

The essential flood checklist

Floods can strike at any time. Having a better understanding of floods can help you to be more prepared and act quickly. Here are some valuable hints and tips you can use to help reduce the risk to your home and family.

BEFORE A FLOOD

- Keep a list of emergency phone numbers handy.
- Plan what you'll do in case of flood, and discuss with friends and neighbours.
- Take photos of your property, both inside and out.
- Assemble an emergency kit for your family.
- Review your home and contents insurance regularly, to ensure it is adequate to cover the full replacement value of your home and contents — new for old.
- Store important documents in a watertight container.
- Practice evacuating your pet to a safe location. Make sure their tags have up-to-date contact information. Prepare an emergency kit ahead of time, including food, water and any medication. Talk to your vet about any special considerations.

DURING A FLOOD

- Switch off electricity and gas to your home.
- Keep tuned to a portable radio for warnings and advice.
- Move your furniture above likely flood level.
- Pack warm clothes and valuables in waterproof bags you can take with you.
- If you need to evacuate, lock your home and take recommended evacuation routes for your area.
- Do not drive into flood waters of unknown depth and current.

AFTER A FLOOD

- Check for damages to your home.
- Stay away from fallen powerlines and damaged trees.
- If you've left your home, make sure the gas and electricity are switched off before re-entering.
- Make sure all your gas and electrical appliances are professionally tested prior to use.
- Do not eat food which has been in contact with flood water.
- Boil tap water until supplies have been declared safe.
- Beware of snakes and spiders that may have moved into your house.
- Avoid entering flood waters and don't allow children to play in flood waters.
- Make a list of items that may have been destroyed or damaged by the flood.
- If necessary, call the Suncorp claims hotline on 13 25 24.

***After the floodwaters recede the emotional impact can stay around a lot longer.
If you are suffering after a flood please contact your local support agencies.***

Call 13 11 55
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