Shipping container dimensions

Triplicate
triplicatedocs.com/container-dimensions/

Inside size, door opening, capacity and weight limits of the common sea containers, in one table. Figures are typical values from a major carrier's fleet; each line's containers differ slightly.

Container	Inside L × W × H	Door opening W × H	Capacity	Tare weight	Max payload	Max gross weight
20ft standard (dry) **Outside L × W × H: 6.058 × 2.438 × 2.591 m**	5.900 × 2.352 × 2.395 m 19'4" × 7'9" × 7'10"	2.340 × 2.292 m 7'8" × 7'6"	33.2 m³ 1,172 ft³	2,350 kg 5,181 lb	28,130 kg 62,016 lb	30,480 kg 67,197 lb
40ft standard (dry) **Outside L × W × H: 12.192 × 2.438 × 2.591 m**	12.032 × 2.352 × 2.395 m 39'6" × 7'9" × 7'10"	2.340 × 2.292 m 7'8" × 7'6"	67.7 m³ 2,391 ft³	3,750 kg 8,267 lb	28,750 kg 63,383 lb	32,500 kg 71,650 lb
40ft high cube **Outside L × W × H: 12.192 × 2.438 × 2.896 m**	12.032 × 2.350 × 2.700 m 39'6" × 7'9" × 8'10"	2.340 × 2.597 m 7'8" × 8'6"	76.3 m³ 2,695 ft³	3,900 kg 8,598 lb	28,600 kg 63,052 lb	32,500 kg 71,650 lb
45ft high cube **Outside L × W × H: 13.716 × 2.438 × 2.896 m**	13.556 × 2.352 × 2.700 m 44'6" × 7'9" × 8'10"	2.340 × 2.597 m 7'8" × 8'6"	86.0 m³ 3,037 ft³	4,800 kg 10,582 lb	27,700 kg 61,068 lb	32,500 kg 71,650 lb
20ft reefer **Outside L × W × H: 6.058 × 2.438 × 2.591 m**	5.450 × 2.280 × 2.159 m 17'11" × 7'6" × 7'1"	2.290 × 2.264 m 7'6" × 7'5"	28.1 m³ 992 ft³	2,860 kg 6,305 lb	29,140 kg 64,243 lb	32,000 kg 70,548 lb
40ft reefer high cube **Outside L × W × H: 12.192 × 2.438 × 2.896 m**	11.599 × 2.290 × 2.425 m 38'1" × 7'6" × 7'11"	2.290 × 2.557 m 7'6" × 8'5"	67.7 m³ 2,391 ft³	4,420 kg 9,744 lb	29,580 kg 65,213 lb	34,000 kg 74,957 lb
20ft open top **Outside L × W × H: 6.058 × 2.438 × 2.591 m** **Roof opening: 2.23 × 5.34 m**	5.895 × 2.350 × 2.340 m 19'4" × 7'9" × 7'8"	2.338 × 2.280 m 7'8" × 7'6"	32.5 m³ 1,148 ft³	2,450 kg 5,401 lb	30,050 kg 66,249 lb	32,500 kg 71,650 lb
40ft open top **Outside L × W × H: 12.192 × 2.438 × 2.591 m** **Roof opening: 2.23 × 11.55 m**	12.029 × 2.350 × 2.344 m 39'6" × 7'9" × 7'8"	2.340 × 2.276 m 7'8" × 7'6"	66.8 m³ 2,359 ft³	4,050 kg 8,929 lb	28,450 kg 62,721 lb	32,500 kg 71,650 lb

Which container do I need?

Heavy, dense cargo such as tiles, metal parts or liquids usually reaches the weight limit before the space is full, so a 20ft container is often enough. Light, bulky cargo such as furniture, garments or plastics fills the space first, so a 40ft or 40ft high cube gives more room for a similar price.

How much really fits

Cartons never fill every centimetre. In practice about 25 to 28 m³ of cartons fit in a 20ft container, 55 to 58 m³ in a 40ft and 65 to 68 m³ in a 40ft high cube. Use the CBM calculator with your carton sizes to check before booking.

Weight limits on the road

The maximum gross weight is the container's own limit. Road rules in the loading and delivery countries are often lower, and the shipper must declare the verified gross mass (VGM) of every container under the SOLAS convention before it is loaded on a ship.

Source: inside sizes, doors and weights from container specifications published by Hapag-Lloyd; outside sizes are the ISO 668 standard dimensions. Dimensions and weights vary by carrier, container age and manufacturer, so confirm with your shipping line before planning a tight load.