



# Protecting your home against Floods

We know that wet weather and storm surges can lead to floods and these can cause damage to your home, so we've got some flood prevention tips to help you prepare.

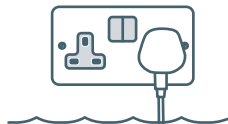
## Outside the home

- **Guttering and pipes** – are they free from blockages/leaves/debris?
- **Drains** – are they draining well? Installing a non-return valve could stop the backflow of water and help prevent flood damage.
- **Doors and windows** – would flood doors, storm shutters or impact resistant glass help?
- **Sandbags** – the local council may be able to help.
- **Gardens** – clear away any ornaments, furniture or plants that could be damaged by flooding.



## Inside the home

- **Gas, electric and water** – know how to switch them off.
- **Valuables and important documents (like insurance!)** – keep them safe by locking them away, ideally in a watertight container.
- **Electrical appliances** – unplug non-essentials and store them upstairs if possible.
- **Electrical sockets** – consider raising low-level sockets, especially in high risk areas.
- **Furniture** – if it can't be moved upstairs, protect with plastic or cling film, especially legs made of wood.
- **Airbricks** – could smart bricks help? These have valves that shut in the event of a flood.
- **Emergency kit** – it's a good idea to have some essentials ready - like canned food, water, a torch, batteries, first aid kit, blankets, waterproof clothing, insurance details & emergency numbers (council, GP, etc.) - and make sure mobile phones are fully charged.
- **Temporary power** – is it worth considering an alternative source of power, like a generator, for short term use?



It's always a good idea to check what is and isn't covered by your Home insurance. Please speak to your Adviser about how our Home insurance and Home emergency cover can help protect your home.

You can find out more information and advice from the [National Flood Forum](#) and the [Environment Agency](#).