



Flood Prep Checklist

For more checklists and suggestions, please visit FloodPrepper.com

This checklist includes suggestions that you can consider doing to help reduce home flooding. Only the homeowner can decide what steps should be taken and if a qualified contractor should be hired. Implementing any or all of these steps does not guarantee that flood water will not enter your home or business. It is a collection of what others have done. Items are in no particular order.

Step 1 - Begin flood protection TODAY and should become part of your home maintenance activity.

Step 2 – Penetrations - seal, seal, seal

Complete an exterior walk-around inspection to identify all openings or cracks in the exterior walls. Add any areas not included here.

- AC, electric service entry cables, internet cables openings, water, etc. and caulk (in & out)
- Move structures that are against the house exterior (sheds, grills, etc.) and locate hidden or blind penetrations
- Inspect the interior garage walls for any penetrations that may have been missed
- Locate the dryer vent, if it is positioned low, raise it if possible. Or replace with a No Pest Vent
- Check that the washer discharge pipe, steel or PVC, is sealed at the wall and/or floor
- Be 'Sherlock Holmes' and locate other possible water entry points like doggie doors, cracks, etc. and seal
- Outdoor receptacles can get power from an indoor receptacle via a drilled hole - waterproof receptacle
- Any water in the garage during heavy rains? Check the wall/slab joint - seal or coat w/hydraulic cement

Step 3 – Electrical - raise, cover and/or seal

Identify all electrical devices that are at risk of damage by flood waters (and heavy rain) - raise and/or seal

- Identify all service panel circuit breakers that supply exterior receptacles/devices - mark them BOLDLY
- Raise all low position receptacles to avoid flood waters (indoors and outdoors)
- For receptacles that remain at risk - waterproof: seal receptacle plug(s), and seal box to wall and its cover
- Use weather-proof junction boxes for raised devices and consider also 'water/weather protecting'
- Raise and/or seal pool pump receptacles
- Dock and boat electrical receptacles are protected and sealed. If possible, raise 3+ feet above deck
- Waterproof low-voltage exposed connections - tape or dielectric grease

Step 4 – Doors - seal, repair and consider them a barrier

Examine all entry doors for gaps and closure tightness

- [] Identify any doors and sliders that are inactive and consider sealing them in place 'permanently'
- [] Inspect all door sills and thresholds. Replace or repair as needed. Seal both inside and outside.
- [] For active (used) doors and sliders - seal them the day of or the day before the flood/storm
- [] Most sliders have 'weep' holes - confirm and prepare to seal before a storm
- [] Does the kitchen to garage door swing into garage (seal it) or if into kitchen (add a barrier)
- [] Don't forget the garage side door ... it's a door that could allow water in
- [] When sealing doors, remember to seal door hinges completely, since this is leak zone
- [] #1 water entry risk - Garage Door
 - [] Check, clean or replace the bottom seal and door side gasket.
 - [] Consider a physical flood barrier - either commercial or DIY barrier system
 - [] If barrier not an option, tape plastic and hold in place w/staggered sandbags.

Step 5 - Other ways to protect against flood damage

- [] Consider high-impact doors (that swing out) and sliders as physical barriers
- [] Use 3/4" PT plywood 24" high and the width the door and secure/seal (i.e. kitchen/garage, entry door)
- [] Electrical motors/pumps: remove, raise, install a 'moat' or in some manner 'diaper' the pump
- [] Use wood shims to hold garage door rollers in place to minimize the gap between the door and side gaskets
- [] 'Don't paint yourself in a corner' - know how you will exit the home

**Have material and products needed on hand and pre-staged well in advance
of the storm or 'season'**