

# Ways to Reduce Hurricane Damage to Your Home



Your home is constantly at the mercy of the world around it, and hurricanes may pose a particularly significant threat. Fortunately, by being proactive, you can fortify your property in advance of these severe storms and potentially limit their impact on your home and finances.

## Consider the following steps:



**Identify weaknesses.** Inspect your home's walls for cracks and holes that may allow floodwater or rain to seep inside. Additionally, check your roof for flaws, such as loose shingles, as heavy precipitation and strong winds could exacerbate such issues.



**Protect windows and doors.** Install storm shutters or use plywood to shield your windows and doors from the elements and debris blown about by hurricane winds.



**Optimize drainage.** The heavy rains of hurricanes can often lead to flooding. Clear gutters and downspouts and ensure the grading of your property will lead to water flowing away from your home.



**Remove threats.** Limit the potential for hazardous objects on your property by moving outdoor belongings, such as patio furniture, indoors to keep them from being blown around. Additionally, identify any potentially problematic trees or tree limbs that could fall on your home.



**Upgrade your home.** Outfitting your residence with additional protections can make it more resistant to the elements. For example, consider installing hurricane-impact glass for windows, or straps, clips and anchor belts to help hold your roof together.



**Consider insurance.** While not capable of directly preventing damage to your home, the right insurance can limit subsequent financial consequences. However, floods and windstorms may often be excluded from standard home insurance policies, necessitating additional coverage.

**Contact us today** to learn more about ways to mitigate your hurricane-related risk levels and explore insurance options.