





Top tips to prepare for flooding

Let's gear you up so you can protect the things you love

Flood-proof your home

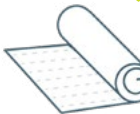



If you live in a flood risk area, consider:

- moving electrical sockets above ground level and bringing boilers, air-conditioning and similar equipment to higher ground; 
- using ceramic tiles or concrete flooring rather than carpets or wood;
- getting a temporary power device such as a generator in case of long-term electricity outages; 
- installing one-way non-return valves for drainage systems, flood doors and impact resistant glass for windows;
- replacing standard airbricks with smart bricks which have valves that shut in the event of a flood; 
- installing storm shutters and getting temporary flood protection equipment that can help keep floodwater out of your home.

You can get advice from the [National Flood Forum](#) on how to protect your home and how much this will cost. 



If a flood is expected:

- Move furniture and electrical items to safety, roll up carpets and rugs and turn off electricity, water and gas suppliers if possible. 
- If you can't move or raise up heavy furniture, wrap wooden legs in cling film or plastic to stop water soaking in.
- Plug up your drains, sinks and baths, as this can prevent sewage back-up.
- Keep valuables locked away safely in a waterproof container that can be easily moved. 
- Clear your garden of any ornaments or plants that could be swept away.
- Get in touch with your local council to find out where to get sandbags.
- Create a list of emergency contact numbers, including helplines offered by your insurer, local authorities and utility companies. It's a good idea to save those numbers on your mobile phone – make sure it's always fully charged. 
- Have a copy of your home insurance policy documents and your policy number to hand. It'll be useful if you do have to call to make a claim. 

Don't forget:



Keep an eye on weather forecasts and flood warnings for your area. There are three types of warnings issued by the [Met Office](#) when flooding is forecast: flood alerts, flood warnings and severe flood warnings.

To check flood warnings and road information if you need to travel, visit gov.uk/check-flooding



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