

Progress Monitoring Probe 15

How to Stay Safe During a Winter Storm

You look out the window and see a bright, clear day. Then you turn on the television and hear that a dangerous winter storm is rapidly approaching your city. What should you do to prepare for such an event?	12
First, you should gather your family members and make a winter storm plan. Discuss that everyone should come home well before the storm is scheduled to arrive. However, stress that anyone who is unable to make it home in time should phone in. It's better to stay in a safe place than to try to drive in unsafe conditions.	24
Next, you'll need to check the supplies around your home. Make sure that you have extra blankets on hand in case you lose your heat. Locate a battery-powered radio and a flashlight as well as fresh batteries for both. If your home has a fireplace, you may want to get a supply of firewood.	35
You'll also need to have food in case the power in your home goes out. Buy a supply of canned goods and have a can opener available. Also buy bottled water; you'll need at least one gallon per person for a three-day period.	39
As the storm approaches, stay tuned to your local television and radio stations. It's important to know the difference between a "winter storm watch" and a "winter storm warning." A winter storm watch means a winter storm is possible in your area. A winter storm warning means a winter storm is headed for your area. A blizzard warning means strong winds, blinding snow, and a dangerous wind chill are expected. If you hear that a blizzard is coming, take shelter immediately.	49
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How to Stay Safe During a Winter Storm (Continued)

If possible, stay indoors during dangerous storms and blizzards. If you must go outdoors, wear several layers of clothing, a warm coat, gloves or mittens, a hat, and waterproof boots. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs. To avoid dangerous falls as you move around, watch for icy surfaces. If you shovel snow after the storm, be very careful. It is physically demanding work, so take frequent breaks.	286
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Total words: _____ – errors: _____ = words correct: _____

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