

HEATPROOF YOUR HOME THIS SUMMER

The summer sun is here and whilst we might spend less time in our homes and more time outside enjoying it, we wanted to share our top tips for you to pass onto your customers to keep their homes cool and protected whilst it's hot.

We've highlighted the key points here but you can find a link to the full article at the end so you can pass it on to customers looking for more details on heatproofing homes and keeping an eye out for signs of damage.

Keeping it cool

Can't handle the heat? Here are our tips on keeping houses cooler in the summer:

1. **Open windows**, particularly windows that are upstairs if you live in a multi-storey home.
2. **Close curtains or blinds** during the day to prevent the sun from heating up your home.
3. **Invest in an electric fan** and place a bowl of ice in front of it whilst it's switched on.
4. **Limit heat-producing activities** like using the oven or taking hot baths and showers

Protect your garden

We often talk about protecting homes but with the sun shining we've got gardens on our mind too. Here are some tips for customers looking to better secure their garden and any property they keep in it:

1. **Keep back doors and gates locked** even when stepping out briefly.
2. **Lock sheds or outbuildings**, particularly if there is expensive equipment in them.
3. **Install security equipment** such as lights, burglar alarms and security cameras.
4. **Protect garden furniture** using covers and indoor storage during bad weather.
5. **Secure ornaments and garden equipment** in a shed or garage when not using them.

If your customers have a Uinsure Home Insurance Policy, remind them that contents in the open and garden items are protected up to £1000.

Got a sinking feeling?

Subsidence is when the ground beneath a property sinks or shifts, causing the building's foundations to move. If left untreated it may lead to serious structural damage.

Subsidence gets worse in hot weather due to soil shrinking as it dries out, which in turn removes support from the building's foundations.

It's important that your customers know these signs, so they can seek professional advice promptly to assess the situation and prevent further damage.

Tell them to keep an eye out for:

- Large cracks in the walls
- Door and/or windows becoming misaligned
- Visible ripples in wallpaper not caused by damp
- Uneven flooring

For more handy tips for customers dealing with the heat, read the full article below:

PROTECT YOUR HOME IN THE SUMMER