

# 5 EASY STEPS

To Designing Your  
Modified Shipping Container



A guide to designing  
durable, secure and  
weather-resistant  
shipping containers  
that meet your  
unique goals.

# 5 EASY STEPS TO DESIGNING YOUR MODIFIED SHIPPING CONTAINER

Shipping containers can be modified to suit an endless number of applications – storage, work space, living space, industrial, etc. – but kicking off the design process can be daunting for some.

Fortunately, Falcon Structures simplified the process with this handy five-step guide.

The following five steps were designed to help you:

- Better visualize your project and goals.
- Narrow down ideas to save time.
- Home in quickly on one – or a few – of our preconfigured designs as a launching point.
- Customize your container with options that address your unique needs.



If you have any questions or need assistance along the way, we're here to help. Just give us a call at

**877-704-0177**



# READY TO DESIGN YOUR MODIFIED SHIPPING CONTAINER?

## LET'S GET STARTED.

### STEP 1: THINK THROUGH YOUR CONTAINER APPLICATION

The goal here is to clarify how the container will be used and identify the key components necessary to meet your objectives. We find it works best to start the process with a brainstorming session and answer questions relating to your application.

To get the ball rolling, we've assembled a list of relevant questions as a reference. Just choose the category that best fits your application. Once these questions are answered, you should have a clear vision of what you need to accomplish.

Key questions to consider for popular container applications:

#### Storage Containers

- What items will you be storing (i.e., do you have small items to organize, temperature sensitive files/photos, etc.)?
- Do you need climate control or ventilation?
- Will you be loading the container with pallets?



- Will the items need to be organized on shelves?
- How long will you be storing these items?
- Is access via the cargo door OK or do you need additional access points (number and type of doors)?
- Do you need to get in and out of the container on a regular basis?
- Do you need lighting in the space (i.e., do you need to read labels, file items regularly, etc.)?
- What type of climate will the container be exposed to (extreme heat or cold)?

## Workspace

- How many people will typically share the space?
- How many work stations are needed?
- What electrical and internet connectivity is required?
- Do you need separate offices for privacy (if so, how many) or an open floor plan?
- Do you need conference room space?
- Do you need restroom facilities?
- Would you like to include a kitchenette or break room?
- Should space be set aside for storage and what access is needed (from inside, outside or both)?
- What type of climate will the container be exposed to (extreme heat or cold)?
- Do you have access to site power and water?



“

This storage container was custom designed for fast and easy warehouse loading.

## Living Space

- How many people will live in the space at any given time?
- Will this be a long- or short-term living space?
- Do you need separate sleeping areas for privacy (if so, how many) or a shared bunkhouse environment?
- Do you need restroom facilities, including a shower?
- What kitchenette features would you like to include?
- Do you need space for furniture, such as a desk or table?
- Are there any other items you need to store in the space (tools, recreational gear, etc.)?
- What type of climate will the container be exposed to (extreme heat or cold)?
- Do you have access to site power, water and gray water?

## Equipment Enclosures

- How large is the equipment you need to enclose?
- Does the equipment have specific climate requirements during storage or operation?
- What special plumbing, piping and electrical wiring needs do you require?
- How do you plan to move the equipment into the container?
- What are your utility and data needs?
- Where will you need controls mounted?
- Are there any heavy pieces of equipment you need mounted to the walls?
- Are there any hazardous area requirements you need to comply with (such as defined by NEC)?
- Do you have any hazardous location concerns (i.e., fireproofing, vapor control, ventilation, heavy-duty airflow, etc.)?
- Will you need spill or liquid containment for the floors?
- How many access points/doors do you need?
- What type of climate will the enclosure be exposed to (extreme heat or cold)?



## STEP 2: REVIEW FALCON'S CATALOG OF STANDARD PRODUCTS

For more than a decade, Falcon has designed and manufactured thousands of modified shipping containers for a variety of applications and we know first hand what holds up in the real world. This experience, combined with customer feedback, led to the development of dozens of tried and true modified shipping container products that suit most clients.

Following your brainstorming session, review the standard products available in the category of your choice. You can:

- Visit Falcon's [product page](#) on our website, select the appropriate category and review related products.
- Download Falcon's [product catalog](#) and review products in your category.
- Call us at [877-704-0177](tel:877-704-0177) if you need help narrowing down your options.

*The products here are in Falcon's standard product line. Top Left: Storage container with shelving. Middle Left: Interior of 40-foot open office Bottom Left: Climate controlled container with shelving interior. Bottom Right: Jack and Jill 40-foot container exterior.*





## STEP 3: MAKE A LIST OF ADDITIONAL OPTIONS YOU NEED FOR YOUR APPLICATION.

To simplify this step, we assembled a list of the most popular options to get you started. (You'll find this list in our catalog or you can check out our [container modification options page](#) here for more details.)

Keep in mind, our standard products were designed to be plug-and-play, so many of the options below are already included. But if you need to add an extra window or door, or other option, this is a great place to start.

And don't forget, we're just a phone call away. Feel free to contact us for recommendations if you need help or want to save time.

### Structural Options

- Clear Span (used to combine containers to create large, expanded interior spaces)
- Custom wall openings
- Exterior doors, hardware and security options
- Overhead doors
- Windows

### Climate Control Options

- Heating and cooling options
- Fans and vents
- Insulation

## Finish Out Options

- Electrical and lighting
- Exterior paint
- Interior paint
- Flooring finishes
- Kitchenettes
- Painted wood, fire resistant hardiboard or washable fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP)
- Organization (lockers, shelving, etc.)
- Plumbing
- Work surfaces (desks, countertops)

## Accessories

- Fastening mechanisms to connect containers to foundations, trailers or each other
- Lock box
- Trailers



Can't find what  
you're looking for  
on this list?

Contact us and  
we'll find or create  
a solution for you.





## STEP 4: PUT YOUR IDEAS ON PAPER OR GIVE US A CALL

By this point, you should have a clear vision of the container configuration and components you need to design your modified shipping container.

To help Falcon best understand your goals, you can give us a call to discuss your options, or if you are more hands-on:

- Create a list identifying the main criteria that are critical for your application.
- Identify the standard container products and options you like best.
- Ask us to create a drawing for you.

The more we know about your goals, the better we will be able to meet your needs. As always, feel free to contact us with questions at any step during the design process.

## STEP 5: CONTACT FALCON TO GET A QUOTE AND SHORE UP DETAILS

Once you have organized your ideas you can:

- Email your materials to Falcon at [sales@falconstructures.com](mailto:sales@falconstructures.com).
- Request a quote via the [online form](#) on our website.
- Call us at [877-704-0177](tel:877-704-0177) to talk through your container application.





Have questions or need additional resources? [Let's talk.](#)

While the majority of our clients' container applications fall into one of our standard product categories, we regularly complete custom container modification requests too. If you're not finding the tools or insight you need here, contact us. We can walk you through the process and share additional resources to help transform your vision from concept into reality.

## ABOUT FALCON STRUCTURES

When we repurpose steel shipping containers, we're not just leveraging a stronger, more readily available building material; we're creating long-lived business assets. Whether your business plans to quickly deploy a field camp or assemble a multi-story apartment complex, Falcon Structures can provide code-compliant modules for your project. Countless industries now rely on our modified containers to create modular container buildings with superior quality. Founded in 2003, Falcon Structures is based in Austin, Texas.

[Contact Falcon Structures](#) today for information on modified, steel shipping containers for your next project.



Call us at [877.704.0177](tel:877.704.0177)  
or send an e-mail to  
[sales@falconstructures.com](mailto:sales@falconstructures.com)

