

Your Santander Home Insurance Policy Booklet

Getting in touch

To make a claim

Please check **your** policy documents first to see if **you**'re covered before **you** make a claim.

You can notify us about certain types of claims online at www.santander.co.uk/home

Alternatively, **our** claims team are available 24/7 so **you** can call if it's an emergency or **you** prefer to speak to one of the team. The number **you** should call is **0345 301 0661**.

When **you** make a claim, **we** may ask for the following so try to have handy to share or upload:

- Your policy number
- Photos of what is damaged or lost
- Receipts, quotes or invoices
- Estimated size of the area affected

Once **we**'ve been notified of **your** claim **we**'ll confirm that **you**'re covered or explain if **you** aren't. Some claims can be settled immediately on the first call but if it takes longer **we**'ll provide regular updates on progress.

For Legal Services Cover claims the number you should call is 0345 030 7770*

For Home Emergency Cover claims the number you should call is 0345 030 7769

You can only use the Legal Services or Home Emergency telephone numbers if you have bought cover

Get Legal or Tax Advice 24/7 from our helpline 0345 030 7770 (Advice is limited to the laws and practices of England and Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man). **You** can only use the helpline if **you** have bought Legal Services cover.

If you need to discuss your policy, please call Customer Services on 0345 030 7767** to:

- make changes to your policy
- cancel your policy
- add or remove cover
- get your policy documents in Large Print, Audio or Braille
- make a complaint (except about a claim). If you want to complain, please see the What to do if you are unhappy section of this booklet for the complaints procedure.

You can contact us online at www.aviva.co.uk/santander or by using the QR code below to:

- make changes to your policy
- cancel your policy
- request a copy of policy documents
- ask a auestion
- change your automatic renewal payment option



Telephone call charging and recording

Calls to 0800 numbers from UK landlines and mobiles are free. The cost of calls to 03 prefixed numbers are charged at national call rates (charges may vary dependent on **your** network provider) and are usually included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobiles. For **our** joint protection **we** may monitor and record telephone calls.

^{**}Lines are open 9am to 8pm Mon – Fri, 9am to 4pm Sat. We are closed on Sundays.

Finding your way around

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Home Emergency & Legal Services cover terms and conditions are found in their own booklet. This will only be provided where you have this cover.

Key



These boxes give information **we** want to particularly draw **your** attention to



These boxes give **you** additional helpful information



These boxes highlight what **your** policy doesn't cover

Welcome to your Santander Home Insurance

Your Contract of Insurance

Here's **your** Santander Home Insurance policy booklet, it forms part of **your** contract of insurance with **us** along with:

- your policy schedule (including any clauses shown on it);
- the information on **your** application and/or the Information provided by you document
- the Important Information document;
- any additional policy booklet(s) for extra covers which apply to you;
- changes to **your** policy or important information that **we** give **you** at renewal.

Check your policy details and tell us if anything's wrong or changes in the future

We want to make sure that **you** understand **your** cover and any cover limits, and that everything's correct on **your** documents, so please read them carefully and let **us** know if **you** need any changes.

During the life of **your** policy **you** need to tell **us** about any changes to the information **you**'ve given **us**. More details about this can be found in the **General conditions**.

You must give **us** complete and correct information to the questions **we** ask. If **you** don't do this **we** may need to change **your** cover, premium or **excess** or **you** may find that **your** claim isn't paid in full (or maybe not at all). **We** may also cancel **your** policy.

Please contact Customer Services if **you** need to make any changes.

To be covered you must keep to the terms and conditions

You must pay **your** premium and keep to the terms and conditions and **clauses** of the contract. So long as **you** do this **we**'ll insure **you** for anything shown in **your** policy booklet(s), which **your** schedule shows is covered, during the **period of insurance**.

It is important that everyone insured under this policy is aware of its terms and conditions.

Keeping your property in good condition

One important policy condition is that **you** keep all the property **you**'re insuring in good condition. **Your** policy doesn't cover loss or damage caused by wear and tear or a lack of maintenance. In particular, **you** need to maintain **your home**, there are some basic things **you** can do, for example:

On the outside

- Check for missing or slipped tiles, or rotten window frames.
- Ensure that gutters and downpipes aren't damaged or blocked by leaves.
- Keep any trees and shrubs near **your home** well-trimmed.
- If your home uses oil, as well as carrying out visual checks yourself, you should arrange for the tank and associated pipework to be checked regularly by a competent person.

On the inside

Check and replace sealant and grout around baths and showers regularly – these need to be maintained to prevent leakage and **we** won't cover escape of water damage caused by them failing.

What to do if you are unhappy

If **you** are unhappy with any aspect of the handling of **your** insurance **we** would encourage **you** to seek resolution by contacting **us** using the relevant contact details below.

If **your** complaint is about how **your** policy was sold, call **us** free of charge from a UK landline or mobile on **0800 171 2171**. **We** can resolve most complaints while **you**'re on the phone.

Write to **us** at:

Complaints, Santander UK plc

PO Box 1125

Bradford

BD1 9PG.

Please include as much detail as possible about what's gone wrong, along with **your** name, address, policy number, contact number and a convenient time for **us** to call **you** to discuss **your** complaint.

If **you** have selected Home emergency cover and are unhappy with it, please refer to **your** separate Home emergency cover policy booklet for details on how to make a complaint.

If **your** complaint is about anything else, **you** can contact **us** on: **0345 030 7767**. Or **you** can write to:

Customer Care Team

PO BOX 7463

Level 2

Pitheavlis

Perth

PH2 0YX

What will happen if you complain

If we are unable to resolve your concerns quickly, we will:

- acknowledge your complaint promptly;
- assign a dedicated complaint expert who will review your complaint;
- carry out a thorough and impartial investigation;
- keep you updated of the progress;
- do everything we can to resolve things as quickly as possible;
- provide a written response within eight weeks of receiving **your** complaint, this will inform **you** of the results of **our** investigation or explain why this isn't possible.

Where **we** have been unable to resolve **your** concerns or have been unable to resolve **your** complaint within eight weeks, **you** may be able to ask the Financial Ombudsman Service to carry out an independent review. This is a free independent and impartial service that helps resolve disputes. Whilst **we** are bound by their decision **you** are not. Contacting them will not affect **your** legal rights. **You** can contact the Financial Ombudsman Service by telephone on **0800 023 4567**. **You** can also visit their website at www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk where **you** will find further information.

Words with special meanings



We use some words or phrases with special meanings in this booklet. These are shown in **bold** and **we** explain what they mean here. If they mean something else in any section of **your** policy **we**'ll tell **you** in that section.

Accidental Damage

Damage which has happened suddenly and unexpectedly from an outside force which can be identified.



Accidental damage doesn't include breakdowns, faults, or damage due to wear and tear, faulty workmanship or design. For example, **we** will not cover **your** TV if it falls off the wall because a wall bracket or mount had been installed incorrectly.

British Isles

The United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Buildings

The **home** and its:

- walls, fences, gates, hedges, patios, drives, footpaths, terraces, hard courts, car ports;
- ornamental ponds and fountains, fixed hot tubs and swimming pools;
- fixed domestic heating, water or sewage tanks, fixed pipes and cables;
- fixed clean energy installations such as solar panels and wind turbines.
- fixtures, fittings and decorations

These must all be at the address shown on **your** schedule.

Clauses

Changes to the terms of **your** policy. These are shown on **your** schedule.

Contents

Household items and **personal belongings** (including **personal money**) **home office equipment** and **valuables** that:

- you own, or are legally responsible for (but not property belonging to your landlord);
- belong to **domestic employees** who live with **you**.

This includes **personal belongings** of visitors to the **home** (but not paying guests, lodgers or individuals participating in a **home** swapping agreement) up to the limit shown on **your** schedule.

Contents doesn't mean the following:

- anything used or stored for business or professional purposes (except **home office equipment**).
- motorised vehicles, aircraft, boats, boards and craft designed to be used on or in water, caravans, trailers and the parts, spares and accessories of any of these;



- any part of the structure of the **home**, including wallpaper;
- any living creature.

Domestic employee

A person directly employed by **you** solely to carry out domestic tasks such as cleaning, gardening and childcare in the **home**.

Excess

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The amount **you** will have to pay towards each separate claim.

Fire

Accidental combustion caused by an external heat source, such as a spark or candle. **Fire** does not include scorching, melting, or heat distortion of any kind unless as a direct result of combustion.



If there is no combustion but a single event (caused suddenly and unexpectedly by an outside force) leads to scorching, melting or heat distortion **you** may be able to claim for this if **your** policy includes cover for **accidental damage**.

Garden

In the open within the boundaries of the land belonging to the **home**.

Heave

Expansion or swelling of the land beneath the **buildings** resulting in upwards movement.

Home

The house or flat and its garages and outbuildings. These must all be at the address shown on **your** schedule and used solely for domestic and/or clerical business purposes. (Clerical business means computer work, emails, telephone calls and administration).

Home office equipment

Office furniture, computers and other keyboard-based office equipment, printers, fax machines, photocopiers, telephones and answerphones that **you** own or are legally responsible for and used for business or professional purposes.

Landslip

Movement of land down a slope.

Motorised vehicle

Any electrically or mechanically powered vehicle (including E-scooters and Hoverboards), except:

- those used solely as domestic gardening equipment in the garden;
- Class 2 mobility scooters and motorised wheelchairs (these have a top speed of 4mph and cannot be used on the road except where there is no pavement) See www.gov.uk/ mobility-scooters-and-powered-wheelchairs-rules;
- golf carts and trolleys;
- toys and models remotely controlled by a pedestrian;
- electrically assisted pedal cycles (Ebikes).

Period of insurance

The period of time covered by this policy, as shown on **your** schedule or until cancelled.

Personal belongings

Things you might wear or carry with you when you leave your home. For example, clothing, jewellery, watches, mobile phones and gadgets like laptops and tablets, personal money, sports, musical and photographic equipment. Everything must belong to you or be your legal responsibility.

Personal belongings are not:

- anything used or stored for business or professional purposes;
- furniture, furnishings, household goods and equipment, food and drink;
- any kind of document except driving licences and passports;
- motorised vehicles, aircraft, boats, sailboards, surfboards, jet skis, caravans, trailers and the parts, spares and accessories of any of these;
- any living creature;
- pedal cycles (including their parts, spares and accessories) unless specifically shown on your schedule as covered.

Personal money

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Cash, unused postage stamps, gift vouchers, season tickets, travel tickets, phone cards and pre-paid cash cards, all held for social, domestic or charitable purposes.

Reasonable costs

Costs for goods and services which are competitive in the relevant marketplace.

Settlement

Downward movement of the land beneath the **buildings** as a result of compaction due to the weight of the **buildings** within 10 years of them being built or extended.

Storm

An unusual weather event with persistent high winds usually associated with rain, thunder, lightning or snow.



The wind speed or gust should normally exceed 55mph (48 knots) to be a **storm** but **we** take other factors into consideration such as where the property is sited. A **storm** can highlight defects rather than cause them and damage due to lack of maintenance, wear and tear or which happens gradually is not covered.

Subsidence

Downward movement of the land beneath the **buildings** that is not as a result of **settlement**.

Unoccupied

Not lived in by **you** or anyone who has **your** permission.



"Lived in" means that normal living activities like, bathing, cooking and sleeping overnight are carried out in the **home**, for at least 2 nights each week, and the **home** contains enough furniture for normal living purposes.

Valuables

Stamp, coin or medal collections, pictures, other works of art, items of gold, silver or any other precious metal, jewellery, watches.

We, us, our

Aviva Insurance Limited unless otherwise shown for any policy section.

You, your

The person (or people) named on **your** schedule and their partner(s) and members of their family (or families) and foster children who normally live with them.



If anyone shown above is a student **we** class them as 'normally living' at the **home** if they live there outside of term time.

General conditions



These conditions apply to all covers shown in this booklet

1. Claims

What you need to do

As soon as **you**'re aware of something that's likely to lead to a claim **you** must:

- tell the police straight away if you've lost something or your claim is due to a crime (for example theft or malicious damage). Please get a crime reference number;
- contact us as soon as you reasonably can and give us all the information and help we need to settle your claim;
- tell **us** if any of **your** property is later returned to **you**;
- tell us if you receive any information or communication about the event leading to your claim and leave us to deal with it (unless we tell you otherwise).

To help us settle your claim



It is **your** responsibility to prove any loss and **we** may ask **you** to provide receipts, valuations, photographs, instruction booklets and guarantee cards and any other relevant information, documents and assistance **we** may require to help with **your** claim.

What you mustn't do

- Admit to any claim, promise any payment or refuse any claim without **our** agreement.
- Get rid of damaged property or organise repairs without our agreement.
- Abandon any damaged property to us.

What rights we have

We will be entitled, at our cost, but in your name, to:

- take legal proceedings for our own benefit to recover our costs in relation to your claim; or
- take over and conduct the defence or settlement of any claim.

We will have full discretion in the conduct of any legal proceedings and in the defence or settlement of any claim.

2. Your duty to prevent loss or damage

Everyone covered by this policy must:

- take all reasonable precautions to prevent accidents, loss or damage; and
- keep insured property in good condition.

3. Frauc

If **your** claim is at all dishonest or exaggerated **we** will not pay **you** anything under this policy or return any money **you** have paid. **We** may also cancel **your** policy immediately and backdate the cancellation to the date of the fraudulent claim.

We may also take legal action against you.

4. Other insurance

Sometimes **you** may have other insurance that would cover the same claim (or would cover it if this policy didn't exist). If so, here's what happens:

- if you're claiming for Occupiers, Personal and Employers
 Liability we won't pay anything until all cover under your
 other insurance is exhausted;
- we won't pay for loss or damage covered under a guarantee or warranty;
- if **you**'re claiming for something else **we** won't pay more than **our** fair share, even if the other insurer refuses the claim.



This condition will not have the effect of leaving **you** without cover for any claim. It operates where there is any other insurance covering the same claim (or would have in the absence of this policy) and determines how those insurance policies apply.

5. Paying monthly

Your monthly premiums will be due on the agreed date and on the same date of each following month. **We**'ll give **you** one month's cover for each monthly premium **you** pay starting from the cover start date.

If **you** don't pay the first premium **your** policy won't be valid. If **you**'ve paid at least one premium and then don't pay any premium after that when due **we** can cancel **your** policy as explained below.

6. Cancelling your policy



In this section where **we** refer to the right to cancel the policy **'you'** means the policyholder(s). This means the person or people named on **your** schedule and they're the only ones who can cancel the policy.

Your Statutory Rights

You have a statutory right to cancel **your** policy within 14 days from the day of purchase or renewal of the contract or the day on which **you** receive the policy or renewal documentation, whichever is the later.

If **you** wish to cancel and **your** cover hasn't started **you** will be entitled to a full refund of the premium paid.

If **you** cancel after **your** cover has started **we**'ll refund the full premium paid less a proportionate deduction for the time **we**'ve provided cover.

If **you** don't exercise **your** right to cancel, **your** policy will continue, and **you** will be required to pay the premium.

You can cancel your cover at any time

In addition to **your** statutory rights **you** can cancel the policy and/or additional at any time by calling Customer Services.

There are times when we can cancel your cover

We or any agent **we** have authorised to do so may cancel **your** policy and/or additional covers if **we** have a valid reason, for example if:

- you don't pay your premium when it's. If you don't pay the
 first premium your policy will not be valid. If you miss a
 payment after that we'll write to you giving a further date to
 pay. If we don't receive payment by then we will cancel the
 policy and/or additional cover options from the date shown
 on the letter;
- we reasonably suspect fraud;
- you don't co-operate with us or give us information or documentation we ask for, and this affects our ability to process a claim or defend our interests;
- you have not given complete and accurate answers to the questions we ask.
- **you** harass **our** staff or representatives, or behave in an abusive or threatening manner

Where **we** cancel, **we**'ll always give **you** at least 7 days' notice by post or email to the last address **you**'ve given **us** and tell **you** the reason why. The exception is where **we** have evidence that **you** have acted fraudulently or deliberately given **us** incorrect or incomplete information when **we** may cancel **your** policy without notice and backdate the cancellation to the date when this happened, which could be when **you** first bought **your** policy.

Will I get a premium refund?

- If your policy or an additional cover is cancelled before the cover starts we'll refund the premium you've paid for the cancelled cover.
- If your policy or an additional cover is cancelled after cover has started we'll refund you for any days left which you've already paid for.

You won't get a refund at all if **we** cancel **your** policy because **you** acted dishonestly or fraudulently and/or **we** are legally entitled to keep the premium under the Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Act 2012.

7. Index linking

Your sum(s) insured may be updated monthly (and the new amounts shown on **your** annual renewal notice). Any change will reflect rising costs in line with the House Rebuilding Cost Index for **buildings** and the Retail Price Index for **contents. We** won't reduce **your** sum(s) insured if the index falls.

8. Joint policyholders

Any person named on **your** schedule can change the policy or make a claim. **We** can only remove a named person if they agree, if **we**'re ordered to by a court, or if they've died and their personal representatives ask **us**.

General exclusions



These exclusions apply to all covers in this booklet.

We won't pay for:

1. Gradually occurring damage

- wear and tear (natural and predictable damage which happens over time or due to normal use or ageing) this includes, but is not limited to, gradual weathering, the effect of light, deterioration or depreciation;
- any other gradually occurring damage (except subsidence, heave and landslip).

2. Breakdowns or faults

claims for things which have just broken down or stopped working. This means anything ranging from boilers to home appliances and laptops.

The exception is Home emergency cover which does cover emergencies related to some breakdowns as described in the Home emergency cover policy document.

3. Events before the cover start date

anything which happened or circumstances likely to lead to a claim (such as a flood warning being issued for **your home**) that **you** were aware of before the cover under this policy started.

4. Faulty materials or workmanship



damage caused by faulty or unsuitable materials, design or poor workmanship.

5. Deliberate or Criminal Acts

any loss or damage or liability arising from a deliberate or criminal act by **you** or any other person living with **you**.

6. Loss in value or indirect loss

Loss in value or any loss that is not a direct result of the insured incident (for example if the value of an item or the market value of **your home** reduces because it's been repaired; or if **we** replace **your** toilet as part of a claim and the flooring no longer fits tightly and there is a gap, **we** will not replace the flooring).

7. War

any consequence whatsoever which is the direct, or indirect result of any of the following, or anything connected with any of the following, whether or not such consequence has been contributed to by any other cause or event:

war, invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities or a warlike operation or operations (whether war be declared or not), civil war, mutiny, rebellion, revolution, military rising, insurrection, civil commotion assuming the proportions of or amounting to an uprising, military or usurped power.

8. Terrorism

any consequence whatsoever which is directly or indirectly caused by nuclear and/or chemical and/or biological and/or radiological means, or anything connected with those means, and which is the direct or indirect result of Terrorism, or anything connected with Terrorism, whether or not such consequence has been contributed to by any other cause or event.

Terrorism means:

- the use or threat of force and/or violence and/or
- actual or threatened harm or damage to life or to property

caused or occasioned by any person or group of persons in whole or in part for political, religious, ideological or similar purposes including the intention to influence any government and/or to put the public or any section of the public in fear or is claimed to be caused or occasioned in whole or in part for such purposes.



9. Other actions

any consequence whatsoever which is the direct, or indirect result of any of the following, or anything connected with any of the following, whether or not such consequence has been contributed to by any other cause or event:

 any action taken in controlling, preventing, suppressing or in any way relating to 7. War or 8. Terrorism as described above.

10. Radioactivity

loss, damage or liability which involves:

- ionising radiation or radioactive contamination from nuclear fuel or nuclear waste; or
- the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other dangerous properties of explosive nuclear equipment.

11. Pollution or contamination

anything arising from pollution or contamination, unless caused by a sudden and unexpected accident which can be identified, or by oil leaking from a domestic oil installation at **your home**.

12. Unauthorised and/or Malicious Access to Computer or Electrical Equipment

We won't pay for;

Any loss, damage or liability caused directly or indirectly, or in any way connected to unauthorised, and/or malicious access by any person to:

the power network, leading to a power failure or power surge; and/or



computer or electronic components and systems (including smart devices), resulting in any reprogramming of software, loss of data, introduction of malware, codes or viruses with the intention or effect to cause such systems or connected devices to stop, fail or function otherwise than is intended by the manufacturer.



A smart device is an electronic device, generally connected to other devices or networks via different protocols such as Bluetooth or Wi-fi, for example tablets, smart phones and smart TVs.

13. Damage by domestic animals

Damage caused by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by domestic animals.

Buildings



This section only applies when shown on **your** schedule.

Please see **your** schedule to check any limits applying to **your** cover.

What's covered?

Our standard Buildings cover will protect **you** for loss of or damage to the **buildings** caused by any of the following things:

- 1. **Fire** (including smoke damage resulting from **fire**), explosion, lightning or earthquake.
- 2. **Storm** or flood (from overflow of external water sources, such as rivers, lakes and the sea).
- 3. Malicious people, vandals, riot, civil unrest, strikes, and labour or political disturbances.
- 4. Being hit by:
 - aircraft or other flying objects, or anything falling from them;
 - vehicles or animals;
 - falling aerials or satellite dishes (including fittings and masts);
 - falling trees or branches.

If **we** accept a claim for damage to the **buildings** caused by a falling tree or branch **we**'ll also pay **reasonable costs** to remove the fallen tree or part of the tree (this doesn't include any part which remains below ground).

- 5. Water escaping from or freezing in water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances (such as washing machines and dishwashers), fixed equipment or fixed heating system.
- 6. Heating fuel leaking from a fixed heating system.
- 7. Theft or attempted theft.
- 8. Subsidence, heave, or landslip.

Our standard Buildings cover also includes: Loss of rent and cost of alternative accommodation

If **your home** can't be lived in because it's been damaged by something which is listed in Buildings paragraphs 1-8, **we** will pay for the following until it's fit to be lived in:

- reasonable costs for additional alternative accommodation for you (including your pets) if you live in the home;
- o any ground rent **you** still need to pay;
- if you have a lodger we'll pay:
 - any rental income **you** lose from them; or
 - reasonable costs for additional alternative accommodation for them (and their pets) if they don't have other insurance to cover it.



We'll always try to keep **you** (and/or other occupants) in **your home** if **we** can. This may involve solutions to overcome temporary interruptions in essential facilities (like the loss of running water).



If that isn't possible then **we**'ll pay **reasonable costs** for alternative accommodation, taking into account all the circumstances of **your** claim and **we**'ll aim to get **you** back **home** in the shortest time possible, this is likely to be whilst repairs are ongoing. **We**'ll consider how many people live in the **home**, how long **you**'ll need the accommodation, what's available locally and what it costs. **We** are happy to discuss and can offer help in finding accommodation.

Loss or theft of keys

If the keys to external doors of **your home** (or alarms or safes fitted inside it) are lost or stolen, **we**'ll pay to replace the locks or lock mechanisms.

Tracing and accessing leaks

If your home has been damaged by a water leak, we'll pay reasonable costs to remove any part of the internal structure of the home needed to find the source of the leak. We'll also make good after the leak's been fixed.



We'll ask **you** to pay to repair or replace the leaking pipe or part if it had simply failed or worn out. This is because **your** policy doesn't cover wear and tear. **We**'ll only pay to repair the pipe or part if it's damaged by something which **your** policy covers (e.g. If **your** policy includes cover for **accidental damage**).

Your liability to the public

Our standard Buildings cover also extends to cover **your** liability to the public (as the homeowner). Details of this cover and exclusions are shown in the **Your legal liabilities** section of this booklet.

Emergency access

We'll pay for damage to **your buildings** or **your garden** caused by someone accessing **your home** to deal with a medical emergency, or to prevent damage to the **home**. There's no **excess** to pay.

Selling your home

Your buildings cover will extend to protect the buyer of **your home** if it is damaged by an insured event between exchange of contracts and completion of the sale. This cover only applies if they don't have other insurance to cover the damage.

If **you** are buying another property, with a mortgage from Santander UK plc, and had a quote accepted by **us** for the property **you** are buying, the new property will be insured against loss or damage arising from any cause covered by the Buildings paragraphs 1-8, from exchange of contracts, or in Scotland, the conclusion of missives, for the shorter of:

- a period of three months
- until completion of the sale.

This cover does not apply if other insurance has been arranged by **you**.

Buildings - what's not covered?

- Anything shown in the General exclusions.
- The relevant excess shown on your schedule (unless we tell you in any part that an excess doesn't apply).



If your buildings suffer subsidence, heave or landslip damage, regardless of the underlying cause of the damage, the subsidence, heave and landslip excess shown on your schedule will apply to your claim.

- Damage to fences, gates and hedges caused by storm, or by falling trees or branches.
- Loss or damage caused by any of the following when your home has been left unoccupied for more than the period shown on your schedule:
 - malicious people or vandals;
 - water escaping from or freezing in water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances (such as washing machines and dishwashers), fixed equipment or fixed heating system;
 - heating fuel leaking from a fixed heating system;
 - theft or attempted theft.
- Theft, attempted theft, malicious damage or vandalism by you, paying guests, tenants, lodgers or individuals participating in a home swapping agreement.
- **Storm** or Flood:

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- Loss or damage caused by subsidence, heave or landslip
- Subsidence, heave or landslip:
 - damage to any part of the **buildings** (e.g. a boundary wall or patio) unless **we** accept a claim for damage to the **Home** that happened at the same time, by the same cause;
 - if you knew when this policy started that any part of the buildings had already been damaged by subsidence, heave, or landslip unless you told us about it, and we accepted it.
- Damage caused by **settlement**, or by shrinkage or expansion of parts of the **buildings**.
- Damage caused by riverbank or coastal erosion.
- Loss or damage caused by water escaping due to faulty, failed, inadequate or lack of grout or sealant.
- Frost damage (though **we** do cover damage to pipes caused by freezing).

- Wet or dry rot arising from any cause, except where the rot was directly caused by:
 - something which is covered by this policy; or



- by repairs or preventative work carried out by the tradesperson we arranged to deal with your claim.
- Any costs associated with alternative accommodation in relation to horses or livestock.

Buildings - optional cover



This cover only applies if shown on **your** schedule.

Please see your schedule to check any limits applying to your cover.

Accidental damage to buildings

What's covered?

- Cables, pipes, drain inspection covers and septic tanks you're responsible for which serve the buildings;
- Fixed glass forming part of the **buildings** (including glass in solar panel units);
- Sanitary fittings installed in the home
- All other **accidental damage** to the **buildings** that is not already covered by the **Buildings**.

We will cover up to £1000 for the cost of breaking into (and then repairing and backfilling) an underground pipe where **you** have tried, unsuccessfully, to clear a blockage using established methods such as rodding.

What's not covered

- Anything shown in in the Buildings What's not covered? or in the General exclusions.
- Damage to fixed glass and sanitary fittings forming part of the **buildings** which happens when **your home** has been left **unoccupied** for more than the period shown on **your** schedule.
- Damage caused by:
 - building alterations, renovations or repairs;
 - vermin, insects, fungus, weather conditions;
 - paying guests, tenants, lodgers or individuals participating in a home swapping agreement
 - water entering from the outside of your home or water escaping from or freezing in water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances, fixed equipment or fixed heating system;
 - subsidence, heave or landslip;
- Costs associated with clearing blockages
 from underground pipes unless you've tried,
 unsuccessfully, to clear it using established
 methods such as rodding. Where your attempt to
 clear the blockage has been unsuccessful and we
 agree to break into the pipe to clear it we won't pay
 more than £1000 limit to break into and repair the
 pipe and backfill afterwards.



Buildings conditions



These conditions also apply to Buildings - optional cover.

1. Anything shown in the General conditions.

2. Your Sum Insured

Your buildings sum insured must be high enough to cover the full cost of rebuilding the **buildings** to the same specification, including demolition, removal of debris and architects' and surveyors' fees.



Your buildings sum insured is very important and **you** should contact **us** if **you** do not think the sum insured shown on **your** schedule is enough.

If at the time of a loss **your** sum insured is too low, **your** claim will be settled on the following basis:

• If **we** have provided a **buildings** sum insured of £500,000 and this is shown on **your** schedule, **we** will not pay more than this amount for any claim.

3. Settling claims (except liability)

We can choose to settle **your** claim by repairing, rebuilding, giving **you** an equivalent replacement or making a payment.

If **we** are able to repair, rebuild or replace **your** property but agree to settle using cash or a voucher **we** will only pay **you** what it would have cost **us** to repair, rebuild or replace it. If **we** are unable to repair or rebuild **your** property or it is not economic to do so, **we** will pay the difference between the open market value of **your** property immediate before and after the damage.

What we will pay

We'll pay up to the sum(s) insured and limits shown on **your** schedule for any incident. The most **we**'ll pay in total for any claim for loss or damage to **buildings** is the **buildings** sum insured (unless otherwise stated).

We won't reduce the sum(s) insured by the amount paid under any claim.

If we accept a claim for the **buildings** we will also pay for:

- Architects' and surveyors' fees to repair the **buildings**.
 These fees must not be more than the relevant professional institutes recommend. They must not include any amount to help **you** prepare **your** claim.
- Costs we've agreed to pay to demolish or support the damaged parts of the buildings.
- The cost of meeting building regulations or municipal or local authority byelaws directly incurred in repairing insured damage to the **buildings**. **We** only pay for this if **you** hadn't already been told it was required before the **buildings** were damaged.

If your property isn't in good condition

It's a policy condition that **you** keep **your** property in good condition so if **you** haven't done this and this was the reason (or main reason) for the damage then **we** may not pay **your** claim or may not pay it in full.

How we deal with claims for storm damage

We explain what **we** mean by **storm** in the **words** with **special** meanings section. **We** try to be fair, so **we** don't just look at wind speed **we**'ll take other factors into account like where **your home** is sited.

We'll check what the weather was like when the damage happened and may ask for pictures or ask an expert to look at the damage to decide if it was caused by a **storm** and confirm that a lack of maintenance didn't cause or contribute to the damage.

How we deal with claims for flood

If **we** accept a claim for flood damage to **your home** and the total cost of **your** Buildings claim will be more than £25,000, after deduction of any applicable excess, **we** will offer to pay up to an additional £10,000 for flood resistance and recoverability measures to be installed during the repair, where:

- a flood survey arranged or agreed by us identifies that these measures will help reduce the likelihood or severity of damage in the future; and
- **we** approve all costs before installation.

How we deal with pairs, sets and suites

This is not available on the Classic cover.

We will not pay for the cost of replacing any undamaged items which form part of:

- a pair;
- a set;
- o a suite;
- any other item of a uniform nature, design or colour; unless this cover is shown on **your** schedule, in which case the cover in the rest of this section applies.

If **we** have accepted a claim for loss or damage to a part of the **buildings** which is part of a matching group or set of items, and **we** can't source a matching replacement, **we** will pay to replace the undamaged companion piece(s) where both of the following apply:

- they are within the same room or open plan area as the damaged items or parts and
- the damaged item is part of a fixed sanitary suite, fitted furniture or floor or wall tiles.

If **we** ask, **you** must give **us** any undamaged items which **we** have paid to have replaced.

In all other circumstances **we** will not pay to replace undamaged part(s) of the matching group or set of items.

4. Settling liability claims

For any incident (or series of related incidents) involving legal liability covered under Buildings we will try to negotiate with the person claiming against you (or their legal representative) to settle your claim for the lowest amount. In any event the most we'll pay is the limit shown on your schedule plus any costs and expenses we have agreed to pay.

5. Claims settled by making a payment

Where **we** have settled **your** claim by making a payment and the damage to **your buildings** has not been repaired, **we** will not pay for:

- repairing any unrepaired parts of the **buildings** necessary to settle any new claim.
- subsequent loss or damage to **buildings** or **contents** which would not have occurred had the **buildings** been repaired.
- o any claim under the Legal liabilities section which would not have occurred had the **buildings** been repaired.

Contents



This section only applies when shown on **your** schedule.

Please see **your** schedule to check any limits applying to **your** cover.

Contents at the home

What's covered?

Our standard Contents cover will protect **you** for loss or damage to **contents** in the **home** or it's **garden** caused by any of the following things:

- 1. **Fire** (including smoke damage resulting from **fire**), explosion, lightning or earthquake.
- 2. **Storm** or flood (from overflow of external water sources, such as rivers, takes and the sea).
- 3. Malicious people, vandals, riot, civil unrest, strikes, and labour or political disturbances.
- 4. Being hit by:
 - aircraft or other flying objects, or anything falling from them;
 - vehicles or animals;
 - falling TV or radio receiving aerials or satellite dishes (including fittings and masts);
 - falling trees or branches.
- 5. Water escaping from water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances (such as washing machines and dishwashers), fixed equipment or fixed heating system.
- 6. Heating fuel leaking from a fixed heating system.
- 7. Theft or attempted theft.
- 8. Subsidence, heave or landslip.

Our standard Contents cover also includes:

Loss or theft of keys

If the keys to external doors of **your home** (or alarms or safes fitted inside it) are lost or stolen, **we**'ll pay to replace the locks or lock mechanisms.

Food in freezers

We'll pay to replace food stored in your home freezer which has been damaged by an accidental change in temperature or contaminated by freezing agents.



It isn't 'accidental' if the power goes off because the supplier deliberately turns it off or their employees take strike action.

Emergency access

We'll pay for loss or damage to **contents** caused by someone accessing **your home** to deal with a medical emergency, or to prevent damage to the **home.** There's no **excess** to pay.

Domestic heating fuel and metered water

We'll pay for loss of **your home** heating fuel or metered water that accidentally leaks or gets stolen.

Household removals

If a professional remover is moving **your contents** from the **home** to:

- your new permanent home; or
- a home your tenant will occupy;

we'll cover theft of or accidental damage to your contents (except personal money, jewellery, watches or items of gold) happening during the move (and for up to 7 days afterwards while in temporary storage) within the **British Isles**.

Loss of rent and cost of alternative accommodation

If **your home** can't be lived in because it's been damaged by something listed in Contents paragraphs 1-8 **we** will pay for the following until it's fit to be lived in:

- **reasonable costs** for additional alternative accommodation for **you** (including **your** pets) if **you** live in the **home**;
- reasonable costs for removal and storage of any contents that are damaged by something listed in Contents paragraphs 1-8 while they are being repaired or restored;
- if **you** have a lodger **we**'ll pay:
 - any rental income **you** lose from them; or
 - reasonable costs for additional alternative accommodation for them (and their pets) if they don't have other insurance to cover it.

We'll always try to keep you (and/or other occupants) in your home if we can. This may involve solutions to overcome temporary interruptions in essential facilities (like the loss of running water). If that isn't possible then we'll pay reasonable costs for alternative accommodation, taking into account all the circumstances of your claim and we'll aim to get you back home in the shortest time possible, this is likely to be whilst repairs are ongoing. We'll consider how many people live in the home, how long you'll need the accommodation, what's available locally and what it costs. We are happy to discuss and can offer help in finding accommodation.



Occupiers, employers, personal and tenants Liability

These covers are standard with **your** Contents cover. Details of the cover and the exclusions are shown in the **Your legal** liabilities section of this booklet.

Garden re-landscaping

If the plants or trees in the **garden** are lost or damaged by any of the following **we**'ll pay the re-landscaping costs to put things right:

- Fire (including smoke damage resulting from fire), explosion, lightning or earthquake.
- Being hit by:

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- aircraft or other flying objects, or something falling from them; or
- vehicles or animals.
- Theft or attempted theft.
- Malicious people, vandals, riot, civil unrest, strikes, and labour or political disturbances.

Contents – what's not covered?

- Anything shown in the General exclusions.
- The relevant **excess** shown on **your** schedule (unless **we** tell **you** in any part that an **excess** doesn't apply).
- Loss or damage as described below when your home has been left unoccupied for more than the period shown on your schedule:
 - (a) Loss or damage caused by:
 - malicious people or vandals;
 - water escaping from or freezing in water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances (such as washing machines and dishwashers), fixed equipment or fixed heating system;
 - heating fuel leaking from a fixed heating system;
 - theft or attempted theft.
 - there of attempted there.
 - (b) Loss or damage of any kind to **contents** in the **garden**.
- Any storage costs that arise once **your contents** have been repaired or restored.
- Theft, attempted theft, malicious damage or vandalism by you, paying guests, tenants, lodgers or individuals participating in a home swapping agreement.
- Theft where someone deceives you to steal your property (e.g. tricks you into handing it over or 'buys' it without making a proper payment). This doesn't apply where they only use deception to get into your home to steal property.
- Theft of the following items unless someone has broken into or out of the **home** by using force and violence or has got into the **home** by deception:
 - personal money;
 - contents (including personal money) if you live in a non-self-contained flat.

- Theft if you live in a self-contained flat and the theft is from any other part of the building that other people have access to (e.g. if you leave something in the corridor outside your flat).
- Theft from garages and outbuildings, unless someone has broken into or out of them by using force and violence.



- Theft of pedal cycles (including Ebikes) from the garden unless securely locked to an object that can't be moved.
- Damage caused by riverbank or coastal erosion.
- Loss or damage caused by water escaping due to faulty, failed, inadequate or lack of grout or sealant.
- Contents which are insured by any other policy.

Contents - optional covers



These covers only apply if shown on **your** schedule.

Please see **your** schedule to check any limits applying to **your** cover.

Accidental damage to contents

What's covered?

All other **accidental damage** to **contents** which happens in **your home** and **garden** which isn't covered by the Contents.

What's not covered?

- Anything shown in Contents what's not covered or shown in the General exclusions.
- Food.
- Damage caused by:
 - moths, vermin, insects, fungus, damp, rust, wet or dry rot or weather conditions;



- water entering from the outside of your home or water escaping from or freezing in water tanks, pipes, plumbed-in home appliances, fixed equipment or fixed heating system;
- the process of cleaning, washing, repairing or restoring any item.
- Loss or damage caused by paying guests, tenants, lodgers or individuals participating in a home swapping agreement.
- Any loss that is not the direct result of the insured incident itself.

Contents conditions

1. Anything shown in the General conditions.

2. Your Sum Insured

Your contents sum insured (as explained below) must be high enough to replace **your contents** 'as new'. **You** should be aware that some items, such as jewellery, watches and antiques can go up in value so **you** should obtain updated valuations on a regular basis and update **your** policy when necessary to make sure **you** are fully covered.



Your overall **contents** sum insured must be enough to replace all of **your contents** and **valuables**.

Your valuables limit should be high enough to replace all **your valuables**

When working out **your contents** sum insured **you** do not need to include items **you've** insured under Personal belongings as these items are covered at **home**.

If at the time of a loss **your** sum insured is too low, **your** claim will be dealt with as follows:

Contents:

 If we have provided a contents sum insured "overall limit of £50,000 applies", we will not pay more than this amount for any claim

Valuables:

 We will not pay more than the Valuables limit shown on your policy schedule

3. Settling claims (except liability)

We can choose to settle your claim by repairing, giving you an equivalent replacement (for mobile phones this includes providing a refurbished model) or making a payment. Where we provide you with a refurbished mobile phone our aim will be to let you keep your existing number but if, for reasons beyond our control, you can't then your replacement phone will be connected to a new number.

If **we** are able to repair or replace **your** property but agree to settle using cash or a voucher **we** will only pay **you** what it would have cost **us** to repair or replace it.

What we will pay

We'll pay up to the sum(s) insured and cover limits for each incident (unless **we** tell **you** otherwise). **You** can find the sum(s) insured and limits on **your** schedule.

We won't reduce the sum(s) insured by the amount paid under any claim.

How we deal with pairs, sets and suites

This is not available on the Classic cover.

We will not pay for the cost of replacing any undamaged items which form part of:

- a pair;
- a set:
- a suite;
- any other item of a uniform nature, design or colour; unless this cover is shown on **your** schedule, in which case the cover in the rest of this section applies.

If **we** have accepted a claim for loss or damage to **contents** which are a part of a matching group or set of items and **we** can't source a matching replacement **we** will pay to replace the undamaged companion pieces where they are within the same room or open plan area as the damaged items or parts.

If **we** ask, **you** must give **us** any undamaged items which **we** have paid to have replaced.

Proof of value and ownership

When **you** make a claim, it is **your** responsibility to prove any loss. To help with **your** claim **we** recommend **you** keep receipts, valuations, photographs, instruction booklets and guarantee cards.

4. Settling liability claims

For any incident (or series of related incidents) involving legal liability covered under **Contents we** will try to negotiate with the person claiming against **you** to settle **your** claim for the lowest amount. In any event the most **we**'ll pay is the relevant limit shown on **your** schedule. For claims under Occupiers, Personal and Employers liability **we** will also cover any costs and expenses **we** have agreed to pay.

Personal belongings



This section only applies when shown on **your** schedule.

Please see **your** schedule to check any limits applying to **your** cover.

What's covered?

Loss of or damage to **personal belongings** (as detailed on **your** schedule) which happens at **your home** or anywhere else in the world.

Where **your** schedule shows **you** have cover for pedal cycles this includes:

- their parts, spares and accessories
- pedal cycles which are electrically assisted (Ebikes).

What's not covered?

- Anything shown in the General exclusions.
- The relevant **personal belongings excess** shown on **your** schedule.
- Theft of **personal belongings** from an unattended vehicle unless:
 - a) All windows and sunroofs are closed and all doors including the boot and any roof boxes, are locked
 - b) the items are hidden from view in a concealed luggage compartment or closed glove compartment.
- Theft where someone deceives you to steal your property (e.g. tricks you into handing it over or 'buys' it without making a proper payment). This doesn't apply where they only use deception to get into your home to steal property.
- Theft, attempted theft, malicious damage or vandalism by you, paying guests, tenants, lodgers or individuals participating in a home swapping agreement.
- Loss or damage caused by:
 - moths, vermin, insects, fungus, damp, rust, wet or dry rot and weather conditions;
 - the process of cleaning, washing, repairing or restoring any item.
- Confiscation or detention by Customs or other officials.

- If **your** schedule shows **you** have cover for pedal cycles they won't be covered for theft unless:
 - in **your** immediate custody and control; or
 - securely locked to an object that can't be moved; or
 - locked inside a concealed boot or concealed luggage compartment, all windows and sunroofs are closed and all doors, including the boot and any roof boxes, of a vehicle are locked; or
 - in a locked building

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- Under **personal money**, **we** will not cover:
 - loss caused by mistakes;
 - losses not reported to the police;
 - credit and debit cards;
- Any loss or damage covered by another policy.



Personal belongings Conditions

1. Anything shown in the General conditions.

2. Your Sum Insured

Your sum insured (as explained below) should be high enough to replace **your belongings** 'as new'. Be aware that some items, such as jewellery and watches can go up in value so **you** should ensure **you** obtain updated valuations on a regular basis and update **your** policy when necessary to make sure **you** are fully covered.

- For personal belongings the limit must be high enough to replace all the belongings you are likely to take away from your home at any one time 'as new'.
- For pedal cycles the limit must be high enough to replace **your** most expensive cycle 'as new'.

The most **we** will pay is the limit shown on **your** schedule.



You should check the replacement value of **your personal belongings** regularly to ensure the limit is adequate for **your** needs.

3. Settling claims

We can choose to settle your claim by repairing, giving you an equivalent replacement (for mobile phones this includes providing a refurbished model) or making a payment. Where we provide you with a refurbished mobile phone our aim will be to let you keep your existing number but if, for reasons beyond our control, you can't then your replacement phone will be connected to a new number.

If **we** are able to repair or replace **your** property but agree to settle using cash or a voucher **we** will only pay **you** what it would have cost **us** to repair or replace it.

What we will pay

We'll pay up to the sum(s) insured and cover limits for each incident (unless **we** tell **you** otherwise). **You** can find the sum(s) insured and limits on **your** policy schedule.

We won't reduce the sum(s) insured by the amount paid under any claim.

How we deal with pairs, sets and suites

We will not pay for the cost of replacing any undamaged items which form part of:

- a pair;
- a set;
- a suite;
- any other item of a uniform nature, design or colour;

Proof of value and ownership

When **you** make a claim, it is **your** responsibility to prove any loss. **We** therefore recommend **you** keep receipts, valuations, photographs, instruction booklets and guarantee cards to help **us** settle **your** claim.

Your legal liabilities



Please read this section carefully in conjunction with **your** policy schedule to understand which parts of the cover apply to **you**. Please see **your** schedule to check the limits applying to **your** cover.

Accidents which happen in **buildings** or on land are, in law, nearly always the responsibility of the person who lives there, rather than the owner.



If **you** own the **home** and also live in it (e.g. **your** main **home** or **your** holiday **home**), any liability arising as occupier is not included with **Buildings** cover, but this is provided if **you** take **Contents** cover.

If **you** own the **home** but don't live in it (e.g. if **you** are a landlord) liability arising from **you** owning the **home** is provided if **you** have chosen Buildings cover.

What's covered?

We will cover **your** legal liability to pay damages and claimants costs and expenses for:

- accidental bodily injury or illness;
- accidental loss of or damage to property

which happens during the **period of insurance** in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man (or another country which **you** are temporarily visiting) where **your** responsibility arises as shown below:

Where you are legally liable:	What's covered?	Does this cover apply to me?
1. as owner	Your Liability to the public	
	Your liability as owner (not as occupier) of the home (including the land belonging to it).	
	Cover includes claims made against you , under Section 3 of the Defective Premises Act 1972 (or the defective Premises Northern Ireland Order 1975) for any former property owned and insured under this policy, for accidents happening during the period of insurance or up to seven years afterwards, provided they are not covered by any other insurance.	Yes, if your policy covers Buildings
2. as occupier	Occupiers Liability	
	Your liability as occupier (not as owner) of the home , including the land belonging to it.	
3. in a personal capacity	Personal Liability Your liability in a personal capacity (not as owner or occupier of any building, land or fixed property). This includes accidents from your leisure activities such as golf or cycling.	Yes, if your policy covers Contents
4. as employer	Employers Liability	
	Your liability as employer of a domestic employee such as a cleaner or gardener where the accident happens from, or in the course of their domestic employment with you .	

What's not covered?

We won't cover liability in connection with:

- a. anything shown in the General exclusions.
- any employee for anything which happens from, and in the course of their employment with **you** (except as shown under 4. Employers Liability, where this cover applies);
- c. boats, boards and craft designed to be used on or in water, caravans, drones or aircraft except:
 - watercraft that are only propelled by oars or paddles;
 - toys and models remotely controlled by a pedestrian (this does not include drones);
- d. any trade, business or profession
- e. passing on of an infectious disease or virus;
- f. any motorised vehicle;
- q. any electrically assisted pedal cycle while:
 - anywhere outside of the United Kingdom;
 - within the United Kingdom where there is a legal requirement to pay Vehicle Excise Duty for road use (see www.gov.uk/electric-bikerules);
- h. loss of or damage to property belonging to **you** or in **your** care or control;
- i. any agreement unless **you** would still have been legally liable without that agreement;
- j. dangerous dogs as defined in the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 or any later legislation;
- k. dogs when **you** are outside the boundaries of the land belonging to the **home**
- l. **you** owning, keeping or using any horses, ponies, donkeys or mules.
- l. bodily injury or illness to you;

Where a claim relates to **your** employment of a **domestic employee** exclusions (a) to (d) will not apply and exclusions (e) and (f) will not apply unless protection is needed under any of the Acts, Laws or Regulations which govern the driving or use of any motor vehicle in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Added benefit if you are renting your home

What's covered?

Tenant's Liability

Your legal liability as tenant for:

- loss of or damage to the **home** and fixtures and fittings and **contents** belonging to the landlord while at the **home** by anything shown in Contents paragraphs 1-8.
- accidental damage to:
 - fixed glass forming part of the **buildings** and sanitary fittings installed in the **home**;
 - cables, pipes, septic tanks and drain inspection covers which serve the **home** up to £1000.

What's not covered?

 Loss or damage caused by building work which involves alterations, renovations or repairs.



- Loss or damage when your home has been left unoccupied for more than the period shown on your schedule
- Anything shown in Contents What's not covered? or in the General exclusions.



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