

Preparing for loadshedding

Fact Sheet



Please
use only
what you need



We've all experienced loadshedding and it can be frustrating to all of us, especially if we can't plan for these incidences. Please remember that Eskom implements loadshedding as a last resort to protect the power system country-wide. When there is insufficient capacity to supply the demand, the electricity system can become unbalanced, so staged loadshedding is implemented to manage the impact on the grid. It's essential that we all work together and make an effort to use only the electricity that we need, to ensure that this limited resource is available to all customers. Eskom is working with you to try and manage the incidents of loadshedding, so here are a few tips to help ensure that you're always prepared:

Charge your phone



Keep your cell phone fully charged while the power is on. If your cell phone battery is low, remember that you can use your car charger or power banks.

Check your lighting



The most basic need during power outages is lighting at home, including security lights. Rechargeable LED lights are cost-effective and durable. Whilst you could use candles for lighting, remember that this could be a serious safety hazard and should only be used as a last resort. A candle can be hazardous if left unattended, so remember to always extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before you go to bed.



Have some prepared meals on hand



Having a few emergency pre-prepared meals in your freezer will come in handy during loadshedding, however it's important to note that you should minimise the number of times you open your refrigerator and freezer doors during the outage. A four-hour outage should keep your food frozen and safe.

A warm cuppa

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For hot drinks, boiling some water and placing it in a thermos flask will come in handy. A small LP gas-heating ring for essential cooking is useful, but make sure you have sufficient gas.



Protect your appliances

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Electric surges are one of the biggest causes of damage to appliances when the power comes back on after an outage. Install surge protection plugs and other devices that can help safeguard your appliances and minimise that risk.

Stages of loadshedding

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It's important to understand the different stages of loadshedding:

Stage 1:

To keep the national grid stable, Eskom needs to shed 1 000MW.

Example Stage 1 is the least disruptive of the schedules. Your area is likely to be affected three times over a four-day period for two to four hours at a time or three times over an eight-day period for four hours at a time.

Stage 2:

To keep the national grid stable, Eskom needs to shed 2 000MW

Example Stage 2 doubles the amount of the loadshedding planned in stage 1 meaning your area is likely to be affected six times over a four-day period for 2 – 4 hours at a



Easily accessible charged torch and recharged batteries

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Keep torches and spare batteries in easy to access places, like next to your bed. Consider the use of rechargeable light sources and rechargeable batteries.

Your security

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The security and safety of you and your loved ones is a top priority. Solar-powered security and garden lights are an efficient way to ensure lighting and security during power outages, helping to keep you and your family safe

Switching to manual

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Know where the manual release lever of your electric garage door is located and how to operate it. If you regularly use the garage as the primary means of entering your home, keeping a spare front door key nearby in case the garage door won't open will definitely come in handy. Also make sure you know how to open electric gates manually.



time or six times over an eight-day period for four hours at a time.

Stage 3:

To keep the national grid stable, Eskom needs to shed at most 3 000MW

Example Stage 3 increases by 50% the amount of the loadshedding planned in stage two, meaning your area is likely to be affected nine times over a four-day period for 2- 4 hours at a time or nine times over an eight-day period for four hours at a time.

Stage 4:

To keep the national grid stable, Eskom needs to shed at least 4 000MW

Example Stage 4 doubles the frequency of stage 2, meaning your area is likely to be affected 12 times over a four-day period for 2 - 4 hours at a time or twelve times over an eight-day period for four hours at a time.

Whilst being prepared for loadshedding is important, it is just as crucial that we use only the amount of electricity we need to ensure that we manage demand on the grid and make sure that this limited resource is available for all. Together we can make a difference and manage the demand on the grid.

Contact Us

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Feel free to contact Eskom for any further information.

loadshedding.eskom.co.za
www.eskom.co.za/residential

 Eskom_SA

 eskomsouthafrica

 eskom_hld_soc_ltd/

or call **08600 37566 (ESKOM)**

To keep abreast of Eskom loadshedding activity please consult loadshedding.eskom.co.za. Note that your municipal supply authority also has loadshedding schedules.

We would like to request that customers switch off their geysers and pool pumps when loadshedding commences, and keep them off for an additional 30 minutes after power has been restored to ensure that the electricity supply can be restored successfully.

Together we can make a difference