



HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



















At Lowe's, we want to help you keep your home and family safe. That's why we offer everything from expert advice to the products you need to be prepared at everyday low prices, guaranteed.



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PREPARE A BASIC STORM KIT

PREPARE WITH THIS CHECKLIST

Plastic Tote	Sit down with your family and develop a plan in case of a hurricane
Lowe's Hurricane Preparedness Guide	Take pictures or video of your house and valuables for insurance claims
Flashlight	Prepare shutters or other coverings for doors and windows
Batteries	Reinforce roof trusses
First Aid Kit	Examine and repair roof shingles
Battery Operated Lantern	Caulk openings, flashings and soffits
Portable Radio	Reinforce entry doors and collect exterior covering as required
Light Sticks	Replace hard mulch with soft material
Water	Buy and install a backflow-prevention device in your sewer line
Garbage Bags	Trim trees and shrubs
Tarps	Purchase a generator, gas cans, CO detectors and extension cords
Tarp Tiedowns	Decide how to tie down large outdoor equipment
Rope	Reinforce or replace your garage door
	Purchase supplies for cleanup and repair

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT LOWES.COM/HURRICANE



HURRICANE: WHAT TO DO

WATCH: There is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

- >> Listen to the radio or watch TV for updates
- >> Make sure your Storm Kit is adequately equipped with the proper supplies, and important documents
- >> Gas up your vehicle, in case of an evacuation notice
- >> Fill gas containers for generator and store in a safe place
- >> Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys and garden tools, and remember to anchor down objects that cannot be brought inside
- >> Clear yard of debris
- >> Review evacuation plans
- Install storm protection devices such as hurricane shutters and brace entry and garage doors
- >> Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place

WARNING: Hurricane winds of 74 mph or greater, or dangerously high water and rough seas are expected in 24 hours or less.

- >> Listen to the radio or TV for updates and official instructions
- >> Store water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles
- >> Stay inside, away from windows, skylights and glass doors

- >> Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting to keep stored food fresh longer if power is knocked out
- >> If the power goes out, unplug appliances, TVs, stereos and computers to reduce potential damage from a power surge when electricity is restored
- >> If in a mobile or manufactured home, check tie-downs and evacuate quickly

EVACUATION: If an evacuation notice is given for your area:

- >> Protect your home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve, but do not turn off natural gas unless local officials advise it
- >> Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going and the route you are likely to take
- >> If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture to protect it from flooding, or move it to a higher floor
- >> Grab your Storm Kit, lock up your home and evacuate immediately

HURRICANES CAN CHANGE DIRECTION AND INTENSITY VERY QUICKLY. STAY TUNED TO LOCAL RADIO AND TV STATIONS FOR UPDATES.

EMERGENCY POWER

One downed power line can interrupt the entire chain of electricity that connects your home to the power station. A generator can help you keep lights and important appliances running, like refrigerators, air conditioners and even washers and dryers. They are also great for after-storm cleanup by allowing you to run your outdoor power equipment. There are two basic types of generators to consider: *standby and portable*.

STANDBY GENERATORS:

In these systems, the generator is connected indirectly to a home's wiring system. They are most suitable for people who regularly experience long power outages or who have special requirements for continuous power. Standby systems typically run off of natural or propane gas and have a "transfer switch" that allows you to select the equipment you want powered and prevents the generator from feeding power back into the utility supply system. They usually cost \$3,000 or more and can supply 10 to 30 kilowatts or more.

BENEFITS:

- >> Reacts immediately to a power outage and supplies electricity to your home, then shuts itself off and returns to standby mode automatically
- Fueled by natural gas or liquid propane, and permanently wired directly into your home's electrical panel
- >> Properly installed standby units have no danger of CO poisoning, no shock risk from electrical cords, and no storage of gasoline

PORTABLE GENERATORS:

These units run off a gasoline engine and can power a limited number of lights and appliances via extension cords. They can be easily stored and are easy to move. A portable generator usually costs \$500 or more and can typically run for 8 to 12 hours on a tank of gas and provide 2 to 8 kilowatts or more.

BENEFITS:

- >> Low cost solution for delivering electrical power
- >> Portable power where you need it for your home
- >> Electric or manual starter, and manual transfer switch options
- >> Powers various essential items like TV and lighting; Portables can save food in your refrigerator/freezer and prevent basement flooding with backup power to your sump pump.

GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS: -

Whichever type of generator you choose, think safety. Generators produce carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless and deadly gas. According to the Consumer Products Safety Commission, 28 people died from carbon monoxide poisoning associated with portable generators after Hurricane Katrina. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to help keep your family safe when using a generator.





In most areas, installing a back-up system requires getting a permit and having the installation inspected by an electrical inspector. We recommend having your unit professionally installed by our licensed installers. It's guaranteed.



CARBON MONOXIDE HAZARD

Fumes and gases that you CANNOT see or smell can be harmful or fatal.



Recommendations provided by: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT LOWES.COM/HURRICANE

LOWE'S

LOWE'S CAN HELP YOU PREPARE

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

Essential protection when portable generators are used. Models starting at \$20 to protect different rooms in your home.

HEAVY-DUTY EXTENSION CORDS

12 or 14-gauge grounded (3-prong) extension cords. GFCI extension cords.

GAS CANS

A typical generator has a 3- to 8-gallon tank and will run for 8-12 hours per fill. Be sure to have enough gas on hand.

FUEL STABILIZERS AND LUBRICANTS

Change oil after first 5 hours of use, then after every 50 hours or at the beginning of the season. Use fuel stabilizer to prevent stale gas over storage period.







WHAT SIZE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Here's how to figure out the generator capacity you need: Determine the electrical requirements of the devices you'd like to run, and add them up. For example, if you wanted to run a small microwave (750-watts), a radio (200-watts) and four lights (300-watts), you'd require a minimum of 1,250-watts. However, devices with motors can require much more power to start than they use when running. For example, a refrigerator that needs 1,200-watts to run might require up to 3,000-watts to start. For running wattage and startup wattage for various electrical devices, visit Lowes.com.

THREE TYPICAL SIZES OF GENERATORS:

3,550-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER

- >> Refrigerator
 >> Television
- >> Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)>> 4 Lights (75-watts)

>> Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)

>> Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)

5,000-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER

- >> Refrigerator
- >> Television
- >> Microwave (1,000-watts)

8,000-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER

- >> Refrigerator
- >> Television
- >> Microwave (1,000-watts)
- >> 1/2 HP well pump
- >> Security system
- >> Deep freezer >> Electric stove

>> 8 Lights (75-watts)

>> 4 Lights (75-watts)

>> Deep freezer

- S Carago door on
- >> Garage door opener

LOWE'S HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

HOW DO HURRICANE WINDS CAUSE SUCH DESTRUCTION TO HOMES?



UNPROTECTED WINDOWS AND DOORS

When windborne debris breaks through glass or winds cause a window or garage door to fail, the home's protective barrier is suddenly destroyed. Severe winds enter the home, creating internal pressure which pushes upward on the roof and outward on the exterior walls. With severe enough winds, the entire home can collapse.



PROTECTED WINDOWS AND DOORS

When a home's exterior openings are protected, winds tend to pass over and around the structure of the home. Protection is needed for all openings including windows, doors, and garage door. Temporary protection examples include products like hurricane panels. Permanent protection includes impact-resistant windows or doors.

PERMANENT PROTECTION

IMPACT-RESISTANT WINDOWS AND DOORS

These types of windows are heavy-duty, re-enforced metal frames and impact-resistant glass. Laminated glass is formed by permanently bonding an interlayer between two pieces of glass, forming a barrier that protects your home from hurricane force winds. If the glass does break, impact windows and doors prevent debris from entering the home. Doors without glass can typically be made with hurricane-approved gauge steel.

WINDLOAD HURRICANE GARAGE DOORS

Garage doors that are designed to withstand hurricane force winds through the addition of struts to the garage door system. Additional strength is added with sturdier rollers, hinges, and braces. Some garage doors are certified as impact resistant by using impact-approved steel gauge in its construction.





TEMPORARY PROTECTION

ACCORDION SHUTTERS

These aluminum shutters close in only seconds to secure an opening. Accordion shutters can be opened quickly after the storm, are easy to install and are left up permanently.

ALUMINUM PANELS

These are the most common type of storm panels. Aluminum panels won't rust, corrode, or delaminate. They are ready to use and available in many sizes to cover your unique windows and doors.

POLYCARBONATE PANELS

These panels allow you to have visibility of objects and movement outside your home during a storm. One side is typically UV resistant so panels won't yellow in the sunlight. These panels are also lightweight and reusable.

FABRIC PANELS

Fabric-shield panels are made of strong PVC-coated fabric. Grommets are installed after the fabric is cut to size, then the panels are fastened in place with permanent bolts and wing nuts. The panels allow light to pass through.

All products sold at Lowe's are code-approved.

Appropriate hardware should also be purchased.

STRENGTHEN YOUR GARAGE DOOR

Replace the door with a new, code-approved model. In lieu of replacement, there are several ways to strengthen an existing door. However, if your door is made of lightweight materials, replacement is your best option.

INSTALL A METAL POST SYSTEM

Installing a code-approved metal post system will allow you to quickly reinforce your garage door to keep it from blowing in or out (about \$150 per brace, use two for a double garage door). Make sure the track is securely fastened to the framing, and brace the framing.

EXTERIOR PROTECTION

Cover the outside of the door with metal panels, fabric screen or 5/8-inch plywood installed with additional bracing (2" x 4"s at each joint and 2-feet on center).

Some doors can be strengthened with retrofit kits that add vertical and horizontal reinforcement and beef up tracks and hardware. However, reinforcing adds additional weight to the door, and the springs that raise and lower the door must be adjusted. Spring adjustment is a job for a professional.

Reinforcing an older door may help keep the door from being blown in, but will not give it any additional protection against dents and punctures.





Trust our team of professionals to install your new hurricane shutters.^{*} Our installers are prescreened, and selected based on their expertise so you can be confident that your project is done right. For more information, visit Lowes.com/Installation. *Product and installation may vary by market







TOOLS AND RECOVERY SUPPLIES

- A. Troy-Bilt[®] 2550 PSI Gas Pressure Washer #248613/292694CA
- **B. 16' x 20' Blue/Green Tarp** #186793
- C. Contractor Clean-Up Bags #224262, 224272, 74555
- D. Shop-Vac[®] 5.75-HP, 16-Gallon Wet/Dry Vac with Water Pump #195953
- E. BBQ Grillware Three-Burner Gas Grill #196124
- F. Husqvarna 20" 55cc Gas Chain Saw #192741
- G. Ultra Clorox[®] Germicidal Bleach 182-0z. #33692

Clorox Anywhere[®] Hard Surface[™] Daily Sanitizing Spray 22-0z. #233325 Clorox Clean-Up[®] Disinfectant with Bleach #185272

Clorox[®] Disinfecting Wipes 75-Count #76832

H. Top Choice[®] 2" x 4" x 8' Treated Lumber





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