

# How To Prepare Your Home for Monsoon Season



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## Abstract

Monsoon season brings refreshing rains but also poses challenges such as water damage, mold growth, and electrical hazards. Proper preparation can help safeguard your home against these potential risks. This article outlines essential steps to protect your home, including roof inspections, drainage maintenance, sealing leaks, and reinforcing windows and doors. Additionally, it covers preventive measures such as waterproofing, securing outdoor furniture, and ensuring proper ventilation to combat humidity. By taking proactive steps, homeowners can minimize damage, enhance safety, and enjoy the monsoon season worry-free.



## 1. Introduction

The monsoon season brings much-needed relief from the scorching heat, but it also presents challenges such as heavy rainfall, strong winds, and increased humidity. Without proper preparation, homes can suffer from water leaks, structural damage, and mold growth. Flooding, clogged drains, and electrical hazards are common issues that arise during this season. To safeguard your home and ensure a comfortable living environment, it is crucial to take preventive measures before the rains arrive. This guide will provide essential tips to help homeowners protect their property from the adverse effects of monsoon weather.

## 2. Repair Your Home Before Monsoon

### Prepare your home

#### Remember:

- Preparing your home is an important step towards your family being prepared for, surviving and coping with emergencies.

- The best time to take action to prepare your home is before storm, cyclone and monsoon season.
- Completing the list of suggested tasks on this fact sheet will assist you to prepare your home in Gold Coast and property to minimise potential damage.

### 1. General maintenance



- Check the condition of the roof and repair loose tiles, eaves and screws.
- Clean gutters and downpipes so water can drain away as quickly as possible.
- Trim trees and overhanging branches.
- Secure loose items that could cause damage if blown around in high winds (such as garden furniture and toys).

### 2. General preparations

- Ensure your home, contents and car insurance is current and covers your assets adequately - check your policy includes debris clean up and disposal.
- Identify which room is the strongest part of the house, in case you need to shelter in your home during severe storm or cyclone. Usually this would be the smallest room in the house, with the least windows.
- Identify where and how to turn off the mains supply for water, power and gas.
- Purchase emergency essentials to have on hand, such as:

containers to store drinking water

spare supply of fuel for use in your vehicle (ensure you store safely)

wide masking tape for windows

hessian bags and sand for sandbagging indoor drains to prevent sewerage backwash from flooding.

### **3. If you live in a flood—prone area:**

- Store all poisons well above ground level.
- Identify which indoor items you will need to raise or empty if flooding threatens your home.
- Also consider:

alternatives to carpet floor coverings

relocating electrical sockets and power-points to well above floor level.

### **4. If you live in an area prone to cyclone or severe storm:**

- Fit windows with shutters or metal screens for added protection during high winds;
- Arrange a professional builder to check your building and identify measures to increase its structural security to withstand high winds.

### **5. When severe weather warnings are issued:**

- Disconnect electrical appliances and all external television and radio aerials.
- Turn off electricity and gas main supplies if instructed by emergency authorities.
- Secure outdoor furniture and other garden items.
- Fill buckets and bath with clean water in case of interruptions to main supply.
- Close windows with shutters, or use strong tape in criss-crossing pattern and draw curtains.
- Park vehicles under cover, away from trees, powerlines and waterways.
- If you cannot access undercover shelter for your vehicles, secure with firmly tied blankets to minimise hail damage.
- Check all household members are safe and are in the strongest room in the house.

- Take your Emergency Kit.
- Tune in and listen to your local radio station for updates on the event and further warnings and safety messages.

## 2.1. Paint the Exterior of Your House



Whether your facade looks a little worn or you want to give your home in Gold Coast a colorful makeover, you can add lots of curb appeal if you know how to paint a home exterior. The project involves a significant time commitment, specialized equipment, and basic DIY skills, but the outdoor update is well worth the effort.

Before you jump into painting your home, you'll want to decide on a color scheme, research the best type of paint for your home's materials and climate conditions, secure scaffolding or extended height ladders, brush up on your safety knowledge, adequately and thoroughly prepare your surfaces, and maybe even recruit a few friends to help with the project. See how to paint the exterior of your house with these steps.

### **Step 1: Choose Exterior Paint Colors**

Deciding on a color scheme is one of the first steps to tackle. Start by choosing a color family for the siding, followed by colors for other portions of the facade, such as shutters, trim, and the front door. Pay attention to the elements you won't be painting, such as the roof and

gutters, and consider how these surfaces will look with your chosen colors. Once you've decided on a color family, select the specific exterior paint colors you want for each surface.

Test out colors, just like you do for interior paint jobs. If you don't want to paint many color swatches directly on your house, apply the paint to large pieces of foam core. Observe how the colors look during different times of the day. Also, observe the color on all sides of your home. A color that looks perfect in a shaded spot might look different on a sunnier wall.

Pick a paint (as well as a primer) formulated for exterior applications and appropriate for how to paint a home exterior surface. Painting your home is an investment of time and money. For a project that pays off, choose high-quality paint that will last and stand up to the elements.

"When looking for exterior paint, be sure to get a high-quality primer that will coincide with your surface materials, like wood or stucco," says Travis Nolan, founder of Old Crow Painting, "For top coats, always go premium for a long-lasting finish that will secure your investment."

## **Step 2: Prep for Painting**



### **Clean Exterior Surfaces**

"Preparation is key for getting a paint job that looks great and lasts a long time," says Geoff Sharp, president and owner of Sharper Impressions Painting. Necessary prep steps for how

to paint home exterior siding or stucco include power washing your exterior to remove debris and dirt, scraping and priming any peeling paint, and caulking gaps and joints to create a good seal. When power washing, know that too much pressure can damage surfaces. Follow the instructions for pressure settings and other precautions.

Sharp also says to bleach any mildew because the paint won't adhere properly to mildewed surfaces. Allow the bleach to remain on the surface for 10-20 minutes to kill the mildew.

### **Test for Lead Paint**

When painting a home built before 1978, testing for the presence of lead paint is an essential step, says Sharp. Lead paint can become a hazard when disturbed during scraping and painting. Test kits (available at home improvement stores in Gold Coast) can detect the presence of lead. If your home harbors lead paint, consult the Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines and call on an expert. The EPA maintains a list of lead renovation, repair, and painting (RRP) firms trained to deal with lead-based paint safely.

### **Check the Weather**

Consult the weather forecast before diving into your paint project, too. "For exterior paint projects, the best temperature for latex paint falls between 50-70°F, while the best temperature for oil-based paint falls between 45-90°F," says Matt Kunz, president of Five Star Painting, a Neighborly company. "Any colder and you risk the paint taking too long to cure, which attracts insects, dirt, grime, and other debris to the wet surface. Oil-based paints will also thicken in low temperatures, causing stiffer brushing, heavier application, and less coverage per gallon."

### **Gather Equipment**

Equip yourself with adequate and safe equipment for reaching high spots on your home's exterior. Use a ladder or scaffolding designed to stand securely against a house. The ladder or scaffolding should also reach high enough to safely paint the highest peaks without stretching or climbing above the height recommended by the manufacturer.

Right before you crack open your paint cans, take the time to mask off and tarp any surface you won't be painting, including landscaping.

### **Step 3: Take Time to Prime**

It's tempting to jump right into getting that new color on your home's exterior so you can see the results. But you'll love your new paint job even more if you take the time to understand how to paint a home exterior, including applying a primer first. Primer not only helps the paint adhere better to the surface, but it also works as a protectant. Look for an

exterior primer that acts as a sealer and dries to a mold, mildew, and fungi-resistant finish. Primers can also be tinted for better color coverage.

#### **Step 4: Paint Your Home's Exterior**

While a paintbrush will undoubtedly get the job done, a paint sprayer will make the job more efficient. "If you don't have a sprayer, consider renting one. This will make your job significantly easier and produce a better result," says Nolan. Use a respirator and other safety equipment the sprayer manufacturer recommends.

When using a sprayer, it's essential to go back over the surface with a brush or roller to ensure even coverage. Nolan recommends back-brushing for wood surfaces and back-rolling for cementitious surfaces.

Plan to apply two coats of paint, which will also help promote even coverage. "The first coat, called the base coat, will give you the first film of protection and absorb into the surfaces," says Sharp. "The second coat called the top coat, will give you a uniform appearance and make sure the old color is completely covered."

Once you've finished the second coat, inspect your exterior for any spots that need to be touched up, clean your brushes, rollers, and equipment, and admire your fresh facade.

### **3. keep your house clean in monsoons**





Monsoon while pleasant, dreamy, lovely, and cozy, also equates to muddy, shoddy, sloshy, and sloppy.

To complete the story, it's all about muddy footprints, damp interiors, musty air, leaky ceilings, and peeling walls. The whole rainy thing leaves the house in dire need of primping and preening.

Here are five hacks for effective house cleaning in monsoons:

#### **- Check for leaks**

If there are existing cracks on the roof and walls, the monsoons could make them worse and could lead to dampness that becomes a breeding ground for moss and fungus. To safeguard the house, paint the walls with the waterproofing coat. Check the rain pipes for blockages so that the water doesn't stagnate there instead of flowing from the roof to the ground.

#### **- Care for the carpet**

It is better to roll away all the rugs and carpets during rainy seasons. This small hack will prevent them from getting damp and also protect them from muddy footprints.

If they cannot be taken off, then just make sure you vacuum them every day.

#### **- Protect the wood**

Move all wooden furniture a couple of inches away from windows and doors. Hold off on getting any new woodwork done till the monsoon season is over. Naphthalene balls can be used in cupboards to help absorb some moisture and keep the clothes fresh.

You can also use some neem leaves to avoid dampness and banish the musty smell. The leaves will also keep silverfish away. You can also place some cloves in between your clothes.

#### **- Dry clean your way**

One of the biggest problems during the monsoons is that the clothes cannot be dried outside. While an indoor rack under the fan might be okay for the clothes, linens, and sheets need proper care so they don't get damaged by moisture. If not dried completely, they can smell bad.

Get them periodically dry cleaned to keep them looking good and smelling fresh.

#### **- Pre and post monsoons care**

It's a good idea to call in some professionals before the monsoons begin to look for any problem areas and get them fixed. If not so, then you can always call them after the season to do a thorough cleaning.

Keeping the home clean during the monsoons in Gold Coast is important for the health and hygiene of the entire family. Following these steps will not only ensure healthy family but will also make the season more pleasant overall.

#### **4. How To Safely Move In Bad Weather**



Do you have a Plan B when moving your house in bad weather? The scenario can be baffling as you may risk losing your precious possessions or end up with a serious injury.

Whether you are dealing with heavy rain, a cold winter storm, sleet or snow, make sure you have a proper strategy to transit your household belongings smoothly and safely.

Therefore, it is good to choose the right time of the year and plan your move accordingly. Of course, hiring expert Removalists Gold Coast can save you from the worst situations, but it is good to prepare for the bad weather and relocate your home without a hint of stress.

Here are a few tips and tricks to help you move in the midst of rain, heat, snow and any other worst weather conditions.

#### **Prep For the Home Relocation**

This step is crucial to ensure the utmost safety of your belongings and the success of your home relocation. It is always recommended to check the local weather forecast a few days before your moving day. This will help you understand what to expect from the weather.

You can postpone the date to avoid unexpected winter storms or rain showers. Here are a few things you will need to do when preparing for a move in bad weather:

Apply plenty of sunscreen when moving during the summertime. Also, wear a hat to protect your health and face.

- Keep yourself hydrated
- Make sure the entire family has rain jackets and ponchos during heavy rain.
- Extra umbrellas
- Rain boots and sneakers
- Waterproof trash bags
- Plastic bins
- Waterproof tarps
- Shovels for snow

#### **Tips to Protect Your Household Belongings When Moving in Bad Weather**



Believe it or not! Keeping your belongings intact in the rain is the biggest concern when relocating home. You don't want to arrive at your new abode with damaged wooden furniture pieces and electronics. So, here is a quick guide to make your journey a bit easier:

Hire professional Removalists Gold Coast to pack expensive and large appliances, such as microwaves, TVs, refrigerators and more. They will bring quality supplies to protect your belongings from rain, storm and snow.

Put all small electronics, cables and cords in waterproof plastic bags. Make sure they are sealed when you pack them in boxes.

Pack your wooden furniture pieces, artwork and delicate items in towels and wrap it with heavy plastic wrap.

It is good to line cardboard boxes from the inside. You can use garbage bags to store your items. After that, seal the bag and the moving box to keep your items dry inside, even if the box gets wet during the rain.

Pack your books, documents and other paper items in plastic bins or else water can easily seep in via cardboard boxes and ruin your photos, blankets and books.

### **Wear Appropriate Dress on the Moving Day**

Relocating in bad weather is not a fun experience. To prevent falls or potential mishaps, make sure you wear comfortable and the right gear on the moving day.

#### **For a Rainy Weather:**

It is good to wear waterproof jackets and boots to avoid slipping. Rain gear can also work great against the wind. So, make sure you have raincoats, proper footwear and other accessories.

#### **For a Snowy Weather:**



Make sure you have footwear that offers good traction. Also, wear warm gloves and hats to increase the warmth in the chill weather. The best part is that gloves can help you grip boxes and belongings with ease.

### **For Sleet Scenario**

This can be the most worrying situation because it is the most adverse weather condition for any type of relocation. It will be good if you wear repellent outer layers, such as sweaters, scarves as well as cosy inner layers such as thermals.

It is always good to do proper research, especially when moving to a new city and know the current weather conditions to plan your relocation process.

### **Prevent Falls and Slips To Avoid Injury**

Whether it is bad weather or not, you can't predict accidents, falls and slips when shifting large boxes and furniture from one place to another. The potential risk increases during heavy rain, snow or sleet.

So, it is best to prep your doorways and hallways by removing clutter, loose debris, snow and water. You can place rug runners or carpet covers on the stairways and pathways to prevent slips, traps and falls.

### **Create a Loading Strategy**

This is one of the crucial steps because boxes and other household items get exposed to rain, sleet or snow. Creating a plan for how you are going to move and load your moving truck can make things easy for you.

It is good to load large and heavy boxes first and place them in the back of the truck. Load small or light items last, and use plastic sheets to cover your belongings.

If you want to protect your belongings, hire seasoned Removalists Gold Coast. They can help you relocate your items in all conditions without giving you a hint of stress.

## **5. Monsoon Hygiene Tips For Healthy Monsoon With Zero Health Risks**

If you want to enjoy the rainy season without falling sick, here are some monsoon hygiene and diet tips for you to stay safe.

Monsoon has arrived and the rain showers have started in different parts of the country. If you are a Pluviophile or rain lover, you must be rejoicing this time and planning to dance in the rain but don't forget the health problems that come along. Rains certainly lower down the temperatures but they also proliferate bacterial growth which causes various diseases. People with poor immunity are attacked the most which makes them feel sick. If you want to enjoy monsoon without feeling ill, here are some monsoon hygiene tips to follow.



To enjoy monsoon happily and healthily, maintaining monsoon hygiene is a must. Here are some monsoon hygiene tips:

Always carry an umbrella and raincoat with you to prevent getting wet when you are out. If you remain wet for longer periods, you can catch cough, cold and fever which may lead to serious illnesses.

When you come home in Gold Coast, wash your hands and legs with antibacterial soap as bacteria breed in this humid and moist season.

If you got drenched in the rain, make sure to clean your feet well or else fungi may develop as we mostly ignore feet care.

After getting wet, don't bath with cold water. Take a shower with warm water to not let your body temperature fall.

### **Healthy Monsoon Eating Tips**

As much as hygiene is important, diet also plays a pivotal role in warding off monsoon illnesses. Here are monsoon diet tips:

It is better to drink only boiling water to kill the germs in the water.

Forget milk tea and drink herbal teas to boost immunity and keep diseases at bay.

Instead of milk, consume curd or yogurt. They have probiotic properties that help in protecting bacteria and germ attacks.

Before cooking any vegetable, soak them in warm salt water to get rid of worms and larvae.

Say no to oily or street food. Since these are kept open, they may have germs in it.

Prevent meat consumption as they are hard-to-digest and may cause stomach discomfort.

Keep yourself hydrated by drinking water, juices and healthy fluids.

### **Be Mosquito Safe!**

This season is also the breeding season of mosquitoes. Not to forget, mosquito-borne illnesses like malaria, dengue and chikungunya are at its peak during the rainy season. Here are some tips to become mosquito safe:

Get rid of all the standing water around your residential area be it a pot or cemented bath or gutter. Anything that is filled with water can breed mosquitoes.

Keep your windows closed to prevent mosquitoes from entering the house. You can also keep mosquito-repelling plants at the windows and indoor plants to keep mosquitoes at bay.

Always apply mosquito-repelling creams and sprays before heading out. This would create a protective layer on your skin to prevent mosquito and bug bites. You can also make natural mosquito repellent cream at home in Gold Coast.

Another important thing is to wear light-colored and light fabric clothes. Mosquitoes get attracted to dark colors the most. Also, it is better to wear loose clothes as if you get wet, they won't cause friction to the skin.

## Conclusion

Preparing your home for the monsoon season is essential to prevent damage and ensure a safe, comfortable living space. By taking proactive measures such as inspecting the roof, clearing drainage systems, sealing leaks, and securing outdoor areas, homeowners in Gold Coast can minimize the risks associated with heavy rains and strong winds. Regular maintenance and timely repairs play a crucial role in protecting the property from water damage, mold growth, and electrical hazards. With the right preparations, you can enjoy the monsoon season worry-free, knowing that your home is secure and well-equipped to handle the challenges of the rainy season.

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