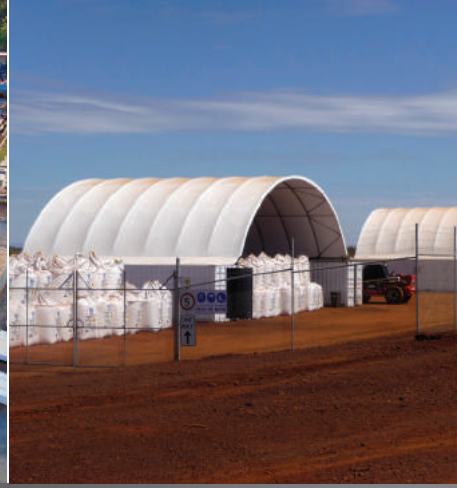


Buying Guide

Everything you need to know
about buying a **FABRIC SHELTER**
before you buy





EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT **BUYING A FABRIC SHELTER** BEFORE YOU BUY

Fabric Shelter structures are called by many names, including

- CONTAINER SHELTERS
- INDUSTRIAL SHELTERS
- DOME SHELTERS
- IGLOO'S
- ECO SHELTERS.

Fabric Shelters have been used widely for decades in a range of industries including

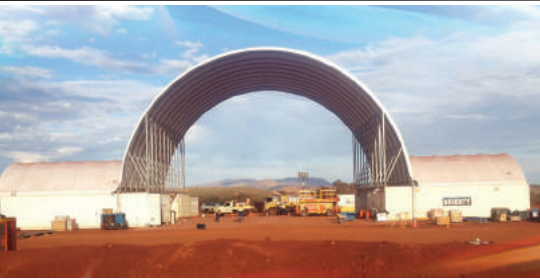
- mining
- civil
- industrial
- agriculture
- onshore oil and gas
- aviation and
- general events

They have multiple functions as workshops, warehouse and equipment storage, shade over working areas, aviation domes and in agriculture, hay storage and intensive animal housing.

Before Fabric Shelter structures, the only conventional alternative was steel sheds, which can be hot, harder to transport and install, difficult to relocate and generally more expensive.

Fabric Shelters are defined by an arched steel structure over which a super tough fabric membrane is installed. Modern fabrics can withstand large strains, are generally tear resistant and can last the lifetime of the shelter. Not all fabrics are the same standard however, so take care to select a supplier who works with the best available. The steel framework needs to withstand significant pressure from high winds, weight bearing use and general wear and tear. As with the fabric, only deal with suppliers who understand and build to the highest standards. See also Wind Coding below.

Look out for standards such as AS1170.2 for structural engineering, welding standard AS1554 and Quality Assurance ISO9001, which provides assurance for design, manufacturing methods and materials.



Benefits

The benefits of a Fabric Shelter over steel sheds?

- **Transportable;** Can be transported to site with ease ✓
- **Easy Installation;** easily and quickly installed by on-site teams ✓
- **Relocatable;** Can be dismantled just as easily to shift across site or off site ✓
- **Quieter;** Fabric absorbs sound waves — a more peaceful work area ✓
- **Cooler;** up to 20% cooler than similar steel structures ✓
- **Brighter;** allows natural light, reducing the need for artificial lighting during day ✓
- **Faster;** quick turnaround from design to installation ✓
- **Cyclone rated;** DomeShelter Australia's shelters are engineered to withstand up to category D cyclones ✓

In summary, Fabric Shelters are engineered for ease of use and installation, durability, and transportability. They are particularly suited to temporary or semi-permanent installations, although many have been known to last in-situ 15 years or more.



Installation

The Shelter refers to the arched roof structure and covering fabric, which needs securing to a wall, generally referred to as a sub-structure. Typically there are four substructure (wall) options available. All wall and anchoring solutions are separate to the shelter kit and fabric covering, and are often quoted separately.

1.

Shipping Containers
20 or 40 feet

Containers provide an ideal wall in a workshop situation, laid end to end on one or both sides of the shelter and stacked up to three high for extra high walls. For anchorage, they can also be weighted and act as ideal secure storage and office facilities.

2.

Steel posts or columns

Steel posts are usually made with galvanised tubing or structural beams and can be any height, according to client needs. Securing is achieved by bolting to concrete slab and footings.

3.

Combination of container(s) and steel posts

Container / Post Combination is often used where limited secure storage is required together with workshop access on three sides

4.

Concrete blocks or walls such as you would see as barriers on roads and freeways

Concrete Barriers, similar to those used on roads and freeways, make ideal walls due to their weight, although they have height limitations.

Installation

A Shelter is fabricated offsite and transported to site in kit form. On-site teams typically install the Shelter. The Shelter provider should equip the team with a comprehensive installation manual and also provide the option of an installation supervisor to assist where necessary (at additional cost). Otherwise, installation is generally the responsibility of the client or their contracted installers. Not all installation instructions are the same, so take care to ensure the supplier's installation process and instructions are appropriate and easy to follow.

Wind Coding

Your Shelter provider will ask the intended location of your shelter. This information is required to assess the wind rating according to the Australian Wind Code. Shelters in high wind areas, including cyclone prone areas are especially engineered to withstand these winds.

Ensure your supplier provides engineering certification (either general or site specific) to ensure your shelter complies with the Wind Code in your area. Your supplier should also provide engineering requirements for anchoring based on the Wind Code.



Extras

Your Shelter supplier should be able to provide additional extras including:

- 

End walls, one or both ends with doorway access or fully enclosed
- 

Side walls - for post mounted options
- 

Containers and other supporting sub-structures
- 

Lighting packages
- 

Gutters and downpipes
- 

Signage to promote your brand
- 

Quick deployment flooring



How to ORDER

Fabric Shelters come in a range of standard sizes. Typically, Australian manufacturers can also customise designs to suit your specific site requirements.

The turnaround time from order to delivery ranges from immediate (off the shelf) to three to six weeks for customised shelters. Reliable delivery commitments should be provided at time of order, with credible evidence of the suppliers track record for “delivery in-full on-time” (DIFOT). The Shelters steel kit, fabric covering and installation components are transported on flat-bed trucks from the factory, or in containers for shipping anywhere in the world.

For further information and expert assistance contact a DomeShelter Australia consultant on +61 8 9690 1100 or at sales@domeshelter.com.au

They can assist with all your queries and ensure the Shelter you order is suited to your exact requirements.

** Alternatively, visit www.DomeShelter.com.au for further information.*





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AUSTRALIA

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