



## Storms

South Australian State Emergency Service



Easy English



Government  
of South Australia



RESCUE



## Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the hard word means.

## You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about



- find more information.

## About this book

This book is by the South Australian State  
Emergency Service.



We are also called the SA SES.



This book tells you how to stay safe in  
a storm.

You might see the storm warning



- in newspapers



- on TV



- in posters
- on the SES website



- on Facebook



- on Twitter.

## 8 steps to prepare for a storm

There are 8 things you can do if you know a storm is about to happen.



- 1 Make sure there are no loose items in your yard that can blow away.



- 2 Clean your gutters, downpipes and drains so they do **not** get blocked.



- 3 Cut trees and branches that might fall on your house.



- 4 Fix cracks or holes in your home.

PLAN	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

- 5 Make a **Home Emergency Plan**

A Home Emergency Plan says what your family will do if there is a storm.

## 8 steps to prepare for a storm



6 Keep a list of emergency contacts.



7 Make an emergency kit including

- battery powered radio
- torch
- spare batteries.



8 Check your **home insurance** is up to date and covers you for a storm.

Home insurance means you

- put small amounts of money away over time
- use the money you saved at a later time if there is an emergency.

For example, money to fix your window after a storm.

## What should you do if there is a storm?



If there is a storm make sure you are safe.

**Never** drive, ride or walk in floodwater



Stay away from windows



If there is a storm make sure you

- stay inside
- if you are outside, stay under shelter



- make sure pets are safe



- contact your neighbours



- check the news.

# What should you do after a storm?

After a storm there are things you must do to be safe.



After a storm make sure you

- check your house for damage



- check on your neighbours when it is safe to do so.



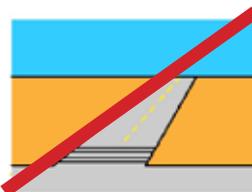
Do **not** go to places where the storm has caused damage. Stay away from damaged

- buildings



- powerlines

- bridges



- trees

- roads.

## Always be storm ready



Clear gutters every 2 weeks.



Ask your council or energy company to see if any trees might fall on your house in a storm.



Get to know your neighbours and how you might help them in a storm.

Make sure everyone in your house knows the plan for how to act in **extreme weather**.



Extreme weather could be

- storm



- flood



- heatwaves.



## Emergency kit checklist

You can save time in an emergency if you already have an emergency kit packed.

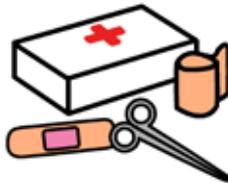


Check your emergency kit includes

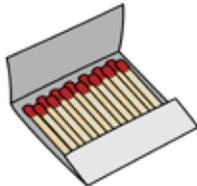
- battery powered radio with spare batteries



- torch with spare batteries



- first aid kit



- candles and waterproof matches

PLAN	
1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

- important papers with contact numbers

- a copy of my Home Emergency Plans

- waterproof bag for important items.

When you are ready to leave your house, add

- phone and charger



- medications
- clothing and strong shoes
- special things your family might need
- toiletries such as soap and a toothbrush

- **prescriptions**



- **non perishable food** and drinking water.

Prescriptions are notes from the doctor that let you get medicine.

Non perishable food means food that will **not** go off.

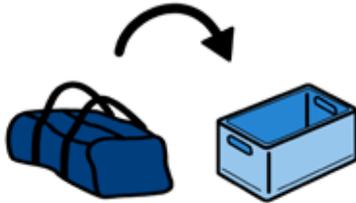


If you have pets don't forget their leads, food and bowls.

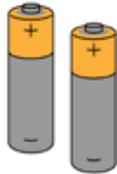


## Tips

- keep a list of emergency contacts nearby



- keep your emergency kit in a waterproof box



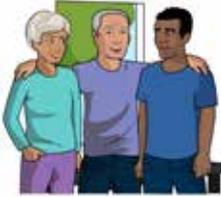
- make sure everything in the kit is up to date.  
For example, check batteries do **not** expire.

## Make sure other people are safe



You might call or visit

- family



- neighbours.

There are some people who might need more help in a storm. For example



- older people



- babies



- people who are sick



- people who need help to move around.

For example, a person who uses a walking frame.

## Do you need a doctor?



If you or your family are sick you can call your normal doctor.



If you are Deaf or find it hard to hear or talk you can contact the National Relay Service.





## More information

For more information about storms contact the State Emergency Service of South Australia.



In a serious emergency

Call **000**



More help in an emergency

Call **132 500**

More information

Call **1800 362 361**



Website [ses.sa.gov.au](http://ses.sa.gov.au)

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre

wrote the Easy English in March 2019. [www.scopeaust.org.au](http://www.scopeaust.org.au)

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