



Home Preparedness Checklist for Hurricanes

The following checklist provides guidance for homeowners or renters to help protect their homes through a hurricane. This checklist is designed to be reviewed and utilized for seasonal preparations as well as prior to a hurricane making landfall. For renters, check with the landlord or owner before taking steps.

Ongoing Preparedness	
	Keep gutters clean and clear of debris.
	Regularly inspect roof for damage.
	Install and maintain smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
	Install and maintain fire extinguishers.
	Clear trees and other large vegetation that may fall onto or blow into the house.
	Maintain access to gas shut-off.
	Maintain access to water shut-off.
	Maintain access to electricity panel.
	Gather an emergency supply kit including food, water, and medication.
	Store flashlights and batteries throughout the house and test regularly.
	Assess structural strength of home and roof.
Prior to Landfall	
	Securely board up windows.
	Place sandbags outside doors and ground level windows to protect from flooding.
	Assess and secure roof.
	Clean up small outdoor items such as toys, bicycles, or gardening supplies.
	Secure large outdoor items such as boats, trailers, barbecues, and other items.
	Secure antennas or satellite dishes from roof.
	Secure and empty mailboxes.
	Remove a section of patio screening on either side to allow wind to pass through.
	Turn off all electric or gas equipment or appliances.
	Fill vehicle gas tanks and ensure any necessary portable electronics are fully charged.
	Turn off gas, water, and electric at main valves to home.
	Work with neighbors to prepare the entire area.
	Listen to weather updates and obey all local evacuation orders.
	Establish a family communication plan.
	Identify the closest emergency shelters and prepare supplies to evacuate.

For steps to prepare yourself and your family for a hurricane during this COVID-19 pandemic, refer to the *Americares Personal Preparedness Checklist for Hurricane Season During COVID-19*.