UCD CONSTRUCTION FIELD REPORT

PRACTICAL JOBSITE REFERENCE

20FT vs 40FT Construction Container Report

A side-by-side field comparison of footprint, access, capacity, retrieval and ownership tradeoffs.

160 sq ft	320 sq ft	+12 in
20FT FOOTPRINT	40FT FOOTPRINT	HIGH CUBE HEIGHT

USE THIS IN THE FIELD

Mark the assumptions, assign an owner and confirm the exact site and container before acting. This guide supports planning. It does not replace carrier approval, project safety rules or the authority having jurisdiction.

SECTION 01

Start with site access

The larger unit only creates value when it can reach and operate in the planned location.

01	Compare gate width, turning and straight approach.
02	Check overhead clearance and unloading space.
03	Reserve cargo-door swing and retrieval apron.
04	Include future site congestion and phase changes.

FIELD NOTE **A well-placed 20FT unit can outperform a poorly accessed 40FT unit.**

SECTION 02

Compare usable floor zones

Plan the interior as a working layout.

01	20FT: strong fit for one crew, tight sites or a controlled high-value zone.
02	40FT: strong fit for shared equipment, reserve stock and several trade zones.
03	High Cube: useful when height, not floor length, controls capacity.
04	Every option needs a clear retrieval aisle.

FIELD NOTE

Cubic capacity does not show whether the crew can reach the item it needs.

SECTION 03

Compare delivered and operating cost

Use cost per useful project, not cost per box.

01	Include delivery and site preparation.
02	Add shelving, security and modifications.
03	Budget future moves and maintenance.
04	Use a conservative resale value.

FIELD NOTE

A 40FT unit often has better cost per square foot, while a 20FT unit can reduce placement and handling cost.

TURN THE PLAN INTO A DELIVERED PRICE

Send the delivery ZIP, preferred size and project use.

A United Container Depot specialist will match nearby inventory, review access assumptions and provide one written delivered price.

Call	Web
855-525-0902	UNITEDCONTAINERDEPOT.COM