

Should I Get Home and Contents Insurance?

Living in Australia can be wonderful—the ambiance, the diversity, the people. That is, until natural disasters strike.

Australia has a [long-standing history](#) with the ire of mother nature, what with bushfires, floods, tropical cyclones, and all sorts of elements coming together dangerously. Pair that with a home that's smack in the middle of it all and you've got a nightmare on your hands.

More than [half of Australians](#) don't have home or contents insurance for times of disaster, leaving them and their assets in trouble. That means, they can't retrieve what's been damaged or lost when disaster strikes.

And it's not just natural disasters you have to be wary of. Theft and other hazards like accidents can put your home at risk. Which begs the question: Should you get home and contents insurance?

What is home and contents insurance?

[Home and contents insurance](#), as the name implies, ensures that whatever is damaged during times of risk or theft is covered. Home insurance is the type for the home, whether it's plumbing, the actual build of the home, and its structure; and contents insurance corresponds to what's inside the home such as valuables and furniture.

In a way, you can think of it as a sort of “safeguard” for your belongings and your house. It offers you some peace of mind in times of calamity or theft. Many real estate agents and property managers deem both necessary and often offer both at the same time as a bundle.

[Property managers will advise](#) you to match your insurance with the total value of your home so that you don't have to worry about being underinsured and shelling out even more money to replace any belongings or damaged areas of your home.

Even renters should consider insurance, but not necessarily home insurance as their landlords are supposed to be on top of that, especially in a strata situation. Having contents insurance makes sure that even a renter's belongings are safe and covered if they are stolen or damaged.

There are three [types of property insurance](#).

- Replacement cost - It covers the cost of replacing or repairing property at equal value
- Actual cash value - It covers the cost of an item depending on its age and condition (i.e. If you have an item that's not in mint condition, you will be paid the cash value of an item in the same condition, not a new one)
- Extended replacement costs - Extended replacement costs will extend the amount needed to repair or replace property if repair prices are higher given it doesn't exceed 25%

Do you need home and contents insurance?

A lot of people end up asking if it's absolutely necessary to get home and contents insurance. After all, they might just get lucky and never experience any calamity or theft in their area. But having insurance does provide some peace of mind on the off-chance it does happen. Many are shocked when it happens to them because they don't anticipate any sort of trouble or damage.

Different kinds of events can happen [that can require insurance](#). Some are defined (fire damage, storms, cyclones, vandalism) while others are totally accidental (like drilling through a pipe or spilling liquid on a carpet).

Like everything, [insurance has its pros and cons](#). Some pros, as previously stated, include the coverage of personal possessions, the assurance of repairs in case of damage, and the option of extra insurance in case you need plumbing or electrical insurance.

Some cons, however, can include claims being disputed or a total pain to fight for, the extra cost that might occur every year, and the limits to how much insurance can cover if you're not careful when reviewing your contract.

Still, you want your home to be a place that will be safe and comfortable. Property insurance can make that a reality by [giving you a guarantee](#) that the investment that is your home is well-protected.

How do you compare home insurance?

If you've decided that property insurance is for you, how do you [decide which company](#) will offer you the best deal? There are tons to choose from and they will have different policies in place that will either appeal to you or deter you. Comparing these companies can make all the difference in your insurance experience.

First, you need to gather as many quotes as you can to see the prices. While price doesn't correspond directly with the quality of service you get, it can still show you how much you can

negotiate by telling companies what you're interested in and where you found a better price for it.

You should also look into companies and how legitimate they are. Testimonials and social proof can give you an idea of how they operate and if they're honest about their work. If people have retained their policies and they seem trustworthy, they could be the one for you.

Lastly, you need to determine the coverage you think is best and find the company that has both a fair price and is trustworthy. Finding all three can make your insurance experience all the better and assure you of your home and possessions.

3 ways to keep accurate home insurance records

It can sometimes be difficult to make claims about damaged property because insurance companies want to make absolutely sure that it was an external reason for damage. Applying these three things will ensure you have up-to-date records when making a claim.

1. Photographic/video evidence

Taking good quality photos and comprehensive videos of the ins and outs of your property and possessions in good shape can be enough proof for an insurance company. Keep all your receipts for those possessions, too, so that you can prove that they're yours.

2. Keep written/printed documents

Having your [written and printed documents](#), contracts, and other relevant paperwork filed away in a safe place can also help. Put them in a fire and/or waterproof box to avoid any damage. You can also consider placing them in an external location to be absolutely sure.

3. Save digital documents and exchanges with your insurer

Saving correspondences with your insurance agent and any other pertinent property manager can also be helpful in case they go back on their word. You have documentation of everything you discuss and it's all online. Make sure to save them in case of technical issues, too.

Home and contents insurance can assure you in case of any untoward event that may happen to your home or belongings. Having that guarantee can help in the long run as you want your

house protected, not just as an investment but a place to call your safe haven and, ultimately, the place you can come home to.

If you need more information about home and contents insurance, don't hesitate to [book a call with us](#).

Social media copy

Customer focus

Heat waves, tropical cyclones, fires, floods—all of these and more plague Australia so often that homes can easily be damaged and left in bad shape. It's tough to be an Aussie, but it's even tougher to repair those homes and shell out cash in order to get them back in tip-top shape.

Half of our population doesn't have home or contents insurance, meaning that many people might have to spend big from their own pocket to repair their homes if damaged. And it's not just natural calamities, it can be theft and vandalism, too.

Which begs the question: Do you need home and contents insurance?

In our latest blog, we focus on this question, what home and contents insurance is, and what you can do to safeguard your home.

<link to blog>

Brand focus

Property managers often see the same pattern: Natural disaster strikes and many Aussies are left without any choice but to empty their wallets in order to make repairs to their homes and replace their possessions.

While we do our best to advise people to make the decision to insure their homes, half of the country still lives without it, leading to potential tragedy and distress. Lost possessions, damaged homes, and the stress of having to repair it all.

To understand the issue you need to read our latest blog.

We discuss the importance of home and contents insurance and what it can do for your peace of mind. After all, home is where the heart is. And that's a sacred place.

<link to blog>

e-Newsletter

Hello <insert name>,

Did you know that half of Australians have no property insurance at all, costing them a huge chunk of cash when it comes to repairs and damages in times of disaster, vandalism, and theft?

In a country so laden with natural calamities like floods, fires, and tropical cyclones, it's surprising that so many of us are without home or contents insurance.

While it may be a big step (especially financially) for many to get property insurance, it's also a way to safeguard a home in case anything untoward happens. Who knows what kinds of accidents or what mother nature has in store for us Aussies next? After the unprecedented bushfires, you never know what's around the corner.

Making sure your home is well-protected and can be restored may just be an investment you want to make.

In our latest blog, we explore the options available in terms of home and contents insurance and how you can best take advantage of them as a property owner.

<link to blog>

Regards,

<insert brand name>