



Storage Tips

2025

Before moving your belongings in, please read and observe the helpful tips outlined in this document to ensure that you have the best storage experience with us!

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PREPARING STORAGE FOR YOUR BELONGINGS



SELECT THE RIGHT KIND OF BOX

Airtight plastic containers or new cardboard boxes are best for storage. Replace any old or recycled boxes with a clean, new box, or plastic boxes, as used cardboard boxes can contain moisture, bugs and mould. Consider adding desiccants in boxes, particularly with books, linens, and clothing.



SAY NO TO PLASTIC BAGS

Moisture and air often get trapped inside plastic bags, even if they are not completely sealed. They can still get water inside and cause your belongings to rot with mildew/mould. Instead, store items in vacuum sealed bags or bags with more airflow.



START DRY AND STAY DRY

We may think our household goods are clean and dry, but even tiny amounts of moisture can ruin your contents.

All appliances, furniture, linen, anything that can rot, rust, get mouldy or musty; needs to be checked, cleaned, dried and clear from any moisture and mould before storing, as this will prevent damage to your belongings down the track.

A good idea is to run all clothing and linens through a dryer to make sure they are 100% dry before you pack them. Leave appliance doors open slightly to prevent mildew.



SORT, STORE AND DONATE

Usually, storing is a great opportunity to declutter. Sort through your items, work out what you need to keep, what you can donate and what is ready to be thrown out.

If there's no time to sort, label your boxes clearly, stack them appropriately to help you sort through your items later.



MOISTURE ABSORBERS

Please read page 5 for more information.



SEARCH FOR BUGS

Pests and creepy crawlies (such as Fleas, weevils, cockroaches, carpet beetles), by their nature, are very clever at hiding in small spaces.

Give your items a good once over with insecticide spray before going into storage. Thoroughly check your lounge, rugs, furniture, boxes, etc., and ensure they are free of critters. If something is infested with bugs, consider throwing it out.



KEEP YOUR FOOD WITH YOU

Storage is not a place for fresh, dried, or tinned food – so please don't store any food items. Food particles or residue on your goods can attract unwanted critters, damage your belongings, and create nasty odours.



KEEP YOUR VALUABLES SAFE

To ensure the security of your valuables, place them in the rear of the unit, with other items concealing them. The most valuable items are better kept in a safety deposit box or in the safekeeping of trusted friends or relatives, such as wills, deeds, titles, birth, and marriage certificates.



IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

With the ease of digital storage, we highly recommend making copies (by scanning or taking photos) of your documents before you pack them away into archive boxes, as this provides an extra level of security and protection.

Storing them "in the cloud" means you can access them anywhere and anytime.



KEEP FLAMMABLES OUT

Any flammable and hazardous liquids (petrol, diesel, kerosene, gas, etc.) must NOT be stored inside a unit/container and must be disposed of.

Drain all fuel and oil prior to storing petrol powered devices; like blowers, lawnmowers, whipper snippers and other motorised equipment to avoid potential fire hazards.



BATTERIES & LITHIUM-ION ITEMS

Removing batteries from devices during long-term storage is essential to prevent leakage, corrosion, and energy drain. These issues can cause permanent damage to both the battery and the device.

For e-scooters, e-bikes, and other lithium battery-operated items, it's important to store them in a secure area with the battery either removed or disconnected. Store these items upright and with adequate padding to prevent damage. Keep chargers and accessories stored separately and never leave them connected to a power supply for safety reasons. Always adhere to the manufacturer's storage instructions to ensure proper care.

Similarly, removing batteries from electronics such as tools, toys, and remotes during long-term storage helps to avoid leakage, corrosion, and power drain, thereby protecting both the battery and the device from irreversible damage.



LIQUIDS CAN LEAK

If bottles or containers break and liquids leak during storage, they can damage your goods and the unit/container. Plastic tubs are a great way to store breakable bottles. Wrap them with newspapers, old clothes, or towels for soft packaging to reduce breakage.

Drain your washing machine, defrost your fridge, and give them time to dry out completely to reduce unwanted moisture before putting them into storage.



EXTRA PROTECTION

Lay a blanket or tarp on the floor and leave a gap from the wall to allow airflow, as this will avoid heat damage and moisture.

To prevent your goods from getting damaged, dusty and/or mouldy; use removalist blankets, cushions etc. as padding, to separate and cover your wooden items, furniture, white goods, lounges (especially leather) and bedding. Wrapping in plastic will cause condensation, which will lead to mould and mildew problems.

Clean all furniture of fingerprints and sticky marks, especially lounges. Use wood oil to protect wooden furniture.

It is not recommended that delicate musical instruments be stored long term.

CONTAINER RAIN

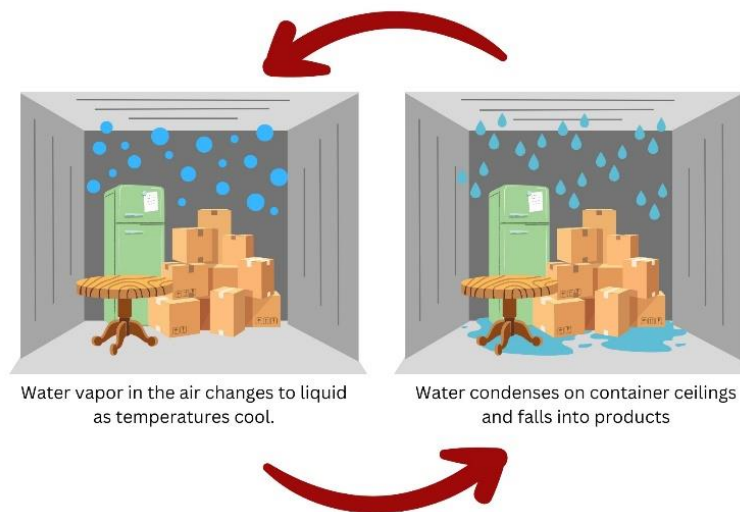
Did you know 'Container Rain' is caused by Moisture?

Have you ever opened a cupboard, box or suitcase that hasn't been opened for a while, and it has that strong musty smell that hits you and makes you sneeze? Or have you ever turned off a fridge and closed the door completely to later find the fridge is covered in mould and has a nasty smell? It's simply because the moisture inside the enclosed space has created a problem.

When you move into a container, you're not only moving in your belongings, but also the air and any moisture in your belongings. Air contains moisture and with a lack of ventilation, the moisture is trapped. As the air settles inside, the moisture condenses in colder areas, and when it heats up again, the condensed water expands and rises; clinging to the ceiling and walls – which is called "Container Sweat". The more you pack into your container, the less air is trapped inside, which also reduces the risk of moisture damage.

Seasonal changes, temperature fluctuations and the humidity level affect the moisture content in the air and can create a phenomenon called "Container Rain".

Here's a quick explanation of how moisture puts your contents at risk.



A certain amount of moisture vapor is naturally in the air and when the temperature drops, it creates condensation. If the temperature drops below the dew point, water droplets form. As the container sweats and temperatures rise, the moisture collects and essentially "rains" inside the unit/container.

It is recommended coming in on dry, sunny, or breezy days, where the wind can circulate air in and out of the container, to air out your belongings and make sure your goods are free from mould and mildew.

Follow our tips to prepare your belongings for storage as this will greatly reduce the moisture content and protect your goods in your unit/container.

Using desiccants helps to remove moisture from the ambient air in an enclosed space, which lowers the dew point, where water turns to liquid – meaning less chance of condensation. Replace desiccants regularly and dispose of the liquid in the toilet.



Moisture Absorbers can be purchased from the office at \$3.50 each
(Scents Available: Blue Lily, Lavendar & Lemon)

PREPARING STORAGE FOR YOUR VEHICLE



SPRING CLEAN

It's a great idea to give your vehicle a spring clean thoroughly before bringing your vehicle into storage. Wiping down all surfaces and cleaning the floor will prevent any mould growth, mildew, nasty odours, critters getting in, corrosion, and upholstery damage from occurring.



VEHICLE COVER

No matter where you store, we recommend covering your vehicle as this will protect it from weather, mildew, bird droppings, dust, and any other elements. Consider investing in a breathable, heavy-duty, and weatherproof cover to protect the exterior and interior of your vehicle, long term.



OIL

Used and dirty oil can cause corrosion inside the engine if a vehicle sits too long. It is recommended to change the oil and oil filter prior to storing long term, as this will keep the engine from being subject to any harmful contaminants, such as rust and corrosion.



POLISH

We also recommend giving your vehicle a good polish as this can help protect it from scratches and exposure. Make sure to clean the wheels and undersides of the fenders to get rid of mud, dirt build-up, grease, and tar.



HITCH COVER

Adding a cover over your hitch can reduce its exposure to rain, moisture, debris, and other corrosion-causing elements. Cover your tow bar with a weatherproof cover or try a plastic bucket - even the cheapest bucket will work!



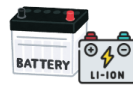
LEAKS

Check for any leaks and repair any damaged hoses and fittings before storing. Put a tray or a bucket under the vehicle to catch any liquid from dripping onto the ground (fees apply if damaged).



MOISTURE ABSORBERS & AIR FRESHENER

When everything's clean on the inside, add some moisture absorbers, to draw out excess moisture, and add an air freshener to keep your van smelling fresh.



LITHIUM-ION ITEMS & BATTERIES

To safely store a vehicle with lithium-ion batteries, ensure it is equipped with a Battery Management System (BMS). Avoid leaving the vehicle charging unattended for long periods and regularly check the battery's charge and condition. Store the battery away from direct sunlight, ensure proper ventilation, and secure it in a stable position to prevent any movement.



GAS BOTTLES

Gas cylinders should always be stored upright in a well-ventilated area and never inside a vehicle. When unplugging, use a cap on the connection to keep dust out and prevent gas leaks. Before going on your next adventure, ensure the gas bottle has been refilled and turned off before you take off!



FRIDGES, FREEZERS, ESKIES

To avoid any mildew or mould build up, ensure the fridge, freezer, and eskies have been emptied out completely, cleaned thoroughly and is 100% dry before storing. Leave the doors ajar for good airflow and place a desiccant to draw out any excess moisture.



LUBRICANTS

Before bringing your van into storage, it's a good idea to give those joints some TLC with WD40 or any silicone-based spray. Lubricate all door handles and hinges, hitches, aluminum folding chairs, and tables, etc. If storing a boat, ensure all moving parts components (such as shackles, outdrive, bushings, etc.) have been greased as this will minimise any corrosion over time.



DOORS, WINDOWS, AND BLINDS

Ensure blinds, curtains and awnings are clean and 100% dry to prevent mould forming. Keep curtains closed to prevent the upholstery fading. It's also a good idea to regularly check the air filters and window/door seals to ensure that they are still 100% weatherproof and pest-proof.

Lithium-ion batteries can be damaged or even catch fire if overcharged or left completely flat. To help maintain the charge during storage, consider using a solar panel to keep the battery topped up.

Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines to ensure both safety and optimal performance.

It's also a good idea to disconnect your batteries, such as digital clocks, LEDs, as anything electrical can slowly drain power from your batteries and eventually lose its' charge during long-term storage.



TYRES & CHOCK THE WHEELS

Tyres typically last 5 years but can deteriorate faster if left in the sun and underinflated. To protect them, inflate to the maximum pressure and cover them from UV rays. Rolling the tyres occasionally can also help prevent flat spots.

The handbrake can corrode, and brake pads may stick to the rotors if left engaged too long. To avoid this, release the handbrake occasionally or leave it off, using wheel chocks to prevent the vehicle from moving.



WATER

Keeping water in your tank for some time can go stale and take on the flavour of the tank. Empty your tank, let it dry out for a couple hours, then replace the cap to prevent bugs getting in. Use our wash down bay to refill the tank as you depart on your next trip.



VENTILATION

Make sure to leave roof hatches and air vents open to allow air circulation through the van and reduce the chances of a musty odour or mildew, and mould forming. Install vent covers, if possible, as this will help keep rain and pests from infiltrating your van.



INSURANCE

Once storing your vehicle at WWSP, let your insurance company know your vehicle is being stored at a secured storage facility, as this may reduce your premium.

VEHICLE CLEANING

Whether you're gearing up for another adventure on the road or returning from a fun day out on the water, it's always the right time to give your vehicle some well-deserved TLC before putting it away. Whether it's your caravan, motorhome, boat, jetski, or car, ensuring it gets the proper care will keep it in top shape for the next journey. Here are some options to ensure your vehicle gets the attention it deserves:

WASH DOWN BAY

Our free washing facility is available for your convenience, helping you keep your pride and joy in perfect condition while minimizing the risk of corrosion!

Please follow the Wash Down Bay Rules:

- Biodegradable detergents are only to be used.
- Use the area responsibly and keep the area clean and tidy.
- No machinery or trucks to be used.
- Please do not dispose of oil, fuel, degreasers, fish frames, or any chemicals (including detergents) into our drain, on the grass or plants, or in the river. Proper disposal is crucial for protecting our environment.
- Take all the rubbish home with you.
- Follow any council's water restrictions.
- As there are currently no timeslots, please be mindful of other customers who are also wanting to use the wash bay, especially on weekends and Public Holidays (when it can be extra busy).
- Please report to the office if any fittings are missing or damaged.
- The maximum height is 2.9m.



**Please note, this area is monitored 24/7 by CCTV cameras.*

WANT A PROFESSIONAL CLEAN?



Contact John Giannini from VIP Car Care (Central Coast) to arrange for your caravan, motorhome, car, boat, jetski, or any other vehicle to be detailed at your home or at the Storage Park!

Mobile: 0437 134 161

Email: info@vipcarcare.com.au