

FIRE SAFETY 101: ACCESSORY STRUCTURES

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ACCESSORY STRUCTURES



Just like your own home, accessory structures like sheds or guest houses need to be hardened and have a non-combustible Zone Zero (0 to 5 ft) to be considered fire safe. Additionally, it is important to consider how close the accessory structure is to your home. Focal points include:

PROXIMITY



ZONE ZERO



HOME HARDENING



PROXIMITY TO YOUR HOME

The recommendation is to have your accessory structure placed **at least 10ft away from you home**. However, based on the size and combustibility of your structure, you may have to place it further than 10 ft away from your home.

For more information visit:
www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening



ZONE ZERO (0-5FT)

Much like your home, accessory structures have their own Zone Zero.

In this zone, there should be **no combustible items stored within 5 ft** of the structure.



Combustible items can include tools, potting mix, paint, vegetation, and more. Make sure to store combustible items inside your accessory structure. Plants that are in non-combustible pots, less than 5 gallons, are good to use.

HOME HARDENING



Sheds and guest houses should be made out of fire resistant materials to be considered hardened. This includes using the proper sized vent screening, non-combustible siding, and Class A roofing, just to name a few.

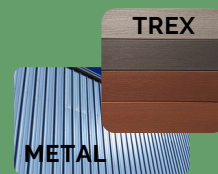
If you are thinking about buying a new accessory structure, there are premade hardened structures you can purchase.

VENTS

Replace old screening with **non-combustible 1/16" in mesh**, in order to prevent ember intrusion.



SIDING



The siding of your structure should be made out of **non-combustible materials**, such as metal, stucco, or TREX. Wood is not recommended.

ROOF

For the roof of your accessory structure use **Class A rated materials**. This includes: clay tiles, asphalt shingles, metal, and composite tiles.

