Notes

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

11712 BP 06/25

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

My home has a white 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 white placard mean for your home/building?



CAN BE USED
NO RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS
A VISUAL RAPID BUILDING ASSESSMENT

This building has undergone a rapid building assessment during or following an emergency and no significant hazards have been found. This does not mean the building is completely safe or has suffered no damage.

The following items have not been inspected:

- Utilities (electrical, gas, water, sanitary facilities, etc)
- Secondary elements (ceilings, windows, fittings, etc):

Next steps:

- The owner should organise a detailed building inspection
- Report any unsafe conditions to local authorities

CAUTION: FUTURE EVENTS MAY CAUSE MORE DAMAGE THAT MAY CHANGE THIS ASSESSMENT.

Building Name and Address:

Scope of Rapid Building Assessment:

☐ Inspected Exterior Only
☐ Inspected Exterior and Interior

Team Leader ID:

Date: Time:

This placard is placed under the authority of the CDEM Controller or other Responsible Person under authority of:

☐ Section 9(2)(f) of the Building Act 2004, or
☐ Section 9(2)(f) of Emergency Management Act 2002 (Ex-Applicable Area)

Further information:

- Building gov.nz/placards
- For enquiries about this sticker

DO NOT REMOVE, ALTER OR COVER THIS NOTICE

A white placard means that your building can be occupied. It does not mean that the building is not damaged.

Be on the lookout for damage and contact your landlord or rental manager if you rent your home.

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

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Change or reassessment of placards

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

If you find damage but your building is still safe to use, you should contact your insurer to discuss the damage and arrange a detailed assessment of the building. You may also need to contact Toka Tū-Ake Natural Hazards Commission to make a natural hazards cover claim.

Your insurer can tell you what professionals and inspections will need to be organised (e.g. geotechnical or structural engineers, licenced building practitioners).

Once any appropriate work has been done, a building owner can contact their local council to get their placard status reassessed.

Getting a white placard removed

You will need to leave a white placard in place until you are authorised to remove it, for example, the local council advises it can be removed, or if the placard has been issued with an expiry date and that date has passed.

Repair and remediation work

When repairing a building, any work done must be done in liaison with your insurer, the council and in conjunction with appropriate experts and professionals.

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

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.

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, www.naturalhazards.govt.nz/insurance-and-claims/claims/take-photos-to-support-your-claim

Be sure you know what hazards might be present in 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.

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

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.