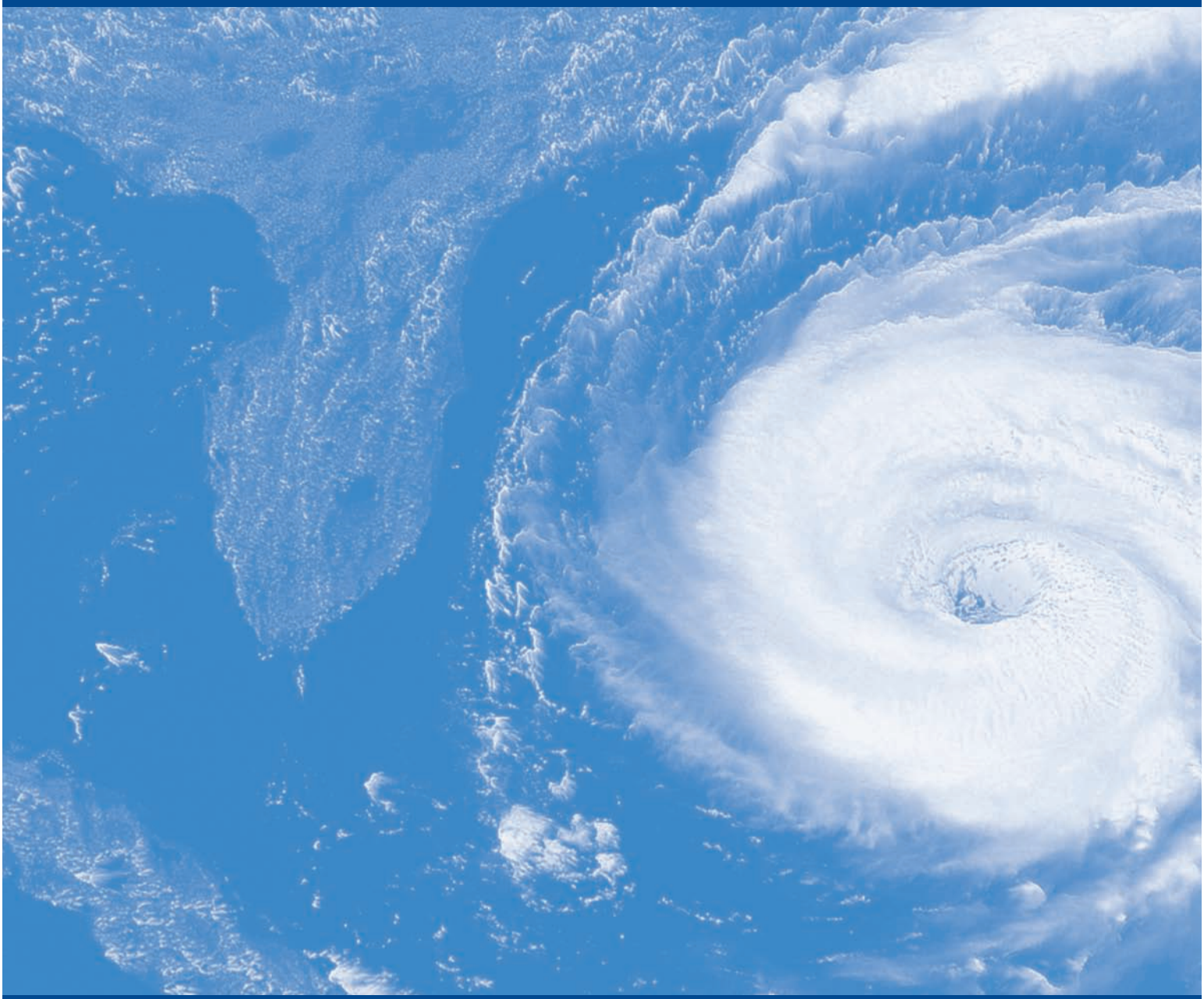
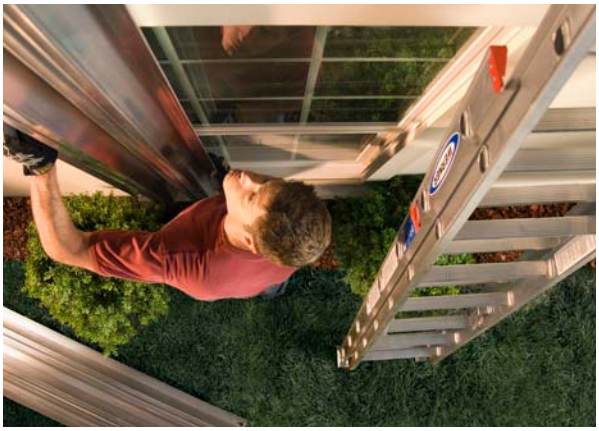
HURRICANE
PREPAREDNESS GUIDE



At Lowe's, we want to help you keep your home and family safe. That's why we offer everything from expert advice to the products you need to be prepared at everyday low prices, guaranteed.



PREPARE A BASIC STORM KIT

- ☐ Lowe's Hurricane Preparedness Guide
- ☐ Plastic Tote
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Battery-Operated Lantern
- ☐ Portable Radio
- ☐ Light Sticks
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Garbage Bags
- ☐ Tarps
- ☐ Tarp Tie Downs
- ☐ Rope

PREPARE WITH THIS CHECKLIST

- ☐ Sit down with your family and develop a plan in case of a hurricane
- ☐ Take pictures or video of your house and valuables for insurance claims
- ☐ Prepare shutters or other coverings for doors and windows
- ☐ Reinforce roof trusses
- ☐ Examine and repair roof shingles
- ☐ Caulk openings, flashings and soffits
- ☐ Reinforce entry doors and collect exterior covering as required
- ☐ Replace hard mulch with soft material
- ☐ Buy and install a backflow-prevention device in your sewer line
- ☐ Trim trees and shrubs
- ☐ Purchase a generator, gas cans, CO detectors and extension cords
- ☐ Decide how to tie down large outdoor equipment
- ☐ Reinforce or replace your garage door
- ☐ Purchase supplies for cleanup and repair

HURRICANE: WHAT TO DO

WATCH: There is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24 to 36 hours.

- Listen to the radio, watch TV, or go online for updates
- Make sure your Storm Kit is adequately equipped with the proper supplies and important documents
- Gas up your vehicle in case of an evacuation notice
- Fill gas containers for generator and store in a safe place
- Bring in outdoor objects such as lawn furniture, toys and garden tools, and remember to anchor down objects that cannot be brought inside
- Clear yard of debris
- Review evacuation plans
- Install storm protection devices such as hurricane shutters and brace entry and garage doors
- Moor boat securely or move it to a designated safe place

WARNING: Hurricane winds of 74 mph or greater, or dangerously high water and rough seas are expected in 24 hours or less.

- Listen to the radio, watch TV, or go online for updates and official instructions
- Store water in clean bathtubs, jugs and bottles
- Stay inside, away from windows, skylights and glass doors
- Turn refrigerator and freezer to coldest setting to keep stored food fresh longer if power is knocked out
- If the power goes out, unplug appliances, TVs, stereos and computers to reduce potential damage from a power surge when electricity is restored
- If in a mobile or manufactured home, check tie-downs and evacuate quickly

EVACUATION: If an evacuation notice is given for your area:

- Contact your insurance agent to check your coverage and keep a copy of your insurance policy in a dry, secure place
- Protect your home by unplugging appliances and turning off electricity and the main water valve, but do not turn off natural gas unless local officials advise it
- Tell someone outside of the storm area where you are going and the route you are likely to take
- If time permits, and you live in an identified surge zone, elevate furniture to protect it from flooding, or move it to a higher floor
- Grab your Storm Kit, lock up your home and evacuate immediately

HURRICANES CAN CHANGE DIRECTION AND INTENSIFY VERY QUICKLY. STAY TUNED TO LOCAL RADIO AND TV STATIONS OR GO ONLINE FOR UPDATES.

EMERGENCY POWER: STANDBY OR PORTABLE

One downed power line can cause major interruptions across the entire power grid. A generator can help keep your lights on and run important appliances like refrigerators, air conditioners, sump pumps, security system, or even your whole house. They are also great for running outdoor power equipment for clean up following a storm. There are two basic types of generators to consider: ***standby and portable.***

STANDBY GENERATORS:

Automatic standby generator systems are wired directly into the home's electrical system and fueled by the home's supply of either natural gas or LP fuel. The generator's automatic transfer switch automatically and safely switches from utility power to generator power as needed.

Standby generators are ideal for homeowners or business owners looking to protect their most important investment, their family home or place of business. Standby generators are ideal for brief or prolonged outages. Units range from 8,000 to 60,000 watts and the average unit costs about $3500.

BENEFITS:

- Reacts immediately to a power outage and supplies electricity to your home, then shuts itself off and returns to standby mode automatically
- Fueled by natural gas or liquid propane, and permanently wired directly into your home's electrical panel
- Properly installed standby units have no danger of CO poisoning, no shock risk from electrical cords, and no storage of gasoline

PORTABLE GENERATORS:

These units are powered by a gasoline engine and can power a limited number of lights and small appliances by using an extension cord. These units can be stored in a garage or storage shed and are easy to move as needed.

A portable generator is available in several sizes and price points depending upon how much power is needed. Portable units must be started manually and typically run for 8 to 12 hours on one tank of gas and provide from 2 to 8 kilowatts or more. The average cost is $600.

BENEFITS:

- Low-cost solution for delivering electrical power
- Portable power where you need it for your home
- Electric or manual starter, and manual transfer switch options
- Powers various essential items like TV and lighting; Portables can save food in your refrigerator/freezer and prevent basement flooding with backup power to your sump pump.

GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS:

Whichever type of generator you choose, think safety. Generators produce carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless and deadly gas. According to the Consumer Products Safety Commission, 28 people died from carbon monoxide poisoning associated with portable generators after Hurricane Katrina. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to help keep your family safe when using a generator.

LOWE'S INSTALLATION Guaranteed

In most areas, installing a back-up system requires getting a permit and having the installation inspected by an electrical inspector. We recommend having your unit professionally installed by our licensed installers. It's guaranteed.

CARBON MONOXIDE HAZARD

Fumes and gases that you CANNOT see or smell can be harmful or fatal.

DO NOT operate generators indoors

DO NOT operate generators in garage or carport

DO NOT operate generators near open doors or windows

Recommendations provided by: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

LOWE'S CAN HELP YOU PREPARE

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS
Essential protection when portable generators are used. Models start at $20 to protect different rooms in your home.

GAS CANS
A typical generator has a 3- to 8-gallon tank and will run for 8-12 hours per fill. Be sure to have enough gas on hand.

FUEL STABILIZERS AND LUBRICANTS
Change oil after first 5 hours of use, then after every 50 hours or at the beginning of the season. Use fuel stabilizer to prevent stale gas over storage period.

HEAVY-DUTY EXTENSION CORDS
12-or 14-gauge grounded (3-prong) extension cords. GFCI extension cords.

WHAT SIZE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Here's how to figure out the generator capacity you need: Determine the electrical requirements of the devices you'd like to run, and add them up. For example, if you wanted to run a small microwave (750 watts), a radio (200 watts) and four lights (300 watts), you'd require a minimum of 1,250 watts. However, devices with motors can require much more power to start than they use when running. For example, a refrigerator that needs 1,200 watts to run might require up to 3,000 watts to start. For running wattage and startup wattage for various electrical devices, visit Lowes.com.

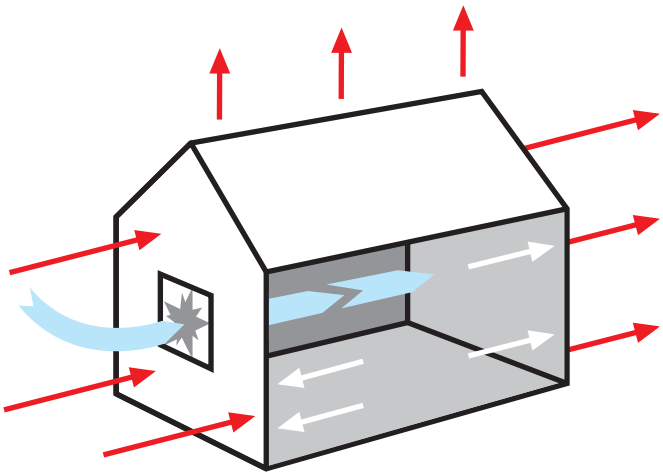
THREE TYPICAL SIZES OF GENERATORS:

3,250-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER
- Refrigerator
- Television
- Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)
- 4 lights (75 watts)

5,000-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER
- Refrigerator
- Television
- Microwave (1,000 watts)
- Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)
- 4 lights (75 watts)
- Deep freezer

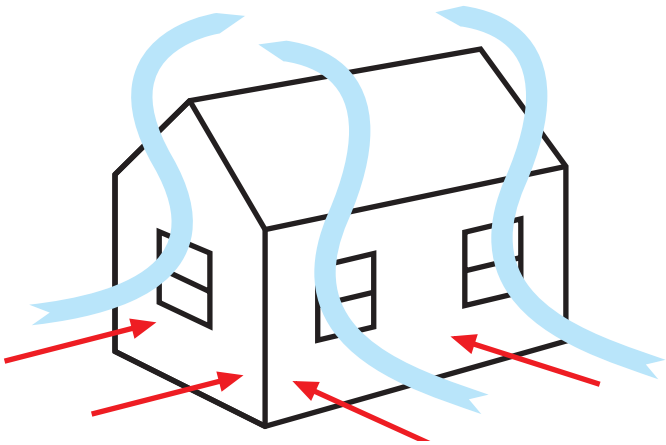
8,000-WATT GENERATOR CAN POWER
- Refrigerator
- Television
- Microwave (1,000 watts)
- 1/2 HP well pump
- Security system
- Air conditioner (10,000 BTU)
- 8 lights (75 watts)
- Deep freezer
- Electric stove
- Garage door opener

HOW DO HURRICANE WINDS CAUSE SUCH DESTRUCTION TO HOMES?



UNPROTECTED WINDOWS AND DOORS

When windborne debris breaks through glass or winds cause a window or garage door to fail, the home's protective barrier is suddenly destroyed. Severe winds enter the home, creating internal pressure which pushes upward on the roof and outward on the exterior walls. With severe enough winds, the entire home can collapse.



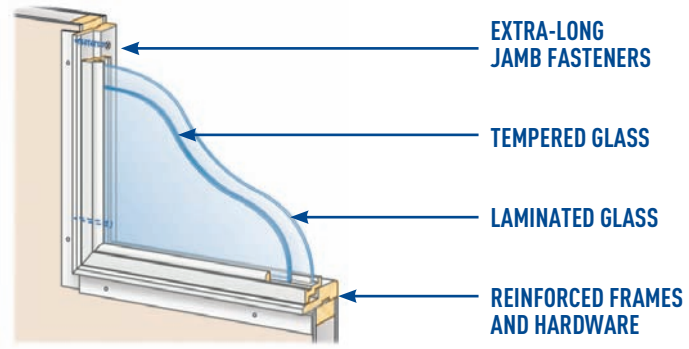
PROTECTED WINDOWS AND DOORS

When a home's exterior openings are protected, winds tend to pass over and around the structure of the home. Protection is needed for all openings including windows, doors, and garage door. Temporary protection examples include products like hurricane panels. Permanent protection includes impact-resistant windows or doors.

PERMANENT PROTECTION

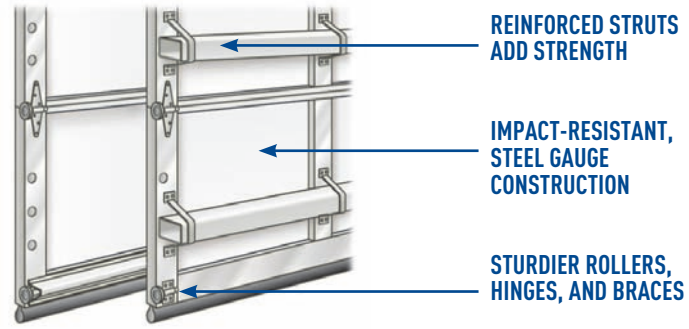
IMPACT-RESISTANT WINDOWS AND DOORS

These types of windows are heavy-duty, reinforced metal frames and impact-resistant glass. Laminated glass is formed by permanently bonding an interlayer between two pieces of glass, forming a barrier that protects your home from hurricane force winds. If the glass does break, impact windows and doors prevent debris from entering the home. Doors without glass can typically be made with hurricane-approved gauge steel.



WINDLOAD HURRICANE GARAGE DOORS

Garage doors that are designed to withstand hurricane force winds through the addition of struts to the garage door system. Additional strength is added with sturdier rollers, hinges, and braces. Some garage doors are certified as impact-resistant by using impact-approved steel gauge in its construction.



TEMPORARY PROTECTION

ALUMINUM PANELS
These are the most common type of storm panels. Aluminum panels won't rust, corrode, or delaminate. They are ready to use and available in many sizes to cover your unique windows and doors.

POLYCARBONATE PANELS
These panels allow you to have visibility of objects and movement outside your home during a storm. One side is typically UV resistant so panels won't yellow in the sunlight. These panels are also lightweight and reusable.

ACCORDION SHUTTERS
These aluminum shutters close in only seconds to secure an opening. Accordion shutters can be opened quickly after the storm, are easy to install and are left up permanently.

All products sold at Lowe's are code-approved. Appropriate hardware should also be purchased. Available by Special Order in select areas.

LOWE'S INSTALLATION Guaranteed

Trust our team of professionals to install your new hurricane shutters.* Our installers are prescreened, and selected based on their expertise so you can be confident that your project is done right. For more information, visit Lowes.com/Installation. *Product and installation may vary by market.

STRENGTHEN YOUR GARAGE DOOR

Replace the door with a new, code-approved model. In lieu of replacement, there are several ways to strengthen an existing door. However, if your door is made of lightweight materials, replacement is your best option.

INSTALL A METAL POST SYSTEM
Installing a code-approved metal post system will allow you to quickly reinforce your garage door to keep it from blowing in or out (about $150 per brace, use two for a double garage door). Make sure the track is securely fastened to the framing, and brace the framing.

EXTERIOR PROTECTION
Cover the outside of the door with metal panels, fabric screen or 5/8-inch plywood installed with additional bracing (2" x 4"s at each joint and 2-feet on center).

Some doors can be strengthened with retrofit kits that add vertical and horizontal reinforcement and beef up tracks and hardware. However, reinforcing adds additional weight to the door, and the springs that raise and lower the door must be adjusted. Spring adjustment is a job for a professional.

Reinforcing an older door may help keep the door from being blown in, but will not give it any additional protection against dents and punctures.

TOOLS AND RECOVERY SUPPLIES

A. **Plytanium® 15/32 x 4 x 8, Plywood Sheathing** #12192
B. **SKIL® 7 1/4" Circular Saw** #300243
C. **Contractor Clean-Up Bags** #224262, 224272, 74555
D. **Porter-Cable® 18 volt, 1/2" Hammer Drill, NiCad Battery** #363429
E. **16' x 20' Blue/Green Tarp** #186793
F. **Ultra Clorox® Germicidal Bleach 182-Oz.** #33692
Clorox Anywhere® Hard Surface™ Daily Sanitizing Spray 22-Oz. #233325
Clorox Clean-Up® Disinfectant with Bleach #185272
Clorox® Disinfecting Wipes 75-Count #76832
G. **Poulan Pro® 18" Gas Chain Saw** #182191
H. **Shop-Vac® 5.75-HP, 14-Gallon 5.5 Peak HP Wet/Dry Shop Vacuum** #334641
I. **Troy-Bilt® 2500 PSI Gas Pressure Washer** #74754/93512CA
J. **Grill Master® 4-Burner Gas Grill** #134489
K. **Blue Rhino® Propane Tank Exchange** #7384

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