



WORKSHOP NEWS

TINY HOUSE BUILDERS



INSIDE THIS EDITION:

Navigating Rules

It shouldn't be this hard...

Join our Granny Flat Masterclass if you need help!

Mum and Dad's Update

Beautiful new shots since Living Big in a Tiny House filmed... check it out below!

Journey Snapshot

So cool to grab a few images together to reflect on our journey over the last 8 years!

AND More fun to come!!

From the Workshop: Our Director's Personal Update

How are we already at the end of February?! Time is flying!

December was a whirlwind, with the setup of our Waihi Beach display home and wrapping up some incredible projects. A huge shoutout to Tony and Peter for taking time out of their holiday to meet so many amazing people—your passion for tiny living is truly appreciated!

January kicked off with an exciting Kowhai studio + 2-bed pod delivery to our lovely clients in Whangamata, plus a fantastic weekend showcasing our display home at the Katikati A&P Show. It's been non-stop, but sharing the tiny house dream is what we love!

We've noticed a growing interest in 60m² granny flats, though many people are waiting for the new granny flat legislation set to be released mid-year. From what we're hearing, the final changes will likely be minimal compared to the government's initial proposal—but we'll keep you updated as soon as we know more!

Exciting times ahead—stay tuned!

Rebecca McLean





Navigating Tiny Home Rules: What You Need to Know

The other day, I was chatting with one of the rugby mums, and as soon as I mentioned that I'm a tiny house consultant, she said, "Oh my gosh, I need you!"

She has a container home on skids on a rural property with an existing dwelling, but right now, it's just a shell. She wasn't sure what she needed to do next, especially when it came to legal requirements.

And that's exactly where so many people get stuck.

Understanding the Rules: When Does a Tiny Home Need Consent?

One of the first things I explained was that a container home on skids is still considered a building, meaning it requires building consent unless it has no plumbing and is under 30 square meters. Even if it's under that threshold, it must be built to the New Zealand Building Code.

Other key rules depend on what's inside the structure:

- ✓ If it has a kitchen → It must be within 20 metres of the main house.
- ✓ If it doesn't have a kitchen → It can be used as an accommodation unit, which offers more flexibility.

AND these regulations vary by district council, and in her case, Western Bay District Council. The building code is consistent nationwide, but council's different District Plans add layers of complexity.

Why This Process Needs to Change...

She quickly realised how confusing and inconsistent the rules are. And she's right—it shouldn't be this hard!

That's why I've been actively lobbying for national policy changes under both the NZ Tiny House Association and Tiny House Mastery, which will help you my building clients!

Continued...

We need clear, standardised guidelines for tiny homes on wheels—whether they're on land you own or lease.

Currently, I'm working with 14 different councils in a Tiny House Working Group to better understand what's being implemented across the country. Change is coming, but in the meantime, navigating the legal landscape still requires expert guidance.



If you're facing similar challenges and want to understand how regulations apply to your specific site, check out our Granny Flat Legislation Event coming up soon!

 Date: 8th March 2025 - Katikati

 Can't make it? No worries! It'll be recorded and available for purchase online.

For more details click [HERE](#)



Granny Flat Masterclass!

PLAN RIGHT, SAVE THOUSANDS,
BUILD STRESS-FREE!

 Tiny House Mastery
BY REBECCA MCLEAN





Mum & Dad's Tiny: A Beautiful Update!

It's been a while since Peter and Brenda's tiny home was featured on Living Big in a Tiny House, so I popped down last night to take a few fresh shots. The place has truly grown into itself—lush, inviting, and full of life!

Mum is doing amazingly well (thank you all for your kind thoughts ❤️), and she recently hosted her quilting ladies for a catch-up on the deck, enjoying the peaceful country surroundings.

Meanwhile, Dad has been keeping busy in the garden and managing the paddocks—organising hay baling and, yes, still lifting those bales onto the trailer like he's in his 20s! 😄

The boys, of course, are thrilled with the never-ending supply of Nana's cookies, and we're beyond grateful to have this lifestyle—all made possible by tiny living!

P.S. If you're dreaming of more connection, simplicity, and freedom in your own life... maybe it's time to go tiny too!

From this...



To this...





**Peter and Brenda's
Beautiful Update!**





**Tiny House Builders
Journey highlights!**





Let us help build your Dream Tiny Home

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