

There are a number of simple steps home owners can take to protect personal safety, preserve electrical equipment, and deal with potential damage to the home's electrical system.

Follow the checklist below to help get yourself and your property ready ahead of storm season.

1. Put safety first

Don't attempt do-it-yourself repairs if your property suffers storm damage, including your home's electrical system and any electrical appliances affected. Call a qualified electrical contractor to help.

2. Protect the system

Ask an electrician about having lightning protection installed in your switchboard to protect all appliances. A small investment in surge protection could save you thousands of dollars to replace electrical items.

3. Go offline before the storm

Unplug all sensitive appliances, such as computers and TVs, and disconnect the telephone and TV antenna before the storm arrives.

4. Don't connect during the storm

Don't use equipment directly connected to electricity, including the stove, during a severe storm.

5. Be wary of wires

Don't go outside to check the damage before an electrician arrives, especially during a storm, as fallen power lines are easily concealed and can be deadly.

6. Call an electrician before your energy distributor

If the wires have been torn down in a black out, most houses will require internal repairs before the power can be reconnected. In those cases, you need to contact an electrician before the distributor is called out, as your electricity distributor will be unable to assist until the wiring is fixed.

7. Be confident in your contractor

If you suffer storm damage, Master Electricians Australia can connect you with a local electrical contractor. Call 1300 889 198 or use the online electrician booking system and an accredited electrician will provide urgent assistance.