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October through to April is Australian storm season and meteorologists are predicting up to 69 days of severe weather which defined means severe thunderstorms within 150km of capital cities (see table below for predictions).

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**BE PREPARED - Up to 69 days of severe weather 7 & 13 Cyclones to hit Australia during storm season.**

In addition a combined total of between 7 and 13 cyclones will come over the coasts of WA, NT and the Coral Coast of Queensland. Preparation is easy with some really handy and really simple checklists for all property owners. Below we have three things to make you super ready for storm season:-

- 30 second survey to check your weather preparedness;
- A storm preparation list for around the home;
- An Storm Emergency Kit List; and
- Table of severe weather days for around the country.

**Table of severe weather days** - in order from highest to lowest frequency.

Capital City	Days of Severe weather within 150km
Brisbane	16 - 20
Sydney	13 - 17
Canberra	11 - 15
Melbourne	6 - 10
Perth	2 - 6
Adelaide	2 - 6

**How prepared are you?  
take our 30 second survey!**

1. Are your gutters, downpipes and stormwater drains clear of leaves and other matter? Yes/No
2. Do you have an emergency kit in your home, containing items such as a first aid kit, canned food and torch, which you can access at a moment's notice? Yes/No  
*Tip - See Storm Emergency Kit List below*
3. Do you have emergency contact numbers, such as SES, an electrician and insurance companies, at hand? Yes/No
4. Do you know the strongest place in your house to shelter during a severe storm? Yes/No



*Tip - This is usually the smallest room in the house with the fewest windows even better if it is centrally located in the house.*

**5. Have you checked out your household's flood risk using Council's online Flood Awareness Map? Yes/No**

**6. Have you checked that your insurance covers flood and storm damage? Yes/No**

**7. Have you signed up for severe weather alerts? Yes/No**

**8. Have you spoken to your family about how to evacuate your home in an emergency? Yes/No**

*Tip - Every strata building in Australia should have an evacuation plan (the only exception are some low rise townhouse complexes). Ask for a copy, talk to every in your home about it and keep a copy handy.*

**9. Have you tidied your yard in preparation for storms, for example, by securing loose objects and trimming tree branches? Yes/No**

How many Yes's did you have? A perfect 9 is the goal.



## Storm Emergency Kit List

Everyone should have one. Check them off:-

- a portable battery operated radio and torch with fresh or spare batteries and bulb;
- a list of local radio stations for emergency information;
- candles with waterproof matches or a gas lantern;
- reasonable stocks of fresh water and tinned or dried food;
- a first aid kit and basic first aid booklet/knowledge;
- good supplies of essential medication;
- strong shoes and rubber gloves;
- a waterproof bag for clothing and valuables - put valuables and certificates in the bag and put the bag in a safe place.
- a list of your emergency contact numbers;
- a car charger for your mobile phone; and
- a completed Emergency Contact Card - Just reply email and we will provide you with a FREE one.

## Storm Preparation List

Storm preparation list for around the home. Familiarise your household with the following tips and information when a storm strikes:-

- Check and clean your roof, gutters and downpipes;
- Identify loose objects on your balcony or in your yard such as outdoor furniture and toys that will have to be put away or secured if a storm approaches. These



can turn into missiles in a storm;

- Have a supply of plastic shopping bags to use as sand bags for emergency storm water diversion;
- Have masking tape and plastic sheeting or large garbage bags available for emergency rain protection;
- Review your emergency evacuation plan - remind all household members of evacuation meeting point. Identify at least two routes to evacuate;
- Back up any important computer files;
- Secure the premises - Is everything locked up?
- If your property has large trees that are not protected under any council Vegetation Protection Orders arrange for an arborist to carry out a check-up and remove any branches that overhang the building and/or are showing signs of decay or termite damage; and
- If it's a big one make sure you have plenty of gas in your BBQ or camping cooker, canned food, bottled water and other non-perishable food.