

# PREPARING FOR A SEVERE STORM



Australian communities suffer significant impact from storms every year. Violent winds accompanied by rain, hail or snow can topple trees and power lines onto cars, homes and other buildings or cause water damage if roofs are damaged or leaking. But you can take action before, during and after a storm to reduce its impact on your home and family.

## Before a storm



Clear gutters and downpipes on your home and other structures so that heavy rain can flow freely off the roof. Move vehicles under cover if possible, and clear away or secure items outside that could be blown about by the wind or carried away in surging water.



Draw up a Home Emergency Plan that includes where you and your family will go if you have to evacuate your home and how you will contact each other if separated.



Gather sentimental, important and valuable items, documents and photos that you can take with you should you need to evacuate. Back up important documents digitally. Put together an “Emergency Pack” including tinned food, water, first-aid kit, warm clothing, and a torch.



Make sure you know what your insurance covers and that the sum for which you are insured covers the replacement value of what you would like to insure.



## During a storm



Use a battery-powered radio to monitor your local radio station for updates on the storm, weather, power supply, emergency warnings and evacuation alerts. Contact **000** or your local SES in any emergency.



Stay indoors and away from windows.



If power is lost, turn off and unplug electrical items, especially computers.

## After a storm



Do not use damaged electrical outlets. Avoid fallen power lines.



Do not walk or drive through flowing water or enter still water of unknown depth.



Once the danger has passed, take photos of damaged or destroyed items before disposing of them to assist in any insurance claims. Make your claim online at [allianzclaims.com.au](https://allianzclaims.com.au) or call **13 10 13**.

## We're here to help

Severe weather events take an emotional toll on us. If you are suffering, please visit [allianz.com.au/support](https://allianz.com.au/support) to find the right support measure for you.

### Disclaimer:

*Please note the information in this article is general in nature and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. You should consider obtaining independent advice before making any decisions based on this article.*

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