

Things you should NOT Store in Your Storage Unit

While considering what you want to keep in your storage unit, make a list of the items you plan to store and give a copy of the list to the manager of the storage facility. A contract stating you will abide by rules and regulations including not storing certain types of items is required by most self storage facilities. A manager can clarify what can and cannot be stored, but here are some suggestions.

- ***Weapons***

Any type of weapon is generally banned from being kept in storage facilities; this includes antique firearms as these items can still be potentially dangerous.

- ***Toxic, explosive or combustible items***

Potentially explosive materials including paint and paint thinner, gas and propane (including tanks), motor oil, cleaning or corrosive agents, alcohol and firecrackers cannot be stored in a self storage unit as these materials may be hazardous to your health as well as others. If you have kerosene lamps they should be emptied and cleaned out before storing them. Be sure to ask a facility manager in any case where you are unsure if an item is explosive or not.

- ***Radioactive materials and equipment***

You may not be aware of it, but radioactive materials can be found in some medical supplies. While most medical equipment can be stored, items containing radioactive materials cannot.

- ***Perishable animal products or food items***

Properly sealed canned food items may be kept in storage units; however, you cannot store perishable food items (i.e. cereal, flour, dairy products or meat), cat litter or pet food as they may quickly spoil and may create a odor that attracts bugs and rodents.

- ***Some construction equipment***

Many construction companies place equipment into a storage units when they have an abundance, however, there are some exceptions to what may be kept in a self storage unit. For example, it is a violation of the law to place any equipment used for underground drilling or tracking of water into a storage unit. If you wish to store construction equipment check with the facility manager for a list of item that may not be stored, the list may vary and is subject to change.

- ***Unregistered or non operational vehicles***

In order to keep a vehicle in storage it must be operational as well as being correctly registered with current license and insurance. You hold sole liability for any stored vehicle including any damage that could be caused by the vehicle, this makes insurance a necessity. There may be a limit on the number of tires that can be stored in a single unit, helping to keep the cost of disposing tires down should you default on your contract and be unable to claim your items.

- ***Human, animals and plants***

While it may seem obvious, people, plants and animals, whether dead or alive, are prohibited from being placed in storage. Even if your storage unit is climate-controlled, for your safety and the security of other patrons, storage units cannot be used as a place to live, even if it is temporary.