

FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR BUILDINGS IN FIRE PRONE AREAS

Item to Check	Yes	No	Recommended Actions
Remove all dry grass, leaves and combustible material within 5 m of the house			
Keep lawns short and green where possible			
Remove dead shrubs and branches near the house			
Store firewood away from the house			
Store fuel, charcoal and gas cylinders away from buildings			
Remove rubbish and combustible materials against walls			
Prune tree branches overhanging the roof			
Ensure no vegetation touches walls, windows or roof			
Thin out dense vegetation within 5–30 m of the house			
Remove dead trees from the property			
Remove fallen branches and debris			
Maintain separation between tree canopies			
Cut long grass regularly			
Maintain vehicle access for firefighting vehicles			
Maintain perimeter firebreaks where appropriate			
Clean gutters of leaves and debris			
Remove debris from roof valleys and corners			
Repair damaged roof sheets or tiles			
Seal openings where embers can enter the roof space			
Install gutter guards if practical			
Remove branches close to the roof			
Ensure doors close properly and seal well			
Repair broken window panes			
Install fine metal mesh screens where practical			
Seal gaps around windows and doors			
Install weather stripping where needed			
Inspect eaves for openings and gaps			
Fit non-combustible mesh over vents			
Repair cracks or holes in external walls			
Remove combustible materials from under decks/verandas			
Protect crawl spaces from ember entry			
Maintain an adequate water supply for firefighting			
Ensure water tanks are full before fire season			
Clearly identify water storage points			
Test pumps regularly			
Keep hoses connected and operational			
Ensure hoses can reach all sides of buildings			
Keep fire beaters readily accessible			
Maintain knapsack sprayers in working condition			
Keep buckets available for emergency use			
Service portable fire extinguishers			
Ensure gates open easily and quickly			
Keep access roads clear of vegetation			
Clearly mark the property entrance			
Ensure emergency vehicles can turn around			
Trim branches obstructing access roads			
Maintain defensible space around sheds and outbuildings			
Store fuels safely away from structures			

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Item to Check	Yes	No	Recommended Actions
Remove combustible clutter from outbuildings			
Clean roofs and gutters of outbuildings			
Secure LPG cylinders upright			
Clear vegetation around gas installations			
Store petrol and diesel safely			
Know how to isolate gas supply quickly			
Know how to isolate electricity supply quickly			
Inspect generators and fuel storage areas			
Monitor fire danger warnings during fire season			
Maintain communication with neighbours			
Keep emergency contact numbers available			
Participate in local fire protection initiatives			
Keep mobile phones charged			
Maintain backup lighting and batteries			
Keep important documents readily available			
Family members know evacuation procedures			
Family members know escape routes			
Emergency evacuation bags prepared			
Essential medications readily available			
Arrangements made for pets and livestock			
Emergency contact list updated			
Family meeting point established			
Remove leaves under decks and verandas			
Remove firewood stacked against buildings			
Remove long grass beneath fences			
Remove bird nests from roof spaces			
Protect open roof vents from ember entry			
Remove vegetation growing against walls			
Move wooden outdoor furniture away from walls during fire season			
Ensure gutters remain free of debris throughout fire season			
Relocate gas cylinders away from exterior walls			
Remove tree branches overhanging structures			
Can a grass fire reach the house directly? (If yes, mitigate risk)			
Can flames climb from grass to shrubs and trees? (If yes, mitigate risk)			
Can embers enter roof spaces or gutters? (If yes, mitigate risk)			
Is sufficient firefighting water available?			
Can firefighters access all sides of the house?			