ensure longevity and suitable protection of your items. To start, you should regularly clean and inspect your shed. Remove debris and leaves from foundations, roofing and gutters, and check hinges, windows and doors for damage or wear. You should also think about weatherproofing your shed and inspecting roofs for signs of leaks. Additionally, you should implement some sort of pest prevention to keep shed spaces clear of insects, rodents and other pests.

How much maintenance does my shed require?

The material of your shed, its age and how much wear and tear it experiences regularly will dictate the type of maintenance it needs. Every shed requires maintenance at least once a year, but others might need more frequent upkeep. Any time you notice problem areas, consider another maintenance check.

Create Your Ideal Backyard with Sheds from Tractor Supply

Although shopping for the right shed can seem overwhelming, we make it easy for homeowners to find what they need. With plenty of options for materials, types and setups, you can transform your backyard space into a convenient storage hub or creative oasis. To learn more, visit your **local Tractor Supply store** or browse online.