

# Top tips to prepare for flooding

Flooding is impossible to prevent and difficult to predict, but we've got you covered. Here are some useful tips to help prevent excessive damage to your property.

**Check the roof** of your property / home on a regular basis to look out for any slipped or missing tiles, loose or cracked flashings or worn concrete.



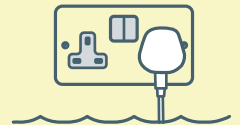
If you're refurbishing or decorating your property, **consider using flood resilient materials**. For example, you can use ceramic tiles on ground floors or rugs instead of carpets.



Keep all **drains and gutters clear** of debris to avoid dams building up which can prevent the drainage of excess water.



If you're in an area prone to flooding, you should **move any kitchen units and electrical sockets above ground level**.



**Back up any important files on your computer** to avoid the loss of any sentimental or business material, such as family photos or work documents.



**Always keep an emergency kit ready** and make sure it's somewhere you can access easily.

- Torch** (with spare batteries)
- Canned food** (enough for at least 3 days)
- Portable cooking equipment**
- Bottled water** (enough for at least 3 days)
- Portable radio** (with spare batteries)
- Blankets, waterproof clothing and wellington boots** (for each household member)
- A list of local emergency numbers** (eg. the council)
- Insurance details**
- First aid kit**

**Did you know?** Both lightning and flood damage could completely wipe a computer's hard drive.

Make sure any **valuables are locked safely away**, preferably in a waterproof container kept on an upper floor.



**Keep a stock of sandbags.** Ask your local council who may be able to supply some for you.



Get some **temporary flood protection equipment** such as removable covers for air bricks and other vents and floorboards to help protect vulnerable windows and doors.