



# How to Rent a Dumpster in Dallas

The Complete Guide for Homeowners,  
Contractors & Business Owners

---

By Josh Roman, Founder & CEO  
American AF Dumpsters

*Everything You Need to Know — From the  
People Who Do This Every Day*

[americanafdumpsters.com](http://americanafdumpsters.com) • (214) 225-5865 • Dallas–Fort Worth, TX

---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1** Why You Need a Dumpster (And Why It Matters Who Drops It Off)
- 2** What Is a Roll-Off Dumpster?
- 3** Choosing the Right Size
- 4** What Goes In (And What Doesn't)
- 5** How Pricing Works
- 6** The Rental Process: Step by Step
- 7** Where to Put Your Dumpster
- 8** Common Mistakes That Cost You Money
- 9** What to Look For in a Dumpster Company
- 10** Project Guides: Size Recommendations by Job Type
- 11** Ready for Your Next Project?

Appendix A: Quick-Reference Card

Appendix B: Local Resources

# 1

## Why You Need a Dumpster

This guide wasn't written by a marketing agency. It was written by the crew that drops dumpsters in Dallas driveways every single day.

At American AF Dumpsters, we've delivered thousands of dumpsters across the DFW metroplex since 2020. We started with a 14-foot cargo trailer and a Craigslist ad. Today we run a full fleet of trucks delivering 15, 20, 30, and 40 yard roll-off containers to homeowners, contractors, and businesses across Dallas, Tarrant, Collin, and Ellis counties.



We built this guide because most people rent a dumpster once or twice in their life. When that time comes, you shouldn't have to guess what size you need, what it costs, or what you can throw in it. This book gives you everything so you can make a smart decision, avoid getting ripped off, and get your project done without the headache.

### Who This Guide Is For

- Homeowners tackling a garage cleanout, renovation, or move
- Contractors managing demolition, roofing, or new construction waste
- Property managers turning units or clearing estates
- Real estate investors flipping houses or cleaning out properties
- Business owners clearing warehouses, offices, or retail spaces
- Anyone in DFW who has a pile of junk and needs it gone

---

**PRO TIP**

If you're reading this, you probably already know you need a dumpster. The question isn't if — it's which one, how much, and who to trust. That's exactly what we cover in the next 10 chapters.

## 2

# What Is a Roll-Off Dumpster?

A roll-off dumpster is an open-top waste container designed to be transported by a special roll-off truck. It literally rolls off the back of the truck onto your driveway, job site, or parking lot. When you're done filling it, the truck comes back, hooks it up, and hauls it to the landfill or transfer station.



The name "roll-off" comes from the way the container is loaded and unloaded — it rolls on wheels along the truck's flatbed using a cable hoist or hook-lift system. It's different from the small front-load dumpsters you see behind restaurants and strip malls. Roll-offs are bigger, open on top, and designed for project-based work.

## Roll-Off vs. Front-Load: Know the Difference

Feature	Roll-Off Dumpster	Front-Load Dumpster
Top	Open	Lidded
Size Range	15–40 cubic yards	2–8 cubic yards
Best For	Projects & cleanouts	Ongoing trash service
Rental Period	Days to weeks	Recurring weekly
Delivery	Roll-off truck	Front-load truck

## Key Terms You'll See in This Guide

- **Cubic Yard:** A unit of volume (3ft x 3ft x 3ft). This is how dumpster capacity is measured.

- 
- **Haul Period:** The number of days included in your rental before daily overage fees kick in.
  - **Tonnage / Weight Allowance:** How much weight is included in the base price. Go over, and you pay per-ton overage.
  - **Overage Fee:** Additional charges for exceeding your included rental days or weight limit.
  - **Roll-Off Truck:** A specialized truck with a tilting bed and cable/hook system that delivers and picks up containers.
  - **Lowboy:** A low-sidewall dumpster (about 36 inches tall) designed for heavy materials like concrete and dirt. Easy to load with a skid steer.
  - **Swap-Out:** When the dumpster company picks up a full container and drops an empty one in the same trip.
  - **Right-of-Way:** Public property (street, sidewalk, alley) where a permit may be required for dumpster placement.

# 3

## Choosing the Right Size

Picking the right dumpster size is the single most important decision in the rental process. Too small and you're paying for a second haul. Too big and you're wasting money on space you don't need. Here's how to get it right.



### Our Dumpster Lineup

American AF Dumpsters offers five container options. Here are the exact dimensions and what each one handles best.

Size	Dimensions	Capacity	Best For
15 Yard	16'L x 8'W x 4'H	~4 pickup truck loads	Garage cleanouts, small remodels, yard waste
20 Yard	16'L x 8'W x 5.5'H	~6 pickup truck loads	Single-room renos, mid-size cleanouts, flooring removal
30 Yard	22'L x 8'W x 6'H	~9 pickup truck loads	Multi-room renos, roof tear-offs, estate cleanouts
40 Yard	22'L x 8'W x 7'H	~12 pickup truck loads	New construction, commercial demo, large-scale projects

<b>15 Yd Lowboy</b>	22'L x 8'W x 36"H	Heavy material only	Concrete, dirt, brick — skid steer friendly
-------------------------	-------------------	---------------------	---



### The 'When in Doubt, Size Up' Rule

Here's what we tell every customer: if you're on the fence between two sizes, go with the bigger one. The price difference between a 15-yard and a 20-yard is much smaller than the cost of ordering a second dumpster because the first one filled up. We've seen it happen hundreds of times. Save yourself the hassle.

### Real-World Sizing Examples

- 20 sheets of drywall + 50 sq ft of flooring + misc debris = 15 Yard
- Full kitchen gut (cabinets, counters, flooring, drywall) = 20 Yard
- Whole-house cleanout (furniture, junk, appliances) = 20–30 Yard
- Roof tear-off (25–30 squares of shingles) = 30 Yard
- Ground-up new construction waste = 40 Yard
- Concrete driveway or patio removal = 15 Yd Lowboy

#### PRO TIP

Still not sure? Call us at (214) 225-5865. Tell us what you're working on and we'll recommend the right size in about two minutes. We'd rather you get it right the first time than have to pay for a swap.

# 4

## What Goes In (And What Doesn't)

Short version: most construction and household junk is fine. We haul everything from old furniture and drywall to roofing shingles and broken concrete. But there are limits — mostly driven by landfill regulations, EPA rules, and Texas state law. Here's the full breakdown.



We Accept	Not Allowed
Household junk & clutter	Hazardous materials
Furniture & mattresses	Paint & chemicals
Appliances (freon-free)	Tires
Yard waste & brush	Batteries
Construction debris	Medical waste
Roofing shingles	Asbestos
Concrete & brick	Refrigerants / Freon
Drywall & flooring	Electronics (some)
Cardboard & paper	Propane tanks

### Why Some Items Are Banned

It's not us being difficult — it's the landfill. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulates what can and can't be dumped in municipal landfills. Hazardous materials, refrigerants, and

---

certain chemicals require special disposal facilities. If prohibited items are found in your dumpster, the landfill can reject the entire load — which means extra fees and delays for everyone.

### **The 'Gray Area' Items**

Some materials vary by landfill. Mattresses, for example, are accepted at some facilities but not others. Same with certain electronics. When in doubt, call us at (214) 225-5865 before you toss it in. We'll point you in the right direction for anything we can't haul.

#### **PRO TIP**

Keep prohibited items separated from your dumpster load. If you have old paint cans, batteries, or a fridge with freon, your city's household hazardous waste collection program handles those for free. Dallas residents can use the Home Chemical Collection Center.

# 5

## How Pricing Works

Transparent pricing is one of the biggest things that sets us apart. At American AF Dumpsters, we quote you the full price upfront. No hidden fees, no surprise charges at pickup. You know exactly what you're paying before we roll a truck.

We run two pricing models: **Residential** and **Commercial**. Which one applies to you depends on the type of debris, not whether you own a business.

### Residential Pricing

This rate covers household trash, garage cleanouts, furniture, move-out junk — basically anything that isn't construction or demolition debris.

#### Standard Service Areas (Dallas, Ellis & Navarro Counties)

Size	Price	Includes
15 Yard	\$365 + tax	3 days & 1 ton
20 Yard	\$445 + tax	7 days & 2 tons
30 Yard	\$585 + tax	7 days & 2 tons
40 Yard	\$650 + tax	7 days & 3 tons

#### Extended Service Areas (Tarrant, Denton & Collin Counties)

Size	Price	Includes
15 Yard	\$465 + tax	3 days & 1 ton
20 Yard	\$545 + tax	7 days & 2 tons
30 Yard	\$685 + tax	7 days & 2 tons
40 Yard	\$750 + tax	7 days & 3 tons

### Commercial Pricing

Any type of C&D (construction & demolition), demo, remodeling, building, or long-term warehouse cleanouts falls under commercial rates. Key difference: commercial pricing is disposal-based — you pay by the ton for what you dump.



## Standard Service Areas (Dallas, Ellis & Navarro Counties)

Size	Price	Includes	Disposal
15 & 20 Yd	\$345 + tax	7 days	\$80/ton + tax
30 Yard	\$450 + tax	14 days	\$80/ton + tax
40 Yard	\$470 + tax	14 days	\$80/ton + tax

## Additional Commercial Fees & Options

- **Daily overage:** \$10/day + tax after included rental period
- **Weight overage:** \$80/ton + tax after included weight allowance
- **Monthly rental:** \$250 (great for long-term job sites)
- **Swap-out:** Same price as a new rental (pick up full container, drop empty one same trip)
- **Concrete/dirt dumpsters:** Call for quote — heavy-duty lowboy pricing varies

## Hidden Fees to Watch For (From Other Companies)

We're upfront about our pricing because a lot of companies in this space aren't. Here are the bait-and-switch tactics you should watch for when comparing quotes:

- **Fuel surcharges** — tacked on after the quote
- **Environmental fees** — vague charges with no explanation
- **Delivery/pickup fees** — listed separately from the "rental" price
- **Administrative fees** — the classic "because we can" charge
- **Unrealistic weight limits** — low allowance = guaranteed overage

---

**PRO TIP**

Always ask for the all-in price. If a company can't give you a single number that covers delivery, pickup, disposal, and your rental period — walk away. That's how you end up paying \$200 more than you expected.

# 6

## The Rental Process: Step by Step

Renting a dumpster with American AF takes minutes, not hours. Here's the exact process from first click to final pickup.



### Step 1: Define Your Project

What are you working on? Garage cleanout? Roof tear-off? Kitchen demo? The project type determines the dumpster size and pricing model (residential vs. commercial). If you're not sure, call us and describe what you're doing — we'll tell you exactly what you need.

### Step 2: Choose Your Size

Use the size guide in Chapter 3. Remember the rule: when in doubt, size up. The difference in cost is much less than paying for a second haul.

### Step 3: Book It

Two options. Book online at [americanafdumpsters.com](http://americanafdumpsters.com) — enter your address, see your price instantly, pick a date, and confirm. The whole thing takes about 60 seconds. Or call (214) 225-5865 and we'll walk you through it.

### Step 4: Prep the Spot

Clear a flat area at least 60 feet long for the truck to back in. Driveway is ideal. Make sure there's nothing overhead (power lines, tree branches, garage door overhangs). Place plywood under the dumpster if you're worried about your driveway surface.

### Step 5: We Deliver

---

Our drivers place the dumpster exactly where you want it. Driveway, yard, job site, parking lot. We know how to set containers without scraping up your concrete or tearing through your lawn.

### **Step 6: Load It Up**

You get your full rental period to fill it at your pace. Most homeowners finish a garage cleanout in a single weekend. Contractors on big jobs may need the full 7–14 days. No rush.

### **Step 7: Schedule Pickup**

When you're done, call or book the pickup online. We come haul it away and you're done. Need a few extra days? No problem — extensions are available at a daily rate.

### **Step 8: Done**

Your property is clean. Your project is finished. And you didn't have to make 47 trips to the dump in your pickup truck.

## **Same-Day & Next-Day Delivery**

Need it fast? We offer same-day delivery across Dallas County, Tarrant County, and surrounding areas. Book before noon and we can usually have a container at your door the same afternoon. Next-day is our standard turnaround if same-day slots fill up.

### **PRO TIP**

Flexibility matters. We offer same-day delivery, extended rentals, weekend drop-offs, and swap-outs. If the standard options don't fit your timeline, just ask. We'll work with you.

# 7

## Where to Put Your Dumpster



Where you place a dumpster matters more than most people think. Bad placement means blocked driveways, damaged surfaces, delivery problems, or even city fines. Good placement keeps your project running smooth.

### Best Placement Options

- **Driveway (most common):** Flat, accessible, close to the work area. Place plywood or boards under the container to protect the surface.
- **Street (right-of-way):** Allowed in most cities with a permit. Dallas, Fort Worth, and Arlington all have permit processes. We can guide you through it.
- **Yard or dirt area:** Works fine if the ground is level and firm. Soft or muddy ground can cause the container to sink.
- **Parking lot or commercial property:** Common for construction and commercial jobs. Make sure you're not blocking traffic flow or fire lanes.

### What to Check Before Delivery

- Clear 60+ feet of straight-line access for the truck to back in
- No overhead obstructions (power lines, tree limbs, garage door overhangs)
- Firm, level ground (concrete or asphalt preferred)
- No vehicles, equipment, or debris blocking the drop area
- Gates must be wide enough for the container (at least 10 feet)

### Do You Need a Permit?

---

If the dumpster is going on your own private property (driveway, yard, parking lot), you generally don't need a permit. If it needs to sit on a public street, sidewalk, or alley, most cities in DFW require a right-of-way permit. The process is usually quick and inexpensive. Call your city's public works department or ask us — we've dealt with every city in the metroplex.

**PRO TIP**

Protect your driveway. Place a sheet of plywood or 2x6 boards under each contact point of the dumpster. Our drivers can help with placement. This takes 30 seconds and can save you from cracked concrete.

# 8

## Common Mistakes That Cost You Money

After six years and thousands of rentals, we've seen every mistake in the book. Here are the most common ones — and how to avoid them.

### 1. Ordering Too Small

This is the number one mistake. People underestimate how much junk they have. Then they fill the dumpster halfway through the project and have to order a second one. The cost of sizing up is almost always less than a second delivery.

### 2. Loading Above the Fill Line

Every dumpster has a fill line. If your debris is above it, the load is considered "over-filled." Our trucks can't legally haul an overfilled container on public roads. You'll need to remove items or pay for a second haul.

### 3. Mixing Residential and Commercial Waste

Tossing construction debris into a residential dumpster (or vice versa) can trigger the wrong pricing model. If you're not sure which category your waste falls under, call us first.

### 4. Not Asking About Hidden Fees

Some companies advertise a low price then tack on fuel charges, environmental fees, or delivery surcharges. Always ask for the all-in price before booking.

### 5. Ignoring Weight Limits

Every rental includes a weight allowance. Go over, and you pay per-ton overage. Heavy materials like concrete, dirt, and roofing shingles add up fast. Ask about weight limits upfront.

### 6. Putting Prohibited Items in the Dumpster

Hazardous waste, tires, batteries, and certain chemicals can get your entire load rejected at the landfill. Check Chapter 4 for the full list.

### 7. Bad Placement

A dumpster in soft mud sinks. A dumpster under power lines can't be picked up. A dumpster blocking a fire hydrant gets a city fine. Think about placement before delivery.

### 8. Waiting Too Long to Book

Peak season (spring through fall) fills up fast. Weekends book up even faster. If you know your project timeline, book early to lock in your dates.

---

**PRO TIP**

The single best thing you can do to avoid costly mistakes: call us before you book. A 2-minute conversation saves time, money, and headaches. (214) 225-5865.

# 9

## What to Look For in a Dumpster Company

Not all dumpster companies are the same. Some are professional operations with their own trucks and employees. Others are brokers who farm your order out to whoever is cheapest. Here's how to tell the difference.



4.9 Stars • 235 Reviews



- **Transparent pricing:** Full price upfront. No vague "starting at" numbers. No surprise fees at pickup.
- **Own trucks and employees:** Companies that run their own fleet have more control over quality. Ask if they use subcontractors.
- **Local Google reviews:** Check the actual reviews, not just the star rating. Look for consistency, recency, and responses from the owner.
- **Same-day or next-day delivery:** If a company can't deliver within 24 hours, they're either overbooked or understaffed.
- **Clear communication:** You should be able to reach a real person by phone. No call centers, no voicemail mazes.
- **Weight and rental period clarity:** Know exactly how many days and how much tonnage is included before you book.
- **Insurance and licensing:** Any legitimate hauler should be insured and licensed to operate in your area.



## Why American AF Dumpsters

- Locally owned and operated since 2020 — based in Waxahachie, TX
- 4.9-star Google rating with 235+ reviews
- All deliveries handled by our own employees — no subcontractors
- Same-day and next-day delivery across DFW
- Flat-rate residential pricing with tonnage included
- Transparent commercial pricing with no hidden fees
- Real humans answer the phone at (214) 225-5865

### **PRO TIP**

Ask any dumpster company two questions before you book: "What's the all-in price?" and "Do you use your own trucks and employees?" The answers will tell you everything you need to know.

# 10

## Project Guides by Job Type

Different projects produce different kinds of waste. Here are our size and pricing recommendations based on the most common jobs we see across DFW.

### Kitchen / Bathroom Remodel

**Recommended: 20 Yard (Residential)**

Cabinets, countertops, flooring, drywall, fixtures. A single bathroom fits easily in a 15-yard. A full kitchen gut usually needs a 20. If you're doing both, consider a 30.

### Roof Tear-Off

**Recommended: 30 Yard (Commercial)**

Roofing shingles are heavy. A 25–30 square roof tear-off fills a 30-yard dumpster and can weigh 4–6 tons. Use commercial pricing since this is C&D material. The 30-yard gives you 14 days at \$450 + tax (standard area) with disposal billed by the ton.

### Garage / Attic Cleanout

**Recommended: 15–20 Yard (Residential)**

Most single-car garage cleanouts fit in a 15-yard. Two-car garages or combined attic+garage jobs bump up to a 20. At \$365–\$445 + tax (standard area), this is the most common residential rental we do.

### Whole-House Estate Cleanout

**Recommended: 30 Yard (Residential)**

Clearing an entire home — furniture, junk, appliances, personal items. A 30-yard handles most 3-bedroom homes. Larger homes or heavy hoarding situations may need a 40 or a swap-out.

### Storm Damage Cleanup

**Recommended: 20–30 Yard (Residential)**

Fallen trees, broken fencing, water-damaged materials. Size depends on the scope. Storm season in DFW means high demand, so book fast.

### New Construction

---

### **Recommended: 40 Yard (Commercial)**

Ground-up builds generate massive amounts of waste — wood framing scraps, drywall cutoffs, packaging, concrete. A 40-yard with monthly rental at \$250 is the standard setup for most builders we work with.

## **Landscaping / Yard Work**

### **Recommended: 15–20 Yard (Residential)**

Brush, sod, soil, old fencing, and landscaping debris. A 15-yard handles most weekend warrior jobs. Large-scale clearing may need a 20 or 30.

#### **PRO TIP**

Not sure which category your project falls under? Text or call us a photo of the job site. We'll tell you exactly what size and pricing model you need. (214) 225-5865.

# 11

## Ready for Your Next Project?

You now know more about renting a dumpster than 99% of people who pick up the phone. You know what size to get, what it costs, what goes in it, and how to spot a bad deal. That was the whole point of this guide.

When you're ready, here's how to get started:

- **Book online:** [americanafdumpsters.com](http://americanafdumpsters.com) — see your price in 10 seconds, book in 60
- **Call us:** (214) 225-5865 — real people, real answers, no call center
- **Text us:** Same number. We respond fast.



*"What began as a survival move quickly gained momentum and transformed into a full-fledged business."*

— Josh Roman, Founder & CEO

## APPENDIX A: QUICK-REFERENCE CARD

Tear this page out (or screenshot it) and keep it handy for your next project.

Size	Dimensions	Res. Price	Com. Price	Best For
15 Yd	16'x8'x4'	\$365+	\$345+	Small cleanouts
20 Yd	16'x8'x5.5'	\$445+	\$345+	Single-room renos
30 Yd	22'x8'x6'	\$585+	\$450+	Multi-room / roofing
40 Yd	22'x8'x7'	\$650+	\$470+	Construction / demo
Lowboy	22'x8'x36"	Call	Call	Concrete / dirt

### Key Numbers

- Phone: **(214) 225-5865**
- Book Online: **americanafdumpsters.com**
- Overage Rate: **\$10/day + tax | \$80/ton + tax**
- Monthly Rental: **\$250** (commercial)
- Swap-Out: **Same as new rental**

## APPENDIX B: LOCAL RESOURCES

For items we can't haul, here are DFW-area resources that can help.

### DALLAS–FORT WORTH METROPLEX SERVICE AREA



### Hazardous Waste Disposal

Dallas residents can drop off paint, chemicals, batteries, and other hazardous household materials at the City of Dallas Home Chemical Collection Center for free. Fort Worth, Arlington, and most DFW cities offer similar programs. Check your city's website for scheduled collection events.

### Donation Centers

- **Habitat for Humanity ReStore** — Accepts usable building materials, furniture, and appliances
- **Goodwill / Salvation Army** — Furniture, clothing, household items
- **Local churches and nonprofits** — Many accept furniture and appliance donations

### Recycling Drop-Off

Most DFW cities have drop-off recycling centers for electronics, tires, and bulky items. The Dallas Drop-Off Stations accept large items, brush, and recyclables. Check your city's solid waste department for locations and hours near you.



# America's Favorite Dumpster Rental Company

Fast delivery. Transparent pricing.  
The kind of service that makes customers come back.

**[americanafdumpsters.com](http://americanafdumpsters.com)**

**(214) 225-5865**

802 Old Hwy 287, Waxahachie, TX 75165

© 2026 American AF Dumpsters LLC. All rights reserved. Information in this guide is accurate as of March 2026. Pricing subject to change. Contact us for current rates.