Site Preparation Guide

Please read carefully and consider all the information before picking a shed site.

When purchasing a shed or gazebo you are contracting with Backyard Sheds to deliver to your site a fully assembled unit. This is accomplished by driving a pickup truck and trailer loaded with the unit onto your property. We do our utmost not to cause damage to our customers property, but there are times when it does happen! Please read Property Damage Waiver carefully then sign it.

Location:
Things to consider.  1) What will be the primary purpose of your new shed?  
2) Will you need access daily, weekly, monthly?  
3) Will you be using your shed for storage, workshop, gardening?
   a) storage – usually does not have to be close to house.  
   b) workshop – do you need electric in shed or near it.  
   c) potting shed – is the water source near?

Access: It will do no good to pick a site that is not accessible to our truck and trailer so here are a few guidelines:

Truck and trailer are 8’6” wide, the shed will be the widest thing coming into your yard, and normally we will need 4’ more for clearance. You must consider things such as: Trees, limbs, wires, fences, wet areas, septic tanks, and plantings. Height requirements will be from 10’ to 13’6” depending on shed purchased. Some low wires can be pushed up (phone and cable) Heavy electric lines are more difficult. Tree limbs should be trimmed prior to delivery. Fences can be removed and replaced although there will be an additional charge for this service. You might want the original installer to do this work, they know how the fence was installed and that information helps when taking it down. Wet areas, septic tank, plantings: These problems can usually be taken care of with some common sense, if the ground is soft we wait for a day it’s hard, plantings can be removed by you if your worried about them.

Level: Your site should be as flat as possible, with good drainage. Things like rocks, stumps, tree roots, sprinkler heads all should be removed from the area. Hills and sloping terrain also should be considered. Please walk your property like you driving a truck 14’ high and whatever width your shed is plus 4’. If you have a question of access Backyard Sheds will send someone out to look at the site. This is done when we are in the area so please mark off your desired shed location, contact us with shed size and style you have
chosen, then we’ll take a look and let you know. If access is not possible we can arrange for build on site construction. This option will run a bit more but it will get a shed to the site you choose when no access is available.

Leveling:
Your best way of leveling a shed is a bed of crushed stone. Just 4-5 inches will do a world of good to keep your shed level, dry and stable. The pad should be 2’ more than the size of the shed. Crusher run blue stone is best, please do not use pea stone or bank run, as it does not stay where put and it allows the 4x4’s to sink into stone. The key to a good stone pad is getting it level. Laser levels, string lines, level and 2x4 whatever method used, get it level! In the case of larger sheds we will have to drive onto the pad with the trailer, so a tamped pad is best.

Professionally Done:
Backyard Sheds will install the stone pad for you. There is an additional charge and it will depend on size, and how level the site is to start with.

Permits: All towns require a permit for shed installation, some towns allow up to certain size w/o charging you for a permit. Most will charge and have certain criteria you must comply with. Backyard Sheds can give you basic guidelines but you will have to check with your local building department for exact requirements. PERMITS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LAND OWNER.