A disaster survival kit includes supplies your family might need to survive in the event of a disaster. It should be easy to carry and can be used at home or taken with you in case you must evacuate during an emergency.

You can purchase a pre-assembled emergency kit or create your own. Be sure your kit is prepared well before a disaster strikes and check your supplies every three months. When assembling your own disaster supply kit, keep the following list in mind.

**The essentials**

* Water — one gallon per person, per day, for at least three days.
* Food — at least a three-day supply of nonperishable items.
* Blankets/sleeping bags/pillows/towels.
* Closed-toe, sturdy shoes.
* Jacket or coat.
* NOAA weather radio or other battery-powered radio.
* Flashlight.
* Extra batteries.
* Important documents — copies of insurance policies, identification, bank account records and emergency medical information — stored in a waterproof and portable container.
* Prescription medication.
* Extra cash.
* Dust masks to help filter contaminated air.
* Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter in place.
* Garbage bags.
* Whistle.
* Basic tools such as a wrench, pliers and screwdriver.
* Manual can opener.
* Local maps.
* Cell phone and charger.
* Personal hygiene items and feminine supplies.
* First aid kit.
  + Two pairs of latex or other sterile gloves.
  + Sterile dressings to stop bleeding.
  + Soap and antibiotic towelettes.
  + Antibiotic and burn ointments.
  + Bandages in a variety of sizes.
  + Eye wash solution.
  + Thermometer.
  + Aspirin or other pain reliever.
  + Anti-diarrhea medication.
  + Antacid.
  + Laxative.
  + Scissors and tweezers.
  + Prescription medications and medical supplies.

**Optional items**

* Paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils.
* Extra clothes that can be washed by hand and hang dry.
* Matches in a waterproof container.
* Fire extinguisher.
* Household chlorine bleach and medicine droppers.
* Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children.
* Baby supplies — bottles, formula and diapers.
* Medical supplies — oxygen, catheters, wheelchairs, hearing aid batteries, etc.
* Two-way radios.
* Rain gear.

**For your pet**

* Photocopies of medical records and photos of your pets for identification purposes.
* Medications.
* Feeding dishes and at least a three-day supply of food and water.
* Disposable litter trays and litter.
* Extra collar or harness and leash.
* Blanket and toys.
* Sturdy pet carrier.
* Important information and the name and telephone number of your veterinarian.

**Additional resources**

* [Pet disaster preparedness](http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/pet-disaster-preparedness#Pet-Emergency-Kit) and [supplies and products](https://www.redcross.org/store) from the American Red Cross
* [Disaster preparedness for pets](https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness) from American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
* [Step-by-step actions to prepare for an emergency](https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/areyouprepared/) from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
* "[Make a plan"](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan) from Ready Campaign
* [Federal Emergency Management Agency](https://www.fema.gov/)
* [NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/)
* [Emergency supply kits](https://www.quakekare.com/emergency-supplies-kits) from QuakeKare
* [Disaster supply kit](https://www.wunderground.com/prepare/disaster-supply-kit) from Weather Underground