



ACT
Government



ACT
EMERGENCY
SERVICES
AGENCY

How to plan for an emergency

ACT Emergency Services Agency



Easy English

Blue words



Some words in this book are **blue**.

We write what the blue words mean.

Help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- understand this book
- find more information.

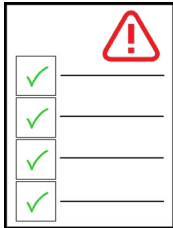


Contact information is at the end of this book.

About this book



This book is from the ACT Emergency Services Agency.



This book is about how you can plan for an **emergency**.

Emergency means lots of people are in danger.



For example, when there is

- a bushfire



- very hot weather



- a storm



- a flood.



Call 000 if there is an emergency and you need help straight away.

Warnings when there is an emergency



Warnings means there is danger.

Warnings tell you what you need to do to stay safe.



You can look on our website for warnings.

Website esa.act.gov.au



You can listen to ABC radio for warnings.

Tune your radio to 666 AM.



You can watch TV news for warnings.

How to plan for an emergency

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____

There are 4 things you can do to plan for an emergency.

1. Know what you will do in an emergency



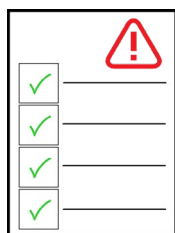
Talk to the people you live with about what you will do in an emergency.



What will you do if there is a bushfire?



The best thing to do if there is a bushfire is leave your home before it gets too bad.



You should only stay in your home when there is a bushfire if

- you have a good plan to stay alive

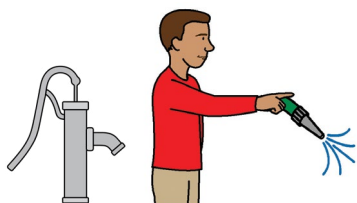
and



- you can **protect your home**.

Protect your home means

- you have things like a pump and hose



and

- you know how to put out a fire.



What will you do if there is very hot weather?

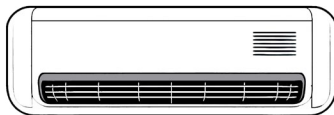


Leave your home if you **cannot** keep cool.



You can go to a public place where there is **air conditioning**.

For example, a shopping centre.



Air conditioning means the air inside is cool.



What will you do if there is a storm?

Leave your home if there is lots of damage.



Stay in your home if

- you have done lots of work to stop it from being damaged

and



- you have a **home emergency kit**.

A home emergency kit has things that can help you survive.

We call it **your kit**.

Find out what to put in your kit on our website.



Website

[esa.act.gov.au/be-emergency-ready/
resources-plans/home-emergency-kit](https://esa.act.gov.au/be-emergency-ready/resources-plans/home-emergency-kit)



What will you do if there is a flood?



Leave your home if lots of water comes inside.



Stay in your home if

- there is lots of water on the roads

and



- there is **not** lots of water in your home.

Where will you go if you need to leave your home in an emergency?

You can plan to



- stay with a friend
- stay with a family member



- go to a shopping centre or library.

Who do you need to check on if there is an emergency?



You might need to check on your

- neighbours



- family members



- friends.

2. How to prepare your home for an emergency



Cut trees and shrubs so they do not

- fall down on your home in a storm



- burn in a bushfire.



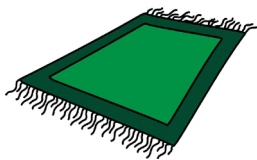
Cut the grass around your home so it does not burn in a bushfire.



Take things out of your roof gutters that might catch fire, like leaves.

Make sure water can drain from your roof gutters.

Move things near your home that can catch fire.



For example

- door mats



- tins of paint.



Move small things that can blow around in a storm, like outdoor furniture.



Tie down big things that can blow around in a storm, like trampolines.



Park cars in a garage or carport.



Make sure your kit has everything you need to survive.



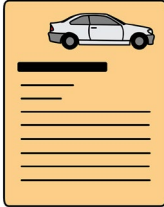
Know how to help if someone is hurt in an emergency.



Make sure you have **insurance** for your

- home

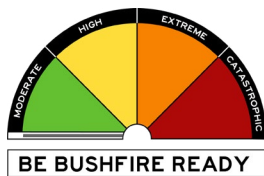
and



- car.

Insurance means money you can get if your things are damaged.

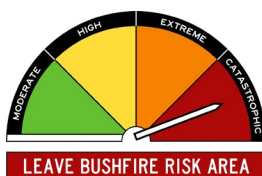
3. Learn about emergency information



Do you know what fire danger ratings mean?

Fire danger ratings tell you how bad it would be if a bushfire started in your area that day.

Catastrophic is the red fire rating.



Catastrophic means you should leave places where there might be a bushfire.



Extreme is the orange fire danger rating.

Extreme means you should do things to protect your life and property.



High is the yellow fire danger rating.

High means you should get ready to protect your life and property.



Moderate is the green fire danger rating.

Moderate means you should make a plan to protect your life and property.



Do you know what bushfire alert levels mean?

Bushfire alert levels tell you how bad a bushfire is.



Advice means

- a bushfire has started

and

- you might not be in danger right now

and

- you should check information updates in case things change.





Watch and act means

- the bushfire has got worse

and

- you should start to do things to protect you and your family.



Emergency warning means

- you might be in danger

and

- you **must** do things straight away to keep you and your family safe.



4. How to get information when there is an emergency

For information about what to do in an emergency



Call 13 22 81

Get help in a storm or flood



Call 13 25 00

Find emergency information online



Website esa.act.gov.au

Download the BOM weather app to find out if there is danger near you



Website bom.gov.au/app/

Follow us on social media



Twitter @ACT_ESA



Facebook @actemergencyservicesagency

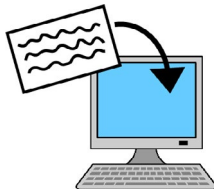
More information

See our website for more information about how you can get ready for an emergency.



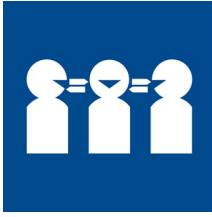
Website

esa.act.gov.au/be-emergency-ready



Email esahaveyoursay@act.gov.au

If you need help with English



Use the free Translating and Interpreting Service or TIS to make a phone call.

You can call the TIS in your language.



Call 131 450

Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.

If you need help to speak or listen



Use the National Relay Service to make a phone call.

You must sign up to the service first.



Website accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk



Call 1800 555 660

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