

Tips for using self storage

Self Storage is your room away from home, you lock the unit and you keep the key and you can access your unit as often as you need to without any additional fees.

Self Storage is an ideal solution for all your storage needs, whether it is for personal or business use short term or long term.

Packing your items properly to begin with will save you time and ensure your goods are maintained in the best possible condition.

Make use of the specialist packaging materials at your local self storage facility, from high quality boxes and bubble wrap to port a robes and boxes for plasmas and LCD televisions.

Your local self storage centre can supply all your packing needs.

Furniture

- Empty wardrobes, drawers etc before you move them, this will minimise the chance of any breakages. Only fill them when they are in place and fully assembled.
- Use strong secure cartons for packing clothing and personal goods.
- Use plastic to wrap cushions
- Where possible remove the legs from items of furniture e.g.. bed bases, tables etc., this will help to avoid damage and save space.
- Don't place furniture directly on the floor, use plastic or material to cushion heavy items.
- Stack chairs seat to seat with cloth or paper separating them.
- Remember to cover all furniture, especially sofa's, recliners and anything of value.

Whitegoods

- Before storing, make sure your fridges, freezers and other whitegoods, are empty, clean and dry.
- Leave doors slightly ajar to prevent mould build up
- A deodoriser placed inside fridges or freezers is also a good idea to maintain freshness.
- Avoid packing items inside your fridges and freezers as you may scratch the inside, and or cause damage to the shelves.

Glass and Breakables

- Wrap all breakables separately in tissue or packing paper, and pack them in sturdy boxes marked them as "Fragile".
- Protect fragile items by wrapping them individually in packing paper. Avoid using newspaper as this can be very messy and may stain.
- Place packing in the top and bottom of cartons for added protection.
- Place plates, saucers and bowls on their sides to prevent any breakage.
- Empty space should be filled with packing paper.
- Don't stack heavy items on top of cartons containing breakables.

- Pictures and mirrors should be wrapped in cardboard or proper picture/mirror cartons.

Electronic Items

- Use the original boxes wherever possible, however if they are not available talk to your self storage centre about speciality boxes.
- Ensure all electronic equipment is clean and dry before storing.
- Ensure that items above or on top of electronic equipment will not fall down or damage the surfaces.

Metal Items

- To minimise rust in metal items such as tools, wipe the item with a few drops of oil before storing them away.
- Pack these items away from goods that may be stained such as furniture.
- Wrapping silver in NON ACID tissue paper or plastic bags can help reduce tarnishing. Wipe chrome or cast iron with a little machine oil to help retard rust.

What you Can't Store

Under no circumstances may you store any Goods that are hazardous, illegal, stolen, inflammable, explosive, environmentally harmful, perishable or that are a risk to the property of any person. This includes items like petrol tins, paint thinner, full gas bottles or chlorine

For tips on packing your unit:

- Place those items that you need to access often in the front of the unit.
- Leave a small space around the perimeter of your storage unit to aid circulation.
- Use all of the space available to you, including the height.
- Stack fragile or lighter boxes on top of the heavier boxes.
- Don't over-pack cartons or they will be too hard to lift.
- If tables won't disassemble, place a mat or protective plastic on the ground and lay the tabletop face down on the floor with the legs pointing up.
- Cover furniture with sheets, blankets or plastic covers to protect against dust.
- Don't place heavy or sharp objects on top of furniture.
- Never lay paintings or mirrors flat. Ensure they are wrapped or placed in proper picture/mirror cartons
- TO ENSURE SAFE STORAGE: Do not store anything COMBUSTIBLE (i.e. paint thinner, gasoline, solvents, paint, etc.)
- Do not store any living things (including plants), or perishable goods (especially foodstuffs).
- Empty petrol from mowers, whipper snippers, etc.
- Ensure gas bottles are empty and BBQ or cooking surfaces are clean.