



# BUILDING A DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT ON A BUDGET

Having a fully stocked emergency supplies kit will equip you with the basic necessities that you may need to stay safe during a disaster.

**Here are some tips for assembling your kit affordably:**

1.



## LEARN WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR FREE

- Reach out to your local emergency management department to see if they provide any items for your kit for free
- Reach out to any volunteer, faith-based, and community organizations in your network for any specific items that you need

2.



## MAKE PURCHASES OVER TIME

- By spreading out purchases, you can avoid spending a lot of money at once when gathering supplies

3.



## BE SMART ABOUT WHERE YOU SHOP

- Visit cost-savings stores like your local Dollar General, Dollar Tree, or \$5 Below so you can purchase items for your kit at a lower price
- Check out your local second-hand stores when shopping for disaster supplies or online second-hand marketplaces
- Be on the lookout for any end-of-the-year tag sales hosted by local schools and universities or local garage sales in your area

4.



## BUY ITEMS WHEN YOU CAN SAVE ON THEM

- Pay attention to special sales, discounts, and other special offers available throughout the year at stores
- Take advantage of sales tax free holidays if you live in a participating state. You can find more information at: <https://www.salestaxinstitute.com/resources/sales-tax-holidays>

**Disasters can be costly, but preparing for them doesn't have to be.**



# HOME EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

## PERSONAL INFORMATION AND CASH

Keep personal and financial records easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up)

- Copy of photo ID
- Important legal documents
- Important financial documents
- Credit cards and cash
- Waterproof document folder

## FOOD AND WATER

Have at least two weeks of supplies since stores may be closed and it unsafe to travel

- Non-perishable food
- Non-electric can opener
- A supply of bottled water (one gallon per person per day)
- Supplies for pets (including extra food and water)

## CLOTHING

Ensure enough clothing for everyone in your household including if clothes get wet

- Rain gear/rain poncho
- Gloves, hat, scarf, extra layers, etc.
- Helmet (to protect from falling debris)
- Sturdy shoes
- Extra blankets

## CAR EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

- First aid kit
- Personal hygiene travel kit
- Bottled water
- Snacks
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Gloves, hat, scarf, extra layers, etc.
- Flashlight
- Cell phone charger
- Map(s) of the area
- Whistle

## MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND SAFETY

Have a 1-month supply of prescription medications if you cannot leave home

- Medications and medical items
- First aid kit
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- List of doctors and medications
- Special supplies for infants, elderly or disabled family members
- Fire extinguisher

## POWER AND COMMUNICATION

Prepare to lose electric power

- Flashlight and batteries
- Battery-powered radio and batteries
- Cell phone with chargers
- Generator
- Heavy-duty extension cords
- Handheld battery-powered fan

## ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES

Consider additional supplies for your needs

- Tools (hammer, saw, pliers, etc.)
- Ice melting products and shovel
- Tarps
- Space heater
- Box fan and towels
- 5 gallon bucket with lid

- Flares, emergency distress sign
- Ice scraper
- Jumper cables
- Full tank of gas
- Tool kit
- Tow chains or rope
- Tire chains
- Spare tire
- Snow shovel

## TO GO KIT

If you need to leave home and go somewhere, pack at least three days of supplies to carry with you (e.g. clothes, food, water, chargers, medications)

