Where can I find more information?

If you have questions, contact your local council or go to: www.building.govt.nz/managing-buildings/managing-buildings-in-an-emergency

If you are the tenant or landlord of a rental property, www.tenancy.govt.nz has information on your rights and obligations after a natural disaster.

If you need immediate, emergency accommodation following a natural disaster, please contact your local Civil Defence group: civildefence.govt.nz/find-your-civil-defence-group

If you have been displaced from your home and Temporary Accommodation Service (TAS) is activated in your region, you can register for temporary accommodation support: www.tas.mbie.govt.nz

Notes

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
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11712 BP 06/25

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

My home has a red or yellow placard – what happens next?

IF LIFE OR PROPERTY IS AT IMMEDIATE RISK PHONE 111



Why has my home had a rapid building assessment?

Rapid building assessments may happen after an emergency event. These help to make sure that you, your family, and the community are safe. After an assessment, your home may have been given a placard to let you know what the next step is. **It is important that you comply with the details on the placard.**

What does a red placard mean for your home?

R1:



R2:



A red placard means you must not enter the building. There may be a serious risk to public safety, health, and wellbeing.

The risk could be from the building itself, adjacent buildings or from land instability.

It does not necessarily mean the building needs to be demolished.

There are two classifications with a red placard:

- R1 indicates that the building structure has been visually inspected and found to be seriously damaged and/or unsafe to enter or occupy.
- R2 indicates that the building is at risk of being affected by an external hazard and the building is unsafe to enter or occupy.

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

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What does a yellow placard mean for your home?

Y1:


RESTRICTED ACCESS
TO PART(S) OF THE BUILDING ONLY
DO NOT REMOVE, ALTER OR COVER THIS NOTICE

Y2:


RESTRICTED ACCESS
SHORT TERM ENTRY ONLY
DO NOT REMOVE, ALTER OR COVER THIS NOTICE

Entry to your home is restricted.

Part or all the building may have sustained moderate damage, or some areas of the building, neighbouring buildings, or land instability pose a serious risk.

There are two classifications with a yellow placard:

- The Y1 placard indicates restricted access to parts of the building only. This means that parts of the building have considerable damage or are at risk from external hazards.
- The Y2 placard indicates that access to the building is allowed if supervised and for a limited time only.

Read more on rapid building assessment and placards

Removal, change or reassessment of placards

YOU CANNOT REMOVE OR CHANGE A PLACARD YOURSELF

If you find damage that you believe may change the colour of the placard, contact your local council to request a reassessment.

Your local council should be able to tell you what steps will need to be taken to have a placard changed or removed. Your insurer can tell you what professionals and inspections will need to be organised (e.g. geotechnical or structural engineers, licensed building practitioners). In the case of a red placard, it is likely that a detailed evaluation will need to be done, usually by a structural or geotechnical engineer, who can advise on building usability and options to fix any damage, e.g. repair or demolition.

Once any appropriate work has been done, you will need to contact your local council to get your placard status reassessed. This is to check if the risks have been reduced enough to change the placard's colour. It may be that a red placard is downgraded to a yellow, or removed altogether if the risks have been reduced to a point where the building can be safely occupied.

Repair and remediation work

When repairing a building issued with a red or yellow placard, any work must be done in liaison with your insurer, the council and in conjunction with appropriate experts and professionals. No one should go inside the building unless authorised to do so.

You will also need to work with your local council to arrange authorised access for someone like a geotechnical or structural engineer, builder, insurance assessor or plumber. The local council will, if appropriate, give authorisation to access the building. In some cases, access may be refused due to a risk to life.

What to do after an emergency

Floods, earthquakes and other emergencies may cause breakdowns in normal household services such as water supplies, waste disposal (including sewerage) and refrigeration. This can pose a health risk.

Because food and water are easily contaminated during emergencies, you need to take extra care to avoid getting sick. Be sure you know what hazards might be present in and outside of the building and take steps to ensure you can start cleaning safely – there can be other serious things to consider e.g. live electricity, biohazards, structural damage.

Before you start to clean up, you will need to gather evidence to support an insurance claim. Without proof of damage, it may be more difficult for your insurer to resolve your claim.

Read more **Take photos to support your claim: Natural Hazards Commission Toka Tū Ake**

If there is work that needs to be done urgently, you should contact your insurer and local council before starting.

Read more on Urgent works:
www.building.govt.nz/managing-buildings-in-an-emergency/remediation-repair-and-urgent-works