



If he has a man cave, why shouldn't she have a 'she shed'?

After just building a garage/workshop for my partner's benefit, I've been craving a shed of my own. Somewhere I can gather all of my outdoor bits and bobs, and organise as I want it. And apparently I'm not the only one who wants one.

"While men have their man cave, women all over the world have been creating a separate space to call their own," says Kate Martin, trade service manager at hipages, the go-to app for Aussies to find and hire a tradie.

"The she shed is a private room in which to create, craft, meditate, workout, reflect, read, do gardening or even work."

Kate has these tips to create your own shed.

So what is a she shed?

If you're lucky enough to have a big backyard, you may have some spare square footage that's going to waste. Or perhaps you already have a shed out back that no one has dared enter since 1984. That's

really all you need to create your homely hide-out – a little outdoor space, a modest budget and some design inspiration.

How to build your she shed

If you already have an old shed that's currently housing a lovely family of red-back spiders, then you can simply clear it out and turn it into your dream hideaway. It might only take a weekend or two to get it the way you want. No shed? No worries. There are DIY kits that you can pick up

from your local hardware shop. Or you could hire a builder, carpenter or handyman to help out.

She shed essentials

The best part of having a she shed is that you can make it exactly what you want it to be. Once you have the shell of the shed, it's a good idea to make a list of must-haves, depending on the purpose of the shed. If it's a place for relaxation consider lighting, a lounge, cushions and blankets. If you'd prefer to make it a secluded work environment be sure to think about Wi-Fi connection, how your computer will work and a fitting desk. Or if it's for crafts and gardening, look at how best to store all



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your equipment and tools.

Different types of she sheds

A garden hideaway she shed is a shed that is nestled away in the backyard, away from the house, surrounded by trees and plants. It's a perfect spot to have some down time in a cottage-like space. A pastel-coloured she shed, where light colours and dainty flowers are used to make the space a tranquil one, is the ideal quiet spot for gardening or pottering amongst nature. Keep it light and airy with windows for natural light.

A she shed can also be a creative escape

Adding a table or some benches makes the space superb to get your creative juices flowing. And if you're lucky enough to live by the beach or in the country, paint it in bright colours and throw in some cushions for when you want to feel the calm and restful.

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