

GARAGE STORAGE

Your garage will most likely have been constructed with single skinned brickwork meaning that water penetration from heavy rainfall, garden sprinklers and other adverse weather conditions can cause the walls of the garage to be damp, in turn creating condensation. Additionally, your garage door may allow driving rain to enter the garage. The below points include, but are not limited to, points on how to store items correctly in your garage.

If you have an integral garage, whilst there is more insulation, we still recommend that you follow the below guidelines.

What to Store in Your Garage

You should store all items you generally use outside in your garage.

What Not to Store in Your Garage

The items you shouldn't store in the garage fall into three main categories: certain dangerous materials, items that will attract pests, and delicate objects.

Hazardous Material

Always be careful with flammable or otherwise hazardous materials. For instance, keep propane tanks, which can leak and ignite, out of the garage (and other enclosed spaces). Instead, store them outside in a well-ventilated area. Gasoline can be stored in a garage. But make sure to use an appropriate container, and keep it far from ignition sources, as well as children and pets.

Items That Attract Insects or Vermin

Insects and vermin are rather good at finding their way into garages so don't tempt them by storing items in your garage that they can make a meal out of or a home in. This includes clothing, bedding, books, papers, cardboard and firewood. Do not keep actual food accessible in the garage, including pet food and wild bird seed. Pests often can detect food, even if it's packed in a storage container.

Fragile or Valuable Items

Even if you've done work to insulate your garage, it's still probably more exposed to outdoor temperature fluctuations than the rest of your home. Extreme temperatures, as well as excess humidity, can cause many items to warp, crack, or otherwise become damaged. Likewise, while the garage might seem like a convenient spot for an extra refrigerator or freezer, these appliances will have to use a lot of energy in hot weather to keep the food cold. Finally, don't risk storing things in the garage that are worth a lot to you, either monetarily or emotionally. In addition to being vulnerable to weather, a garage is often a target for thieves. You should always check that your home insurance covers the contents of your garage.

When storing items, you should always ensure that there is adequate ventilation around the object and that it is not placed directly against the garage wall. Items, if stored, should be protected and inspected regularly.

There are also lots of useful articles you will find online in relation to storing items in your garage. Please note that Hayfield cannot be held responsible for any items considered to be damaged by damp or mould because of the above guidelines.