

The essential storm checklist

Check your gutters and downpipes. Backed up gutters can send water flowing into your home during heavy rains.

WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

- Check your roof for damaged or loose tiles, or raised corners of corrugated sheets. A roof in good repair will be more likely to withstand the pressure inflicted by high winds and keep water out.
- Trim overgrown tree branches and remove or secure loose items around the garden which could become projectiles during high winds. **DO NOT** attempt to trim trees near powerlines.
- Keep a battery operated torch and radio handy in case of loss of electricity. Use the radio for power restoration updates and possible evacuation notice.
- Put together a small evacuation package keepsakes and things you would hate to lose, in case you need to evacuate quickly.
- Keep spare batteries, canned non-perishable food, can opener, water, first-aid kit and blankets handy and identify a shelter room in your house if evacuation isn't possible.

WHAT YOU CAN DO AS THE STORM APPROACHES OR DURING THE STORM

Remember use Suncorp's weather updates and storm warnings, to keep up-to-date with approaching storms.

- Any outside furniture, bikes, ornaments, toys, pot plants etc. should be either secured or if possible taken inside.
- Secure doors, windows and any awnings you have. Covering windows with plywood can be a good last minute protection.
- Move cars into garage if you have one.
- If you have a garage door, back your car against the inside of the door to help prevent it twisting in high winds.
- Stay indoors away from windows. Move furniture and fixtures away from window and door openings.
- If power is lost, turn off and unplug electrical items especially computers. **DO NOT** use wet or damp electrical appliances.
- Fill containers with drinking water.
- Listen to your local radio station, with a battery operated radio, for storm and power supply updates and any evacuation plans if needed.
- Stay clear of fallen powerlines.

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