

Handy-tips

Noji Ratzlaff, 06-08-2021

Not an exhaustive list, you the handyman or handywoman can consider these things a bare minimum

Water

Learn where your **water main valve** is, and how to turn it off
Don't delay the cleanup, but **wear boots** if you must wade in flood water
If your basement floods, you can **remove your toilet** to create an instant drain

Gas

Learn where your **gas line valve** is, and how to turn it off
Do not turn off the gas, unless you really need to
But once you turn it off, **do not** turn it back on yourself; call the gas company

Fire

Purchase a **fire extinguisher** for your kitchen and each level of your home
Check your **smoke alarms** every six months

Electrical

Learn where your **main house breaker** is, and how to turn it off
Make sure **access to the panel** is unobstructed

Power outage

Learn how to open your garage door by pulling on the **release cord**
During **prolonged freezing** temperatures, turn off the main and drain your water
Do not use a generator or propane camping stove indoors

Nature

After a heavy wind storm, you might need to **caulk some shingles**
Cover a heavily damaged roof with **tarps secured** by long screws through boards
After an earthquake, survey your home for **structural damage**
Unplug appliances during an unusually violent electrical storm

Essential tools

_____ Your brain	_____ Gloves
_____ Cell phone	_____ Boots
_____ Head lamp	_____ Tarps
_____ Channel locks	_____ Duct tape
_____ Crescent wrench	_____ Knife
_____ Hammer and nails	_____ Fire extinguishers
_____ Pry bar	_____ Emergency wagon
_____ Drill motor, bits, and drivers	_____ Generator, heavy-duty cords
_____ Ham radio (and license)	_____ Paracord
_____ Lighter	_____ Cash

Learn more at

<https://www.familyhandyman.com/project/home-emergency-preparedness-guide/>