



KEEPING SAFE AT HOME

Dear Parents and Guardians.

This term at school your child has been learning about electricity and electrical safety through our Safety Heroes program. You can find out more about the program at ergon.com.au/safetyheroes or energex.com.au/safetyheroes



READ THESE TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE AROUND ELECTRICITY AT HOME.



APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL FITTINGS:

- Switch off the power before plugging or unplugging appliances, and hold the plug, not the cord.
- Always switch off appliances before cleaning them.
- Never stick a knife into a toaster to release stuck toast.
- Never piggyback double adapters. If you need extra power points, have a licensed electrical contractor install additional outlets, or use a powerboard.

WATER AND ELECTRICITY:

- Never touch electrical appliances or switches with wet hands.
- Keep appliances away from swimming pools.
- Never leave a hair dryer or shaver plugged into a power point – it could fall into the bath or basin.

More safety information available at:

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energex.com.au/safetyheroes



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MAINTENANCE:

- Always check for concealed electrical cables before drilling into walls, floors and ceilings. Be particularly careful when drilling around power points and light switches.
- Do regular safety checks to ensure your appliances and electrical fittings are safe. Replace damaged power points and frayed, perished or damaged cords.
- If you are a home handy person, draw the line at electrical jobs. Doing your own electrical work isn't only dangerous, it's illegal. Always use a licensed electrical contractor.

POWERLINES:

- Look up and live. Be aware of overhead powerlines, especially when using ladders or moving equipment around your property.
- Always assume fallen powerlines are live. Stay clear, warn others to stay away and call Triple Zero (000).
- Don't attempt to trim trees or branches near powerlines. Always call a professional tree trimmer to trim any vegetation that's close to powerlines.
- Know where underground cables are. Call *Dial Before You Dig* on 1100, request your plans at www.1100.com.au or download the free Dial Before You Dig app.

ELECTRIC SHOCKS:

- Never touch or attempt to rescue someone who is receiving an electric shock - you may end up receiving a shock yourself. If it's safe to do so, turn the power off. Stay well clear and call Triple Zero (000).
- If you experience tingles or shocks from an electrical appliance or water taps, it may be a sign that something's wrong. Report it immediately and have your licensed electrical contractor check your wiring.

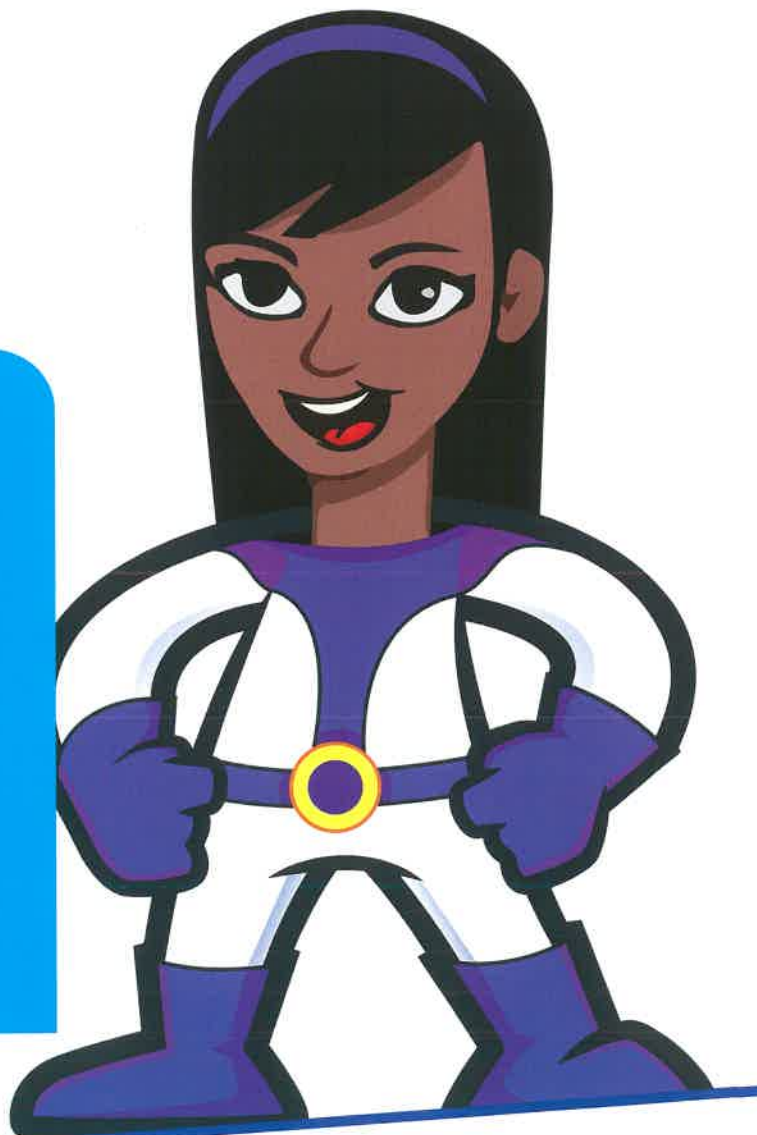
REMEMBER THESE IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS.

Always use a licensed electrical contractor for any electrical work around your home.

Test your safety switch every 3 months.

Keep electrical appliances away from water.

Stay away from fallen powerlines and report them immediately to Triple Zero (000).



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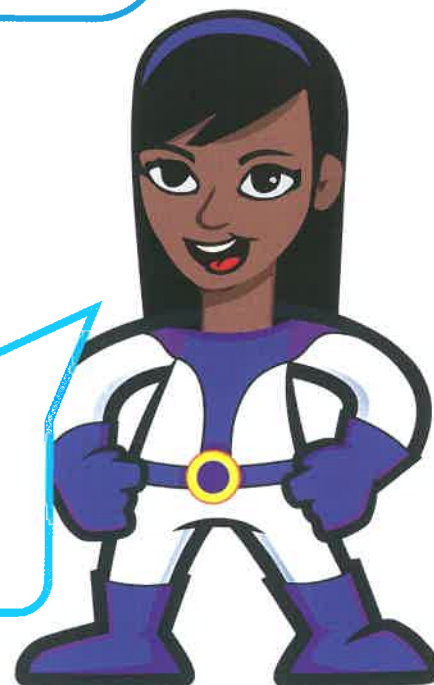


KEEPING SAFE AFTER A CAR ACCIDENT

Dear Parents and Guardians,

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READ THESE TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE IF YOU'RE INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT. KNOWING WHAT TO DO COULD SAVE A LIFE.



AFTER AN ACCIDENT:

- Don't panic. Try to remain calm.
- Treat all powerlines and other electrical equipment as if they are 'live'.
- Stay in the car until the power has been isolated and the powerlines removed.
- Don't risk being electrocuted by attempting to leave the car before power is disconnected.
- Warn bystanders to stay a minimum of 10 metres from the car and anything else in contact with powerlines at the accident site.
- Don't attempt to rescue or allow others to approach the car in contact with powerlines. All too often secondary injuries or deaths occur because of others trying to help.
- Call Triple Zero (000) immediately to report powerlines down and a life threatening situation.

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Car accidents can bring down overhead powerlines or cause damage to electrical equipment at ground level. If you are involved in an accident or come across one, it is important to remember that the car and anything else, such as fences and trees, in contact with powerlines could be 'live'.

REMEMBER, IF A CAR ACCIDENT BRINGS DOWN POWERLINES, NEVER APPROACH THE CAR TO ASSIST. ALWAYS TREAT ALL FALLEN POWERLINES AS IF THEY ARE 'LIVE'.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CAR BRINGS DOWN POWERLINES?

After an accident has brought down powerlines, the **SAFEST** place to be is **INSIDE** the car.

An emergency evacuation is extremely dangerous and should only be attempted if it is absolutely necessary, such as the car is on fire.

If you must escape from the car, follow these steps:





1 **STAY**
in the car

CALL
000

WAIT
for help

2 If there's an immediate danger, like fire, and evacuation is **ABSOLUTELY necessary**, assess your escape route and check for fallen powerlines.

3 Exit the vehicle by jumping - make sure to land with both feet together.

4 When jumping, **don't touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time.**

5 Once landed with both feet together (careful not to stumble or fall), jump or shuffle with your feet together away from the vehicle.

6 Move in this way until you are at least 10 metres away from the vehicle. **DO NOT go back.**

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KEEPING SAFE IN STORMS AND CYCLONES

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READ THESE TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE IN STORMS AND CYCLONES.



BE PREPARED:

- Tidy up unsecured objects around your home and yard.
- Trim loose branches, but call a professional tree trimmer if they're near powerlines.
- Have extra cash on hand – ATMs and banks may not be operating.
- Check your Storm Kit and ensure you have water containers and a BBQ, or other gas or coal cooking facilities.
- Pack spare clothing, shoes, sturdy gloves and hats in waterproof containers.
- Freeze water for alternative refrigeration should there be a power failure.
- Make sure your pet's registration and tags are current.
- Stock up on food, water and medicines for each pet, plus newspapers for their sanitary needs.
- Identify a safe place to evacuate to should a storm surge or flood threaten.
- Install a surge protector in your home to protect sensitive electronic equipment.
- If you or someone else in your household depends on life support equipment, check if you're eligible for our Life Support program, which provides members with valuable information on power supply interruptions.

BEFORE A STORM:

- Ensure mobile phone batteries are fully charged and have a landline phone ready, as cordless phone base stations don't work without electricity.
- Board or tape glass on exposed windows and secure all doors.
- Fill containers with water, including bath and sink, in case water supplies are cut.
- Ensure your car has a full tank of fuel.
- Store your important documents, medical prescriptions, mementos, photos and valuables in a waterproof container in a secure location like your car boot.
- Heed evacuation warnings if you're in caravans, tents or low lying areas.
- Stay indoors as the storm approaches and ensure pets are secured safely under shelter.
- Turn off and unplug sensitive electrical appliances and also unplug TV, DVD and VCR aerial cables.

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DURING A STORM:

- Stay inside and away from windows and doors.
- Listen to battery operated radios for weather updates and don't go outside until you know it's safe.
- Use a torch to find your way around.
- Don't use a landline phone during a storm. Use a mobile, but only in emergencies.



AFTER A STORM:

- Warn others and stay well away from fallen powerlines.
- Always assume they're 'live' and dangerous. Report them immediately to Triple Zero (000).
- Listen to a battery operated radio for official advice and power restoration information.
- If you experience tingles or shocks from an electrical appliance or water taps, call your electricity distributor immediately. Also call your licensed electrical contractor to check your electrical wiring immediately.
- Take care around your switchboard if it's outdoors and wear synthetic or rubber soled shoes. If you're in any doubt about the switchboard's safety, stay clear and call your licensed electrical contractor.
- Don't use any appliances that have been wet or damaged. Have them checked by a licensed electrical contractor.
- Alert neighbours if you think there may be any danger and don't go sight-seeing.

Storm kit checklist

Every home should have a fully stocked Storm Kit ready and stored for the summer storm season.

You'll need:

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Battery operated radio
- Battery operated torch
- Spare batteries
- Mobile phone
- Portable mobile charger
- First aid kit
- Can opener
- Tinned and other non-perishable food
- Bottled water
- Essential medications

OTHER USEFUL ITEMS

- A tin of paint and a brush - in remote areas, if there's a chance that your property could become isolated, painting your property name on the roof will assist emergency services
- Sturdy gloves, heavy duty waterproof plastic bags and masking tape can prove useful during the clean up

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- Copies of important documents (eg. insurance details, birth certificates, prescription refills in sealable plastic bags)
- Waterproof matches
- Self-contained cooking facilities including gas cylinders or coals & firelighters
- Supplies for infants including formula, baby food, nappies and wipes if required
- Filled water containers
- Special food for elderly or disabled members of the family if required
- Warm dry clothing and shoes
- Toiletries including toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, sun screen and insect repellent
- Food and medications for your pets and newspapers for their sanitary needs



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