



Gallagher

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Storm Damage

A guide to help protect your home

A storm is described by the Met Office as a violent atmospheric disturbance and the associated wind speeds are defined on the Beaufort wind scale as being in excess of 55 miles per hour (also commonly known as 'Force 10')*.

How can I help protect my block from storm damage?

- Check your chimney, roof and pointing are in good condition.
- Check your aerial and satellite dishes are secure.
- Secure any loose fence panels and gates.
- Cut down any loose or overhanging branches in your garden, but check the tree isn't protected by your Local Authority first.
- Keep gutters free of debris.
- Check that any brackets are fixed securely to the fascia board. This work can involve a ladder and so if you do not feel comfortable get a professional in to help.

What to do when a storm is imminent ...

- Ensure all garden furniture, children's play equipment and any other loose objects are stored or secured to the ground.
- In the event of a thunderstorm, unplug electrical items to limit the risk of lightning damage.
- Close and securely fasten doors and windows, garage doors and loft trapdoors.

- If possible park vehicles in a garage. If not park them away from trees, walls, fences or buildings.
- Stay indoors and do not attempt to repair damage outside while the storm is in progress.

These are just some useful ideas and do not guarantee a claim will be paid if all actions taken. If you have any concerns at all about property maintenance, you should seek advice from a trusted local tradesman.

[*www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/guides/coast-and-sea/beaufort-scale](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/guides/coast-and-sea/beaufort-scale)

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Would you like to talk?

0800 092 9394 or email us

UKinfo@ajg.com