

Power outage checklist

Prepare yourself by doing the following



Keep your **cell phone** fully **charged**

when the power is on. If your cellphone battery is low, remember that you can use your car charger in your car.

Invest in a small **LP gas lamp** for good quality lighting over a large area.

Prepare meals beforehand

in case of a power outage.



Keep a stock of essential **tinned foods** and **snacks** that do not need refrigeration - preserved foods are easy alternatives when you were not able to prepare a meal beforehand.



Load shedding may result in alarm systems not operating properly therefore **check with your insurer** if you are covered should you have a break in while the alarm is not powered

Make sure your vehicle/s have **fuel** in **the tank** - petrol stations cannot pump fuel during power outages.



Keep boiled water in **thermos flasks** for hot drinks during a power outage.

Invest in a small **LP gas heating ring** for essential cooking and to boil water for hot drinks - make sure you have an extra bottle of gas.



Make use of **surge protection:** Electric surges are one of the biggest causes of damage to equipment during a power outage. **Installing a surge protection device** can help minimise some damage in unforeseen situations. Have a surge protection device fitted to your electrical distribution board.

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For more info go to:
www.eskom.co.za



Ensure you have enough **cash** - ATMs cannot operate during power outages.

Keep a battery-powered **torch** or **candles**

in a place where it will be easy to find in the dark - make sure you have an extra set of fresh batteries.



Keep a **small torch** on your bedside table at all times - make sure you have an extra set of fresh **batteries.**



Keep **refrigerator and freezer doors closed** at all times - a power outage of four hours should not cause food spoilage and a freezer should keep food frozen and safe for at least a day.

Access, security and safety



always remain a top priority - Know where the manual release lever of your electric garage door opener is located and how to operate it. Garage doors can be heavy, so know that you may need help to lift it during a power outage.



Also keep a **key to your**

house with you if you regularly use the garage as the primary means of entering your home, in case the garage door

Most **medication** that needs **refrigeration** can be kept in a closed fridge for several hours without spoiling - it is essential that you check with your doctor or pharmacist to be sure about your type of medication.



Back up your data: It is always important to back up data, make it a priority to save your data offsite, in case of a hard drive crash or unforeseen electrical fault. Online "cloud-based" backups are very convenient and are mostly automated, which means that you have one less thing to worry about.