

BE PREPARED FOR A TORNADO

Tornadoes can destroy buildings, flip cars, and create deadly flying debris.

Tornadoes are violently rotating columns of air that extend from a thunderstorm to the ground.



Can happen anytime



Bring intense winds



Can happen anywhere



Look like funnels

IF YOU ARE UNDER A TORNADO WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

Go to a safe room, basement, or storm cellar.



If you can safely get to a sturdy building, do so immediately.

If there is no basement, get to a small, interior room on the lowest level.



Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You're safer in a low, flat location.

Stay away from windows, doors, and outside walls.



Watch out for flying debris that can cause injury or death.



Use your arms to protect your head and neck.

HOW TO STAY SAFE

WHEN A TORNADO THREATENS



Prepare NOW

Know your area's tornado risk.

Know the signs of a tornado, including a rotating funnel-shaped cloud, an approaching cloud of debris, or a loud roar—similar to a freight train.

Sign up for your community's warning system. Canada has a National Public Alerting System NPAS or Alert Ready.

Pay attention to weather reports. Meteorologists can predict when conditions might be right for a tornado.

Identify and practice going to a safe shelter for high winds, such as a safe room. The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level.

Consider constructing a safe room that meets safety standards.



Survive DURING

Immediately go to a safe location that you identified.

Take additional cover by shielding your head and neck with your arms and putting materials such as furniture and blankets around you.

Listen to Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

Do not try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle.

If you are in a car or outdoors and cannot get to a building, cover your head and neck with your arms and cover your body with a coat or blanket, if possible.



Be Safe AFTER

Keep listening to local authorities for updated information.

If you are trapped, cover your mouth with a cloth or mask to avoid breathing dust. Try to send a text, bang on a pipe or wall, or use a whistle instead of shouting.

Stay clear of fallen power lines or broken utility lines.

Do not enter damaged buildings until you are told that they are safe.

Save your phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messaging or social media to communicate with family and friends.

Be careful during clean-up. Wear thick-soled shoes, long pants, and work gloves.

Resources:

National Public Alerting System: <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/mrgnc-mngmnt/mrgnc-prprdnss/ntnl-pblc-lrtng-sstm-en.aspx>
Alert Ready, Emergency Alert System: <https://www.alertready.ca/>