FACT SHEET:
RESILIENT HOMES

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

RESILIENT COAST

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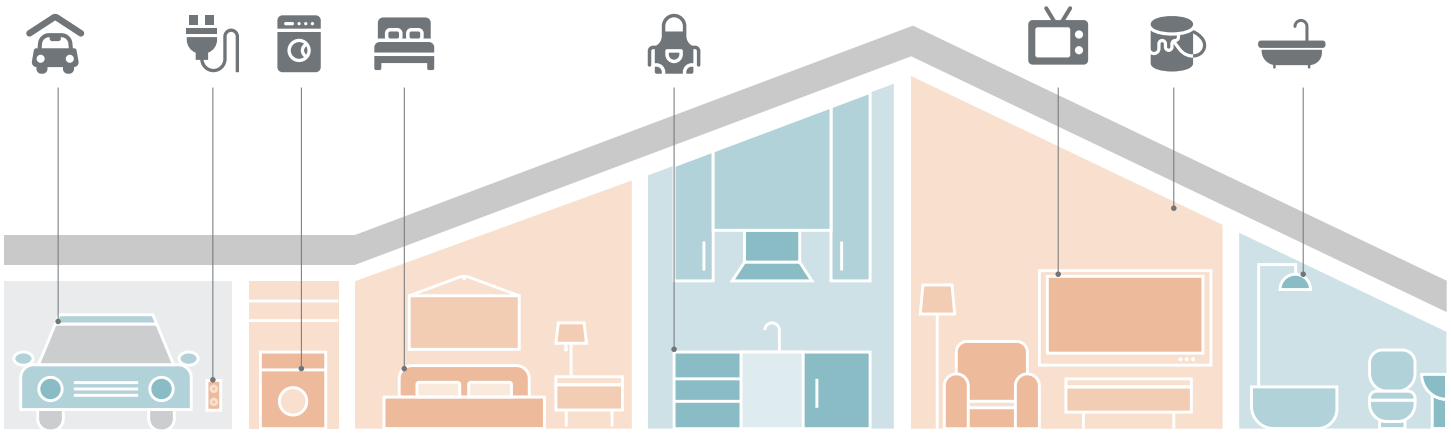
WHAT DOES A RESILIENT HOME LOOK LIKE?

In coastal areas, private dwellings may be exposed to impacts from coastal hazards, including flooding associated with storm tide inundation.

Smart choices in the design of your home can reduce the impact of flooding. If rebuilding, renovating, or building a new dwelling, it is worth considering these top tips for a resilient home.

Some of these changes may have higher initial upfront costs, but provide a longer term benefit. Making these changes over time can reduce damage from future flooding, and help you get back to normal quicker after a flood event.



TOP TIPS FOR A RESILIENT HOME:

AROUND THE HOUSE

Raise electrical power outlets above waist height to reduce damage during a flood and allow power to be restored more quickly.

Look at different floor and wall covering options. Tiles and waterproof grout are much easier to clean after a flood than wallpaper or carpet.

LIVING ROOM

Raise TVs, speakers, WiFi modems and other electricals above waist height or mount on walls if possible to reduce damage during a flood.

KITCHEN AND LAUNDRY

Raise fridges, freezers, kitchen appliances and cupboards on plinths or stands with removable kickboards to reduce damage and make cleaning up easier.

If replacing electrical appliances think about appliances which can be lifted or placed in higher locations such as a front loading washing machine on a shelf or plinth instead of a top-loader on the ground.

BATHROOM

If fitting a new bathroom, think about a free standing bath or shower that is easier to clean around after a flood than a fixed bath.

BEDROOM

Metal or raised bed frames and other furniture will be easier to clean up than divan or upholstered furniture.

OUTSIDE

Place work benches along the inside of garage walls to help reinforce the walls and reduce damage from floodwaters and strong winds.

NOTE: Consult a RPEQ structural engineer for all structural alterations

QCoast2100 COUNCILS LEADING COASTAL ADAPTATION · DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL · alluvium · JBP scientists and engineers · NCECONOMICS

For more information:
ourcoast.douglas.qld.gov.au
ourcoast@douglas.qld.gov.au

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FLOOD DEPTH AND DAMAGE

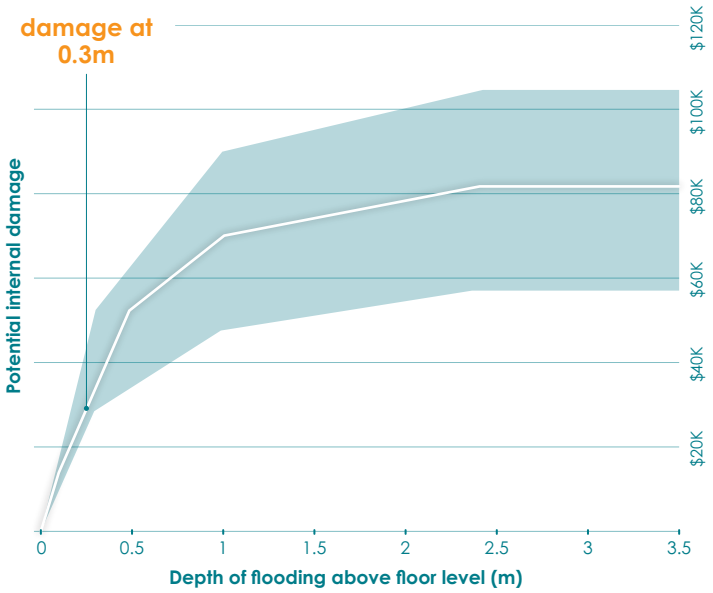

Figure 1. Indicative internal damage cost compared to depth of flooding in residential buildings. Shaded area represents uncertainty and variation from a number of studies.

A relative shallow floodwater depth (10 - 30 cm) can cause substantial damage to the interior of a dwelling (Figure 1). A water depth in the order of 30 cm can often require rewiring, reflooring and replacement of appliances.

Investing early in adaptation measures can significantly reduce the damage to your home and the costs associated with clearing up. The top tips for a resilient home are recommended even if your dwelling is only exposed to relatively minor flood events.

MORE INFORMATION ON COASTAL HAZARD ADAPTATION CAN BE FOUND AT:

- ✓ Coast Adapt: https://coastadapt.com.au/
- ✓ QCoast2100: http://www.qcoast2100.com.au/useful-info

FACT SHEETS IN THIS SERIES:

- Terminology
- Coastal landscape
- Coastal hazards
- Coastal adaptation
- Adaptation framework
- Resilient homes

Further ideas for resilient homes can be found here:

- Flood Resilient Homes Program - https://www.citysmart.com.au/floodwise/
- Flood-resilience strategies - https://www.citysmart.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/FWHS-Flood-resilience-Strategies.pdf
- Rebuilding in storm tide prone areas - https://therocknews.files.wordpress.com/2011/08/draft-part-1-lowres1.pdf

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